

ANN ARBOR ENERGY COMMISSION – MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

**October 14, 2008
City Hall – City Council Chambers, 2nd Floor
5:30 - 7:30 pm**

AGENDA

- I. Approval of Minutes**
- II. Public Input**
- III. Energy Report – Energy News from the Energy Office and Commission Members**
- IV. UM PlanetBlue – Kris Kolevar and Brian Morgan**
- V. Transportation Plan Update – Eli Cooper**

OLD BUSINESS

- VI. State Legislative Update – Jennifer Alvarado**
- VII. Energy Plan Sub-Committee Update**
- VIII. Energy Conservation and Renewables Finance Sub-Committee Update**
- IX. DTE Rate Case Update**
- X. 5000 Solar Roofs Project Update**
- XI. Solar America Cities Update**
- XII. Inputs on Downtown Development**

NEW BUSINESS

- XIII. Resolution to Replace Two Coal Plants with Conservation and Renewables**
- XIV. Other Business / Public Input – Limited to 10 minutes maximum**
- XV. Adjourn**

Visit www.a2gov.org/energy/ to learn more about Ann Arbor's Energy Programs

Shown Live on CTN Channel 16 – Wednesday 10/15 at 10:00 am and Sunday 10/19 at 2:00 pm

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Ann Arbor Energy Commission – Meeting Minutes

September 9, 2008

2nd Floor Council Chambers

City Hall 5:30-7:30 PM

Attendees: Robert Black – Commission Chair, Wayne Appleyard, Jason Bing, Mike Delaney, Fulter Hong, Chuck Hookham, Dina Kurz, Josh Long, Bill Verge, David Wright, John Hieftje – Mayor

Staff: Andrew Brix, James Peters

Approval of Minutes

Minutes from August were approved.

Public Input – Paul Hickman described a renovation project he is undertaking at his home, including plans for a 5 kW solar installation.

Energy News

Energy Office Updates

- Dave Konkle is speaking at UM's EnergyFest September 10 at 4pm.
- The Energy Office and Commission will have a table at the Homegrown Festival September 13 at Community High.
- Paul Gipe will speak at Michigan State September 17 on energy policy options.
- The next Go Solar Ann Arbor seminar will be held September 20 at Washtenaw Community College.

Wayne Appleyard reported that Hawaii now requires solar hot water systems for new construction and ask if Ann Arbor could require the same.

Mike Delaney announced a kickoff would be held at UM September 12 for a Clean Energy Prize, and that a Plug-in Hybrids TechKnow Forum would be held at UM October 23.

Bill Verge reported that EnergyFest took place today on the UM diag, with PlanetBlue distributing bags and t-shirts, and that the Skyline High School contractor was there discussing Skyline's geothermal system (which has been operational now for two years).

David Wright announced that the Michigan House Commerce Committee planned to meet to discuss renewable energy payment policy (a.k.a. feed-in tariffs) at 9am on September 16.

Jason Bing announced the National Solar Tour on October 4 and Remodel Green on Oct 31-Nov 1.

DDA Energy Saving Grant Program

Dave Konkle presented the Downtown Development Authority's Energy Saving Grant Program, on which he is consulting, and took questions from the commission. The DDA program will offer free audits to downtown businesses and match 50% of the cost of improvements, all from a \$200,000 DDA fund. Applications are due to the DDA by

September 30. There is no minimum for improvements and selection criteria are yet to be determined.

Josh Long reported that Rebuild Washtenaw is working to expand this pilot program to other DDAs in the county.

Robert Black suggested the commission recognize DDA for their support on energy issues by passing a resolution at a future meeting.

Old Business

State Legislative Update: Robert Nelson, counsel for the Michigan Sustainable Energy Coalition, presented information on the most recent versions of SB 213 and HB 5524, and answered questions from the commission.

As presented:

- 10% of renewable portfolio requirement can be met with efficiency, coal gasification, or "environmentally beneficial" generation;
- the bills raise residential rates 4%, compared to a maximum renewable portfolio increase among other states of 1%;
- there are no interim benchmarks before 10% renewable in 2015;
- AWEA estimates that DTE and Consumers Energy will meet the requirement with existing market demand for renewables.

In response to questions, Robert Nelson answered that:

- most renewable portfolio standards do not collect fees as the SB 213 outlines;
- utilities can own up to 50% of the generation required to meet the portfolio;
- there is no provision to require the lowest-cost renewable generation;
- legislation may pass within two weeks;
- there are still significant loopholes in the legislation;
- the Michigan Sustainable Energy Coalition is composed of wind groups, the farm bureau, and other members.

LSA Energy Theme Semester: Andrew Fileti presented an overview of events planned for the LSA "Energy Futures" theme semester, including a lecture series; website at www.lsa.umich.edu/energyfutures; a writing competition; "Go Blue, Live Green" homecoming theme; and an appearance by T. Boone Pickens. Andrew Fileti will continue to work as a liaison between LSA student government and the Energy Commission.

Energy Plan Update: Robert Black gave a short update on progress, and the following discussion identified outreach to community organizations and work on identifying user types as a means to organize the final plan.

Finance Subcommittee: Andrew Brix presented estimates of the economic impact of a millage-based energy efficiency program based on the DDA's audit-grant format, showing that the annual savings would exceed the expenditures from the millage. The commission recommended conducting a needs analysis to compare other spending options and drawing up a specific timeline leading up to planned election day.

DTE Rate Case: David Wright noted that briefs were due in October, with a decision likely in November.

5,000 Solar Roofs: Andrew Brix reminded the commission and audience members that a Go Solar Ann Arbor seminar is scheduled for September 20, and that the 30% federal tax credit for solar installations is set to expire December 31, 2008.

Solar America Cities: Andrew Brix reported that he recently attended an Emergency Preparedness webinar and would be working with the city's Office of Emergency Management on options for using solar energy.

Inputs on Downtown Development: It was reported that the 601 S. Forest project would return to City Council in October.

New Business

1Sky Campaign: The Energy Commission unanimously approved a resolution to join the 1Sky Campaign.

Homegrown Festival: Andrew Brix asked for volunteers to work a table at Homegrown and Dina Kurz said she may be available.

MPEP Event Planning: Andrew Brix announced that Michigan Public Service Commission staff are planning an Michigan Renewable Energy Program event for October 13, preceding an MPSC Consumer Forum that evening and invited interested commissioners to submit agenda items.

Other Business

Josh Long noted that he was interested in returning to the issue of time-of-sale energy audits in future meetings.

Public Input – Nathan Ayres of 1209 Henry announced the creation of a new nonprofit, Burns Park Green, which plans to work on community outreach and organizing on energy issues, beginning with energy audits and LED lighting.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 pm