



Berkeley Energy Commission

BERKELEY ENERGY COMMISSION
MINUTES
Regular Meeting
November 20, 2002

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

The meeting was called to order by Commissioner Ode at 6:32 PM.

Present: Deumling, Hopper, Hultman, Kurzweil, Ode, Winkel

Absent: Packard

Staff: Neal De Snoo, Alice LaPierre

2. Public Comments

Staff announced a December 12 budget workshop for commissioners and distributed a flyer.

Tom Guarino of PG&E announced that PG&E has joined the California Climate Registry.

3. Report on Solid Waste Management Commission, Public Works Commission, Transportation Commission and Citizens Environmental Advisory Commission (CEAC)

- Solid Waste (Hultman): No report.
- Public Works (SO): Discussed under item 12
- CEAC (JK): No report.
- Transportation Commission (RD): No report
- Council: No report.

4. Report on Low Income Programs

No report.

5. Report on CECO and RECO

Staff reported that it will proceed with a new administrative enforcement process for CECO. Staff also reported that the City Attorney's Office is reviewing a proposed amendment to CECO that would require title companies and agents to ensure compliance.

6. Discussion of Community Energy Plan

a) Public Power Study

Staff reported that AB117 enables the City to purchase power on behalf of residents (community aggregation) and that this option is available despite the ban on new direct access. Staff reported that the CA PUC needs to make decisions regarding how direct access can be implemented and the City is considering a petition to the PUC requesting such rulings. Staff reported on the potential benefits and risks of community access. The Commission discussed the need to begin a public dialogue on the subject.

b) Staff reported that the alternative resources consultant is reviewing the draft plan to find opportunities to improve the benefit to cost ratios.

The Commission recessed at 7:00 PM for a meeting of the Board of Directors of the Community Energy Services Corporation. The Commission reconvened at 7:30 PM.

7. Report on Small Commercial Energy Program

Commissioner Ode urged the Commissioner's to market the Smart Lights program.

8. Report on the Landfill Gas Project

Staff reported that PG&E incentive for the project has increased by 50%. Staff expects to meet soon with the Radisson to resolve outstanding issues over the draft engineering study cost-sharing agreement.

9. Discussion of the Berkeley 50/50 Program

Commissioner Deumling circulated a graph of the distribution of household electricity consumption based on data provided by PG&E. The graph indicated that there are many customers (~3,000) that use between 0 and 50 kwh per month (some of these may be vacant units) and many more customers who use less than 100 kWh per month. These data suggest that very low electricity use is not only possible but also somewhat common.

10. Discussion of Strategic Planning for CESC

Covered during CESC meeting.

11. Discussion of Educational Activities

The Commission discussed a lecture series. It was decided that the commission would host two sets of four lectures. The topics and assignments are listed below.

Home energy conservation: RD, NDS

International Response to Climate Change: SO

Public Power: Nicole Hopper and NDS

Renewables and Sustainable Design: SW

ACTION ITEMS

12. Discussion and Possible Action on Use of Blended Cement

Commissioner Ode reported that the Public Works Commission made minor changes and unanimously supported the item. The item should go to Council on December 17.

13. Approval of Minutes of October 23

The minutes of October 23 meeting were approved (MSC: SW, RD, 6-0).

14. Items for Next Month's Agenda

The next meeting will be on January 8 and the following meeting will be on January 29.

15. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:15 PM (MSC: SW, RD, 6-0).