



Pueblo Energy Advisory Commission Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, May 1st, 2024, | 4 – 5:30 PM

Hybrid – Zoom and Public Works

Attendance

| | | | | | |
|---|------------------|---|---------------------------------------|---|--|
| ✓ | Michael Briscoe | ✓ | Anthony Vigil | ✓ | George Andrews, Staff |
| ✓ | Tom Corlett | ✓ | John Vigil | ✓ | Brain McCain, Staff |
| ✓ | Ken Danti, Chair | ✓ | Alan Ward | ✓ | Andrew Hayes, Staff |
| | Nicole Ferguson | ✓ | Edgie Walrath | ✓ | Joan Seeman, Guest |
| ✓ | Dylan Goodman | ✓ | Geo Samaras, Guest | ✓ | Iris Clark, Guest |
| ✓ | Patti Olenick | | Mike Wakefield | ✓ | Michael Harrington, Black Hills Energy |
| ✓ | Thea Rodriguez | | Charles Hernandez, City Councilperson | ✓ | Julie Rodriguez, Guest |
| ✓ | Tyler Surat | | Laura Getts | ✓ | Dian Danti, Guest |

Call to Order, Chair Ken Danti at 4:03 pm. Ken called for a motion to approve the consent agenda. Tom made the motion to approve, Dylan seconded, consent agenda passed unanimously. Commissioners and Guests gave introductions to Brian McCain, Chief of Staff

Committee Reports

No Committee Reports.

City Updates

George gave updates on behalf of the City of Pueblo regarding EV Readiness Plan, Energy Performance Contracting, and Energy Strategy Plan. City is working with Iconergy and IBE to conduct stakeholder outreach. Goal is to promote equity, inclusivity and collaboration to form EV Readiness plan by community input. Currently performing stakeholder outreach through August 2024 in both English and Spanish. Public engagement will comprise of two virtual stakeholder workshops and community questionnaire. Discussed primary, secondary and community stakeholders.

EPC RFP has been submitted to City Purchasing for review. Preproposal meeting will be 15 days RFP issue. Shared which buildings are to be audited. Buildings were selected based on square footage,

occupancy, original age, energy use intensity, and known maintenance issues. George will follow-up to see what buildings have demand charges. Shared pre-qualified companies. Shared example projects City is interested in completing, based off previous level II energy audits from Michael's Energy.

CSUP students are finalizing their energy strategy report. Reviewing energy sources and costs. Final presentation will be Monday May 6th, at 4pm in the Hasan School of Business at CSUP

Black Hills Clean Energy Plan – John Vigil and Michael Harrington

John: BHE has been coal free since 2010. Clean energy plan has been a three-year effort. This plan is about meeting the State of Colorado's goals of 80% emissions reduction by 2030. Michael: Plan started in 2019 with passing of Senate Bill 19-236 established Air Quality Control Commission and Environmental Air pollution goals. Shared key project milestones. Received 113 bids in October 2023. PUC is currently reviewing and approval to be in July 2024. Shared how stakeholders can comment on plan. Cost of project accounts for 75% of evaluation criteria, other non-economic factors make up rest of criteria. Shared preferred portfolio locations in Pueblo and Kit Carson Counties

Proposing 200 MW solar array southeast of Pueblo Airport, 50 MW Battery storage at PAGS facility, 150 MW wind resource in Kit Carson County. \$270 million of cost savings to be realized over 10 years resulting from Inflation reduction Act (IRA) Transferability provision allows utility to capture benefits, can take tax deductions and sell off. Emission reduction goals. State statute requires 80% energy emission reduction from 2005 levels.

Today 30% of BHE grid is renewable, with proposed new projects online in 2028, 75% of grid will be renewable energy mix. PAGS will remain operational as backup. January 1st, 2025: Clean Energy Plan Rider (CEPR) surcharge of 1.5% of monthly bill for average residential customers. Offset by reduction in month Renewable energy standard adjustment RESA rider from 2% to 1.5%
And anticipated fuel cost savings

Questions:

Edgie: How will the batteries be utilized?

Michael: To shave peak load and store excess wind energy at night

Tyler: Does this plan incentivize residents to use renewables?

Michael: The Clean Energy Plan is utility scale plan. The Renewable Energy Standard plan offers incentives for customer solar and storage. RES plan set every four years, last year -over collection – reduce rate and cost

Ken: What is the ownership structure if the proposed projects?

Michael: Wind project is Poer Purchase Agreement. Solar and Battery will be BHE owned

Geo: Has BHE considered hydrogen?

Michael: Not in this plan, but BHE is interested in technology. In Wyoming, ongoing study of hydrogen blending in natural gas generation

Tyler: How has local zoning laws impacted development?

Michael: Land access and permitting must be in place prior to bid, and is part of evaluation score

Patti: How did BHE review projects with emphasis on income-qualified customers?

Michael: IRA increases benefits for disproportionately impacted communities. Independent evaluator oversees process. Capacity expansion modeling simulates real world dispatch, then selects projects.

Tom: How will bill rates be affected?

Michael: New surcharge CEPR 1.5% rider of total bill

Tom: Explain more about time of use rates.

Michael: Yes, BHE offers time of use rates and are looking to be modified

Suggestions for next meeting:

Ken: Presentation about RES plan in future, presentation about energy future, community outreach and education, how to achieve 100% renewable energy goal, how to electrify building and fleet,

Tom: Presentation about strategy plan

Edgie: Look at flexibility of energy options plan should be flexible

Tyler: Focus on community outreach and education about renewables,

George: Recommend local ordinances to bring to Mayor and City Council