



Berkeley Energy Commission

BERKELEY ENERGY COMMISSION
MINUTES
Regular Meeting
Wednesday, April 28, 2004

1. Call to Order and Roll Call
The meeting was called to order by Commissioner Gillen at 6:35 PM.
Present: Deumling, Dickinson, Gillen, Miller, Winkel
Absent: Packard
2. Public Comments and Announcements
None.
3. Report on Solid Waste Management Commission, Public Works Commission, Transportation Commission and Citizens Environmental Advisory Commission (CEAC)
 - Solid Waste (Miller): No report.
 - Public Works (Packard): No report.
 - CEAC (Gillen): No report
 - Transportation Commission (Deumling): Commissioner Deumling reported that the Commission has recommended that 9/19 be Berkeley Car Free Day.
 - Council: Staff reported that Council is considering a City Manager recommendation to change many Commission meeting schedules (including Energy) to a bi-monthly schedule.
4. Report on Low-Income Programs
Staff reported the General Fund subsidy of the low-income programs has increased significantly since the fringe rates have risen dramatically.
5. Report on CECO
No report.
6. Discussion of RECO Study
Staff reported on a meeting of certain Commission members, LBL, CA Energy Commission, Oakland and San Francisco which advanced the RECO amendment. The critical issue now is getting technical research to advise the changes; PG&E may fund this research through the San Francisco energy partnership.

Commissioner Deumling circulated an EBMUD study that found that low-flow devices might not be producing savings as expected.
7. Discussion of Public Power Study
Staff reported that Navigant has performed an initial run of the CAA model for Berkeley assuming a 40% renewable energy portfolio and found a very modest difference between CCA rates and PG&E rates.

Staff attended a meeting at the California ISO on load profiling. The ISO reported that CCA load profiling might actually increase certainty. This means that load profiling is probably not a technical problem but there are still economic and policy issues.

The Commission recessed for a meeting of the CESC Board of Directors at 7:05 and reconvened at 7:45.

8. Report on the Landfill Gas Project

Staff reported that the wells have been fitted with testing equipment and test results should be available soon.

9. Green Neighbors – Energy Conservation Marketing Program

Commissioner Gillen reported that all initial Green Neighbors boards have signed on to the partnership. The partnership will be launched at the Green Home Expo on May 8.

10. Discussion of Educational Activities

a) Green Home Exposition and Symposium

Staff reported that 51 exhibitors have registered for the event.

b) Berkeley Unplugged and High/Low User Study

Staff reported that Commissioner Deumling's proposal was submitted to PG&E for funding consideration.

11. Report on PUC Programs

Staff reported that the PUC is considering new administrative structures for PGC and procurement energy efficiency programs. The two main models are 1) IOU administration and 2) new non-profit administration. Staff submitted comments to the PUC stating that there would be a conflict of interest in the utility model if utilities were both selecting and implementing programs.

Staff reported that the CYES program is progressing well and PG&E has been responsive.

Staff reported that the East Bay Energy Partnership is progressing very slowly and PG&E has not yet offered a contract for the program.

ACTION ITEMS

12. Approval of Minutes of March 24

The heading for Item 10.a. of the March 24 Minutes was corrected to read Green Home Expo and Symposium. The corrected minutes of March 24 were adopted (MSC: JM, SW, 4-0-1, Gillen abstained, Dickinson absent).

14. Items for Next Month's Agenda

A discussion of the climate change plan was added to the agenda.

15. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM (MSC: RD, JM, 4-0, Dickinson absent).