

Delaware Sustainable Energy Utility
Minutes of the Meeting of the Energy Programs Committee
109 S. State Street, Dover, DE 19901
December 10, 2014 at 8:30 AM

Welcome

Mr. Robert Underwood, Program Administrator – Energy Program Division of Energy & Climate called the meeting to order. Present were Dr. Ismat Shah (telephone), Ms. Pamela Bakerian (telephone), Ms. Crystal Nagyiski, (DNREC) Mr. Tony DePrima, Ms. Joanne Bachmann, VEIC (telephone), Ms. Alison Hollingsworth, VEIC (telephone), and Mr. Peter Snyder, VEIC (telephone).

1. Vermont Energy Investment Corporation (VEIC) – Phase I – Mr. Underwood indicated that this is a follow-up meeting from October 24, 2014; during the meeting, members had several concerns (typical life span of a ZNE MH versus typical life span of PV, Delaware based production companies, vacation homes, and rental units) that were unable to be addressed due to time constraints. VEIC was asked to modify Phase I based on the concerns.

Ms. Hollingsworth reminded members that the purpose of Phase I was to determine if there was a need for more energy-efficient, resilient, and affordable housing in Delaware, and secondly to determine if there would be any barriers that would inhibit moving forward with Phase II. Ms. Hollingsworth is confident that the need is there and does not foresee any barriers.

Responding to Mr. Underwood and Mr. DePrima, Ms. Hollingsworth indicated there were two areas most modified in Phase I; the first was broadening the focus of potential manufactures and secondly, clarifying that the program was specifically designed for low to moderate income residents of Delaware that own their land; not for those who rent or own second homes in Delaware.

Ms. Hollingsworth stated that there is an in-state modular home manufacturer as well as several regional manufactures in adjacent states that could be utilized for the pilot program.

Phase II would include determination of the pilot size and location, incentive structure, develop eligibility requirements of those participating in the program, financing structure, delivery and set costs, an estimate of the budget required to implement the pilot and an EM&V plan to verify the cost effectiveness of the pilot. The budget estimate for Phase II is \$150,000 to \$170,000 and would require 4 – 6 months to complete.

Responding to Dr. Shah regarding the finance modeling for the cost of installing PV systems, Mr. Snyder indicated that the estimates were based on Vermont and New Jersey markets. Mr. Underwood stated that his office would be able to provide detailed financial information regarding Delaware based PV systems, which includes territory, rebates, and solar shade analysis.

Responding to concerns from Dr. Shah, regarding the 20 year solar installation life as opposed to the 30 year life of the home, Ms. Hollingsworth stated that provisions could be added to included in Phase I for early replacement of key pieces of equipment (PV system) within the life cycle of the home.

Mr. DePrima questioned if the manufacture being used Vermont could provide Delaware with a couple of trial units for the pilot or would we need to seek out a regional manufacturer. Mr. Snyder stated that it would be more cost effective to use a local manufacturer for the pilots.

Ms. Bakerian suggested clarifying the language used throughout the proposal; she pointed out several areas where vague and indecisive language such as “possible”, “attempting” was used.

Mr. DePrima requested those with VEIC disconnect from the conference call so that members of the committee could discuss the next steps to be taken.

After much discussion between members of the Energy Programs Committee members, it was the consensus that additional modifications still need to be made prior to forwarding to the Board. Dr. Shah agreed to communicate with VEIC to discuss the financial model. It was recommended that the Executive Director direct VEIC to fine tune Phase 1 based on matters discussed and once complete, present it to the Energy Programs Committee for review.

Meeting adjourned at 9:25 AM.