

City of San Diego
Sustainable Energy Advisory Board (SEAB)
April 12, 2018
Meeting No. 142

MINUTES

ATTENDANCE ROSTER

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Jason Anderson - Business Community
Kendall Helm – SDG&E Representative
Hanna Grene – CSE Regional Energy
Sean Karafin – At Large Member
Douglas Kot (SEAB Vice Chair) – U.S. Green
Building Council

Jay Powell – Environmental Advocate

Eddie Price – At Large Member Alternate #1

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Julia Brown (SEAB Chair) – At Large Member
Andrew McKercher – Labor Organization
Eric Scheidlinger – At Large Member Alternate #2

VACANT SEAT(S):

Vacant – Solar Power System Manufacturer/Installer

I. Call to Order

Quorum met. Douglas Kot called the meeting to order at 10:05AM.

II. Introductions

Public introductions.

III. Announcements

Jack Clark discussed a press release issued by the City of San Diego earlier in the week regarding a financial award from the National Renewable Energy Lab (NREL) to the City. He explained that this award from NREL, through the Solar Energy Innovation Network (SEIN) and with support from the Rocky Mountain Institute and The Clean Coalition, will provide technical assistance and support on distributed solar siting potential in the City of San Diego.

IV. Non-Agenda Public Comment

None.

V. Action Items

1. Approval of Agenda

Jay Powell suggested moving Action Item V.3 to after Informational Item VI.3.i., to follow the

Third Party Peer Review of the 100% Renewable Energy Pathway Discussion.

****MOTION* Jay Powell made motion to approve agenda as modified with Action Item V.3 moved to after Informational Item VI.3.i. Hanna Grene seconded. Motion passed unanimously 7-0-0.***

2. Adoption of Minutes

****MOTION* Jay Powell made motion to adopt minutes with the grammatical correction of the word “skipped” to “not called” under Item #II Introductions from SEAB meeting #142. Eddie Price seconded. Motion passed 6-0-1. Jason Anderson abstained as he was absent from meeting #142.***

Action Item 3 Report and Recommendations from Working Group on SDG&E 100% Renewable Program Proposal moved to follow Informational Item VI.3.i.

VI. Informational Items

1. Climate Action Plan (CAP) Update

Cody Hooven stated there were no new CAP updates, aside from the conversation surrounding the *100% Renewable Energy Pathway Discussion* – which she stated she would speak about when that agenda item is called.

2. Legislative, Regulatory, and City Updates

Fritz Ortlieb provided legislative, regulatory, and City updates. The City of San Diego filed comments to the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) on the IOU’s petition for request to modify the decision of the Community Choice Agreement (CCA) Code of Conduct, proceeding number is R.12-12-009. He spoke about the ongoing Power Charge Indifference Adjustment (PCIA) rule making. Testimony was filed April 2nd. CalCCA and IOUs were major voices on that filing. City of San Diego did not file testimony but is monitoring the PCIA proceedings closely. Rebuttal testimony is due April 23; tracking for decision in July.

Board members discussed and asked questions. Fritz Ortlieb and City Staff answered questions.

Cody Hooven discussed the upcoming budget for the Climate Action Plan and how these legislative and regulatory rulings may affect the costs. She explained the five-year projection of the budget presented to the City Council by the City Independent Budget Analyst was first estimated and they are working her to revise this in future iterations.

Board members discussed and asked questions. Cody Hooven and Jack Clark answered and provided further clarification.

Hanna Grene and Eddie Price noted that California Housing Partnership, Grid Alternatives and Center for Sustainable Energy were selected by CPUC to administer implementation of Assembly Bill 693 which pertains to the installation of solar systems on affordable housing projects as well other affordable energy options for low income residents of California. She further explained the resulting program known as Solar On Multifamily Affordable Housing (SOMAH). The initial \$1 billion price tag of the program is expected to provide up to \$100 million in annual rebates for the

next decade and this program passes the benefits of solar energy savings on to the existing tenants.

Note: Sean Karafin (At Large Member) joined the meeting late at 10:32am.

3. 100% Renewable Energy Pathway Discussion

- i. Third Party Peer Reviews of the CCA Feasibility Study and of the SDG&E Renewables Program proposal
- ii. Report and Recommendations from Working Group on SDG&E 100% Renewable Program Proposal (*as an action item moved from Agenda Item V.3*)
- iii. CCA Business Plan Outline

- i. Douglas Kot moved meeting to the next topic: *Third Party Review* of the 100% Renewable Energy Pathway Options.

