



# Pueblo Energy Advisory Commission Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, August 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024 | 4 – 5:30 PM

Hybrid – Zoom and Public Works

Video available here:

[https://pueblo.zoom.us/rec/share/g3MirE\\_ldc4wrN8cBEFr5gD8p1XpsbAYEHhi9xAKqoQnwXXg4xzrropvjEVIHYNk.i2CWTVOZF2Osc7mU](https://pueblo.zoom.us/rec/share/g3MirE_ldc4wrN8cBEFr5gD8p1XpsbAYEHhi9xAKqoQnwXXg4xzrropvjEVIHYNk.i2CWTVOZF2Osc7mU)

Password: ^0Mb90PA

Attendance				
	Michael Briscoe	✓	Thea Rodriguez	✓ George Andrews, Staff
	Brett Boston, City Councilor	✓	Tyler Surat	✓ Daan Walter, RMI
✓	Tom Corlett	✓	John Vigil	
✓	Ken Danti	✓	Anthony Vigil	
✓	Nicole Ferguson	✓	Alan Ward	
✓	Dylan Goodman	✓	Edgie Walrath	
	Laura Getts	✓	Mike Wakefield	
✓	Patti Olenick			

Call to Order, Chair Ken Danti called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm.

Tom moved to approve meeting minutes from July 7, 2024, Edgie seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

1. Presentation from Daan Walter, Rocky Mountain Institute “The Cleantech Revolution”

Exponential change, the era of peaking demand, why rapid change will continue, implications for the energy system, what we need to do now. Two visions of the energy future. Oil capacity continues to expand, Chinese solar manufacturers are building twice as much solar panel capacity manufacturing as is needed in a net 0 scenario. New technology narrative. Technology beats commodities on costs and speed. New energy is fundamentally different than old energy. Incumbents have underestimated speed of change. Three big levers of change – renewables, electrification, and efficiency. Cleantech costs have fallen dramatically. Capital has poured into Cleantech leading to exponential growth in renewables. Solar and batteries are taking over. Supply chain is in place. Electricity is the largest supplier of useful energy, and poised to electrify rest of grid, with efficiency being a deep force of change. Super-fast growth in China driving change, and exponential growth in emerging economies. Fossil fuel demand per capital is declining and peak fossil fuels are behind us. Cleantech keeps improving and costs continue to fall. Fossil fuel is extremely inefficient. Cleantech is now a key driver of GDP growth. The EV domino effect will continue. Over 75% of Fossil fuel demand is under direct threat by five exponentially growing clean technologies – electricity, transport, buildings, industry, energy industry. The fossil fuel system faces trillions in stranded assets. The need to redesign the electricity markets to pass low cost of renewables on to industry and households. Focus on technologies that are simple designs and low customization.

Q&A: What do you attribute current major solar companies and providers bankruptcy to? Seems oil and gas have found a way to cohabitate and solar continues to fight who's going to make money big banks, manufacturers or installers. Where is the capital going?

Inefficient Solar manufactures are forced to innovate or quit, due to new technology a higher interest rates. Also expecting large consolidation in the battery space.

What is the future of batteries?

Lithium-Ion is here to stay before sodium and iron air batteries come to market

How has the relationship between the state and economy impacted energy development in Asian countries?

Exposing part of the energy system to market forces has increased innovation and policy.

Explain more of the stranded asset paradigm as we are facing a similar issue in the City?

The service providers agree to provide gas or electric service. If there is no innovation, market forces will push out utilities and lose to individuals

How does Dutch solar still innovate even when the market is already saturated?

Normal market forces force sectors to innovate and bottlenecks turn into opportunities.

## 2. City Updates, George Andrews

Continuing to work through EV Readiness plan. Secondary workshop scheduled August 28<sup>th</sup> with key community organizations to support the plan. Market Assessment Report key themes include increased revenue opportunities for business, emerging vehicle to grid technology, reduced noise pollution. Policy and program report early themes include incentives for public charging, transportation electrification, public-private partnerships, and zoning and land use. Continuing to work through CFI grant with LOIs secured from several community organizations. Submitted Communities Taking Charge Accelerator cohort grant with Drive Clean Colorado. Project approach is EV Policy lab with demonstration zones. Applying for EECBG to fund eligible staffing. Charging Smart program founding cohort Includes City of Pueblo, City of Brighton, Town of Eerie. Discussed Bronze, Silver, Gold designations. Pueblo Regional Building Department to begin tracking Residential EV Permit Applications. Shared year to date solar permits. Permit Type 727 Residential Solar Roof Mount – 603 submitted. Permit Type 728 Commercial Solar Installation – 2 submitted. Permit Type 729 Residential Solar Ground Mount - 22 submitted. Energy Performance Contracting evaluation still in review due to budget season and City staff capacity. Anticipated to kick off EPC project over next one to two weeks.

Discussed new construction ideas to incorporate level II charging. Discussed City charging for EV charging once free charging ends

## 3. Strategy Discussion

11 Complete responses in the scoring Matrix. Key themes are the Mission, Local environment, and need to communicate to the community. Many more opportunities than threats. Next steps include identifying driving forces. Develop SMART Goals, Pareto Analysis and Toews Matrix. Discussed the need to begin implementing.

4. Suggestions for next meeting: Next step of Strategy plan, City updates,
5. Adjourned at 5:50 pm

Zoom chat log:

00:54:19Tyler Surat: Question (I've lost my mic): What do attribute current major solar companies and providers bankruptcy to? Seems oil and gas have found a way to cohabitate and solar continues to fight who's going to make money big banks, manufacturers or installers.

00:56:06Tyler Surat: Also you did say capital is pouring in. Where is that capital going?

00:57:12Tyler Surat: May not have heard it, but what is the plan to control demand.

01:17:35Tyler Surat: If we you are speaking of innovation why are they over producing and how then sustainable is renewables if innovation always takes over? Gas has been gas for a long, long time. Makes prices and processes sustainable.

01:21:19Allen Best: What role do you see geothermal playing — in Colorado, if you have knowledge about our situation here, or Colorado within the context of the Western grid.

01:22:31PJolenick: Thank you for a great presentation. I appreciate the information coming from RMI and your research. Is your presentation available to us?

01:27:52Iris Clark: Thank you. Great presentation!

02:02:40Thea Rodriguez: I'm sorry, but I have to log off. It was a great meeting, thank you!

02:02:51Public Works: Thank you all

02:07:44Iris Clark: Does anyone know what Excel's report to the PUC in June contained? Did they include nuclear?

Next meeting: Wednesday, September 4<sup>th</sup> at 4 – 5:15  
pm