Berkeley Energy Commission

BERKELEY ENERGY COMMISSION
MINUTES
Regular Meeting
October 24, 2001

1. Call to Order and Roll Call
The meeting was called to order by Commissioner Bachrach at 5:30 PM.

Present: Bachrach, Deumling, Kurzweil, Siegel, Williamson and Winkel
Absent: Ode and Packard
Staff: Neal De Snoo
Guests: Manuela Albuquerque, Prasanna Rasiah, Alice LaPierre

Item 8 on the agenda was moved to after item 3 (MSC: JK, SW, 5-0, DW absent).

2. Public Comments
No comments.

3. Report on Solid Waste Management Commission, Public Works Commission, Transportation Commission and Citizens Environmental Advisory Commission (CEAC)
Solid Waste: Commissioner Williamson reported that the County is proposing a new composting facility in Alta Mont Pass that could significantly reduce transportation (compost is now sent to the Valley) and increase diversion.
Public Works: No report
CEAC: No report.
Transportation Commission: Commissioner Bachrach reported that rail transportation is on the agenda and she will be following this issue.
Council: Staff reported that Council approved the contract with Global Energy Partners for Alternative Resources Consulting Services.

8. Report on CESC By-Laws
City Attorney and staff (Manuela Albuquerque and Prasanna Rasiah) reported on the problems and possible solutions to the separation of the Energy Commission and CESC Board. Ms. Albuquerque reported that the Fair Political Practices Commission has issued opinions that would classify CESC Board as a public body of the City of Berkeley even if none of the members were appointed by the Council. This would place various liabilities on the City yet leave the City without any authorities. She disagrees with the FPPC's opinions and intends to seek changes in the regulations or an exception for this case. Staff will be working with her office to develop a case for an exception.

As a last resort, the City could appoint a separate, smaller CESC Board.

The Commission urged staff to work with the CESC Executive Director on the formulation of a case for an exception to the FPPC's regulations.

4. Report on Low Income Programs
Staff reported that the City expects an extension of the California LIHEAP program contract from December 1, 2001 to December 31, 2002.

5. Report on CECO and RECO
Staff reported that between May 21 and August 22, County data indicated 17 commercial properties were sold without CECO compliance. Staff sent enforcement letters. Three of these are actually residential properties, one is a vacant lot and four others have started the compliance process.

2180 Milvia Street, Berkeley, CA 94704 Tel: 510.981.5434 TDD: 510.981.6903 Fax: 510.981.5450
E-mail: ned2@ci.berkeley.ca.us

6. Report on Educational Activities
Staff reported that Commissioner Packard send the notice to the Berkeley Adult School for the Commission's class.

7. Discussion of Community Energy Plan
a) Public Power Study
Covered in item 7.c.

b) Alternative Resources Study
Covered in item 7.c.

c) November 27 Council Study Session
The Commission and staff reviewed and modified the draft presentations.

d) Green Energy Analysis Referral from Council
No report.

8. Report on CESC By-Laws
Moved to after item 3.

9. Report on Solar Permitting Process
No report.

10. Report on Small Commercial Energy Program
No report.

ACTION ITEMS

11. Discussion and Possible Action on Energy Awards Program
Commissioner Deumling presented a revised outline for the awards program. He will make some modifications and get a revised program in the next agenda package. The Commission plans to send the item to Council in January.

12. Discussion and Possible Action on Use of Blended Cement
Commissioner Siegel will check on the City's use of the product.

13. Discussion And Possible Action On Council Referral For Support Of Clean Distributed Generation Sources And Letter To Governor To Increase Funding For Clean Generation And Conservation

The Commission deferred a decision on SB 532 (renewables portfolio standard) until November 14, deferred a position on clean distributed generation sources until the alternative resources study has data that can support this position, and supported a modified staff letter to the Governor (MSC: JS, DW, 5-0-1, SW absent).

14. Discussion and Possible Action on Council Referral Regarding Innovation Energy Education Grants
The Commission supported proposals for this grant and asked staff to distribute the grant information to the Berkeley Unified School District, Berkeley Youth Energy Services, Berkeley EcoHouse and the Community Energy Services Corporation (MSC: DW, JS, 5-0-1, SW absent).

15. Approval of Minutes of September 26
The minutes were amended to correct the name of Commissioner Deumling's presentation in item 6 to read "low-tech and no-tech…" The corrected minutes were approved (MSC: JS, RD, 5-0-1, SW absent).

16. Items for Next Month's Agenda
The Commission will focus on the Council presentation at the next meeting.

17. Adjournment
The meeting adjourned at about 8:35 PM (MSC: JS, DB, 4-0-2, SW and DW absent).