Cody Hooven confirmed that issues identified by the Peer Review of the CCA Feasibility Study will be addressed in the CCA Business Plan.

On the Peer Review of the SDG&E proposal Jack Clark stated that the City of San Diego has been engaged in an ongoing discussion with SDG&E to come to clarify issues noted in the Peer Review.

Kendall Helm clarified that, due to the requirements of an RFP submission, some of SDG&E's information may not be presented in a completely clear fashion and SDG&E is actively working to clarify information for the City and a broader audience.

Cody Hooven further clarified that the two third party peer reviews were conducted and had been posted online. One was done on the CCA Feasibility Study and the other was done on the SDG&E Proposal; both are completed by MRW.

Jay Powell noted that the SEA Board had provided a series of questions through staff and the working group reviewed the SDG&E responses to those questions provided through staff as well as the 36 questions included in the Peer Review of the SDG&E proposal. The working group has also requested additional information for the RPS portfolio chart provided through staff from SDG&E.

Kendall Helm responded that SDG&E would answer all of these questions at a future meeting.

- ii. Douglas Kot moved meeting to the next topic: *Report and Recommendations from Working Group on SDG&E 100% Renewable Program Proposal*. He explained that the SEAB Working Group had worked on the draft document which was distributed to Board members prior to the meeting. The document marked as "Initial Draft" included additional questions provided by SEAB members and had identified risk areas. He added that the working group would need answers to the 36 questions from SDG&E before the recommendation could be finalized. He further clarified that the working group would not be able to support *SDG&E's 100% Renewable Program Proposal* at this time for lack of details listed in the Initial Draft recommendation including:

1. undefined partnership role between SDG&E and City of San Diego

2. no statement of program costs or cost share
3. no technical description of the solutions
4. lack of competitive choice for constituents
5. lack of clarity of rate payer indifference
6. potential loss of revenue to the City of San Diego
7. potential loss of control of local investments for renewable or energy efficiency since the proposal defines local to include Imperial County
8. uncertainty in CPUC approval and timeline

He further explained that these are the findings of the working group and it appears that further discussion and clarification of questions raised should be held with the whole of the SEAB as well as other stakeholders including the City of San Diego and SDG&E order to bring forward a revised recommendation for SEAB adoption.

Hanna Green raised issues regarding who bears what administrative and other miscellaneous implementation costs and that additional information on costs of solar energy was needed.

Douglas Kot explained that any additional questions/concerns for SDG&E, SEAB, or the SEAB Working Group should be sent to City Staff (namely: Aaron Lu and Jack Clark) to compile and redistribute to the working group and SEAB members, to avoid duplication of questions and/or other content.

Board members discussed the definition of “local” in siting of renewable generation facilities and the economic benefits of jobs and business development investments in San Diego and Imperial counties. Kendall Helm clarified that SDG&E defined local to include both counties per guidance provided by the City.

Discussion ensued about a presentation of the responses to questions for SDG&E for either a May or June meeting. Board members brought up the issue of a need of a concrete end date/due date for when SEAB could and would reach a decision on the *SDG&E 100% Renewable Program Proposal*. If only a spiraling dialogue continues at SEAB, we will not be able to reach a definitive recommendation.

There was discussion and questions posed to Fritz Ortlieb regarding the potential to review information provided by SDG&E in the working group and Kendal Helm indicated that they would like to provide a clarifying cover statement on the resource information being provided in order to avoid misinterpretation when presented to the public. There was agreement that such a clarifying statement could be provided and that SDG&E representatives, City staff and Working Group members could review additional other information to help provide a recommendation to the SEAB.

Sean Karafin questioned the verbiage of the recommendation of the working group regarding the *SDG&E 100% Renewable Program Proposal*. The issue of whether SEAB is responsible for public policy or not was raised. Jay Powell reaffirmed that the recommendation made by the SEAB Working Group, given the information provided, was not in favor of the City entering into the partnership proposed by SDG&E. However, if more information was provided, the recommendation could change.

- iii. Douglas Kot moved the meeting to the next topic: *CCA Business Plan Outline*. He stated

that this item would have to be tabled until the next meeting.

4. New Business

None.

5. Suggest guests/presentations/tours for future meetings.

- i. Low Income Programs
- ii. Continued Discussion of SDG&E 100% Renewable Energy Program Proposal
- iii. Distributed Generation/ Financial Award information from NREL

VII. Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 11:36 AM.

Note: An audio recording of this meeting is available upon request.