

**Minneapolis Clean Energy Partnership
ENERGY VISION ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

City of Minneapolis, Room 132

Tuesday, September 17, 2019

4:00 – 6:00 p.m.

Q3 2019 Meeting Notes

Committee members present: Chairs: Patty O’Keefe and Rebecca Olson. Members: Robert Blake, Margaret Cherne-Hendrick, Rick Dallmeyer, Timothy DenHerder-Thomas, John Farrell, Leah Hiniker, Matt Kazinka, Mauricio Leon, Kevin Lewis for Julie Samuelson, Elizabeth Turner, Ansha Zaman

Committee members excused: Jamez Staples, Julie Samuelson, Andrew Fang (Resigned)

Guests: Marcus Mills, Lee Samelson, Marie Larson, Tenzin Dolkar

Planning Team/staff present: Sara Barrow, Bridget Dockter, Patrick Hanlon, Kim Havey, Luke Hollenkamp, Emma Schoppe, Al Swintek, Karlee Weinmann, Kelly Muellman, Kennedy Kruchoski

1. Welcome and Introductions

Co-Chair Patty O’Keefe called the meeting of the Energy Vision Advisory Committee (EVAC) to order.

2. Review and Approval of Agenda and Q1 2019 Minutes

Kim Havey requested clarification on Page 7 of the Q1 2019 Minutes: When can customers opt-out of Xcel Energy’s Time of Use program? Bridget Dockter and Sara Barrow responded: Customers can opt-out at any time; the first year of the pilot they will receive a monthly true-up. If a customer opts out after four months and are charged more under the TOU rate than the regular residential rate because of when they used their energy, they will receive a true-up each month until they opt out.

There being no changes to the agenda, it was **MOVED** and **SECONDED** that the agenda for the meeting be approved. Motion **CARRIED**. There being no changes or additions to the Q2 2019 minutes, it was **MOVED** and **SECONDED** that the minutes from April 24, 2019 be approved. Motion **CARRIED**.

3. Q3 Board Meeting Report

Becky provided a synopsis of the Q3 2019 CEP Board meeting held on September 16 and provided copies of the 3 proposed motions and amendments.

EVAC members asked the following questions:

- Why was the more specific language in the data access motion removed? Chair Response: *There were utility concerns over possible conflicts with the specifics and the Public Utilities Commission order governing disclosure of customer energy use data.*

- Appreciated the correction that while the PUC set requirements around data privacy, they did not establish a data privacy threshold for Utilities to abide by, but rather requested the utilities to submit aggregation and release policies with the Commission for approval. Highlighted that this is a 2019-2021 Work Plan initiative and has concerns that there are no specifics around the activity status.
- Is there a plan for how to proceed with the data access activity? *The Board motion directed staff to continue to work together on it. There is a petition by CUB to the PUC to open the data privacy discussion that Xcel Energy believes may be the appropriate venue for further discussion as all of the stakeholders that need to engage in this process will engage in the docket.*
- Was the City data affected by Xcel Energy's 15/15 threshold (requires a group of at least 15 customers where no customer is using more than 15% of the data sets usage) for data privacy? *Yes, for every year except 2015, the electricity use for the Commercial and Industrial sectors is combined because it did not meet the 15/15 threshold. We thought we had identified the U of M as the highest using customer failing the 15/15 threshold and secured their data release consent through a very difficult process. However, after Xcel Energy ran the numbers again they discovered that there was another customer that did not meet the threshold. It is important to the City to acquire this data to be able to identify where emissions are coming from and to be able to develop and set policy. Bridget noted that the City can identify its small group of industrial customers without needing to separate the data for policy purposes. Kim Havey also identified a challenge in acquiring data for residential 1-4 unit buildings to comply with their energy disclosure policies.*

4. Inclusive Community Engagement & Implementation Plan for City of Mpls 100% Renewable Electricity Blueprint (Tenzin Dolkar)

Tenzin Dolkar with the City of Minneapolis provided a presentation on the City's 100% Renewable Electricity Blue Print Engagement Plan. EVAC members asked the following questions:

- Do you have a sense of how to engage communities at a grass roots level? *Yes, through targeted or tailored engagement we will work with the community to identify specific groups and go to them.*
- Are you aware of the Community Engagement guidelines developed by EVAC? *Yes, our engagement process builds upon that direction as well as what the Green Zone groups have developed.*
- Does the 100% RE Blueprint look at renewable electricity at the production source or the end use; will it build upon the Xcel 2050 carbon-free goal? *The City will build upon Xcel's 2050 carbon-free goal and RE Programs (ex. Windsource, solar connect, community solar rewards), however, the City will depart from Xcel in its use of nuclear to reach their energy source goal.*
- Will low-income residents be compensated for their time to participate in stakeholder engagement to avoid self-selection bias? *The City will provide food at meetings but has challenges acquiring additional funds for compensating stakeholders but will look into it.*
- Do you plan to prioritize engagement in Green Zones? *Yes, there are specific strategies to connect with stakeholders in Green Zones.*
- How does this process intersect with RFI recently released by the City? *The RFI (100% RE for City Facilities) and the proposals that come out of that process will be used to inform strategies for the community blueprint process.*

5. 2018 CEP Annual Report Review

Members of the Planning Team provided highlights of the Minneapolis Clean Energy Partnership 2018 Annual Report (Board Draft: September 10, 2019).

EVAC members asked the following questions:

- Why couldn't the City's data be weather-normalized when the utilities each provide weather-normalized data in the PUC in different context? *The City is seeking a consistent methodology across the utilities to weather-normalize monthly data, which differs from each utilities existing process. The Partners are working together to find a consistent process. Additionally, due to some of the aforementioned data disclosure discussion between the City and utilities, not all data was available in the necessary granularity and format.*
- Are the metrics measured against an absolute or population growth baseline? *Metrics 3 and 4 are measured against a growth baseline established during the development of the Minneapolis Climate Action Plan that assumes a growth in electricity consumption and no growth in natural gas consumption.*
- What is the definition of local and directly purchased RE? *It means either the generation source or the end-use subscriber is located in Minneapolis.*
- Are there incentives for residents in Green Zones to participate in RE programs? *Yes, the City provides added solar and energy efficiency incentives to customers in Green Zones*

through the Green Cost Share program. Solar rewards program also provides added incentives for low income participants.

6. Minneapolis Renewable Electricity and Energy Efficiency Workforce Assessment Results & Discussion (Marie Larson)

Marie Larson with the City of Minneapolis Community Planning & Economic Development gave an overview of the Renewable Electricity and Energy Efficiency Workforce Assessment completed in May 2019. Following the presentation Marie directed a question toward EVAC: Is it of interest to further invest in measuring and tracking workforce diversity in Minneapolis?

EVAC member response: *It is most useful if there is a specific effort from which to measure; for example, tracking the job placements following a training program.*

Bridget provided an update on the State's Workforce and Supplier Diversity Workgroup and invited EVAC members to participate.

There was some discussion around how EVAC might regroup to consider next steps around workforce diversity.

7. UPDATES

a. Work Force Metric Development (Mauricio)

Mauricio Leon provided key takeaways from Equity/Workforce metric subcommittee meetings that occurred since the Q2 EVAC meeting.

- The subcommittee discussed how to define Equity, in terms of 1.) who receives a service, and 2.) who performs the service. An EVAC member offered a third category to consider equity around who is the decision making authorities/asset owners supplying the service.
- The subcommittee discussed uncertainty around the scope of the assignment to identify Workforce and Equity Metrics and suggested that external expertise may be beneficial.
- It was unclear what next steps might be for the subcommittee, but Mauricio offered that the information around workforce and equity in the Annual Report was a positive step.
- There was discussion around how the City might track workforce and equity metrics for franchise fee funded programs.
- Patrick Hanlon gave an update on Youth Development Pathways Program and encouraged working with Markeeta Keyes from the City of Minneapolis.

b. City of Minneapolis "Big Picture" Franchise Fee Increase-Enabled Program Meeting (Matt)

On September 5, seven EVAC members attended the first of three meetings intended to discuss general direction for Franchise Fee Increase-Enabled Programs. EVAC members discussed:

- Electrification strategies to transform the market and address electrification barriers like cost, technology, and market interest (ex. Incentivize Utilities Energy Design Assistance program),

- Workforce development strategies that address equity,
- Continue to fund programs with demonstrated success in hard-to-reach communities (Ex. Home Energy Squad buydowns, 0% interest financing, Green Business Cost Share),
- Franchise Fee dollars should be used to leverage existing programs to reach underserved communities,
- New program ideas should be presented with research and justification.

8. Partner Updates

Andrew Fang has resigned from EVAC to pursue a professional opportunity out of state, the Planning Team will assess if his position will be replaced.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

DRAFT