

Energy and Climate Committee 4/1 7Minutes

Attendance: A. Voegele, B. Buermann, P. Zamore, D. Seeley, B. Morris, M. LeFluer, W. Irwin

Staff: E. Klofft, M. Valenta, C. Dimitruk

A.Voegele calls the meeting to order at 6:35 PM

Adjustments to the Agenda and Public Comment

There are no adjustments to the agenda. C. Dimitruk provides an update on the current energy plan, the fact that she misinterpreted statute and believed we did not need to seek energy determination on re-adopted regional plan, we are now doing so. There will be a public hearing on that request April 30th, there may be a gap of period where plan was not valid that may affect project review comments and require updated decisions of a few municipal energy plans. Staff will keep the committee updated.

Approval of Minutes

W. Irwin motioned to approve March minutes, D. Seeley seconded. Motion carried to approve minute, K. Waite and B. Morris abstain.

Review of Energy Plan, First Half

M. Valenta reviews draft plan, notes some formatting still to be fixed.

K. Waite struggles with three categories of heating, transportation and electricity, 2 are sectors and 1 is a method.

W. Irwin sees K. Waite point, M. Valenta points out need to fit state targets data and check boxes around these areas, K. Waite asks about electrification instead of electricity. Discussion about how these are not analogues, K. Waite suggests electric instead of electricity and this works.

K. Waite notes he has typos.

W. Irwin notes that section 3 on equity is not in executive summary and should be more incorporated. He also notes it's important to have section on equity talk about state equity discussion. W. Irwin asks about the equity map, and if there has been outreach to those specific communities that are singled out in description of need. E. Klofft responds that St. Albans has it in city plan, she could reach out to Montgomery and Richford PC as she is working with them currently.

W. Irwin asks that we add more information on equity tools, staff will update with more information on each item.

A. Voegele suggests changing the wording of low life expectancy because it may be misinterpreted.

M. Valenta notes that under social vulnerability index we removed specific communities because it felt too specific.

Section 4

W. Irwin notes some figures still need source, sure this will be updated.

W. Irwin notes Figure 4.13 wording not needed to state Ryegate plant is in Ryegate, spell out VEPP.

K. Waite ask about the meaning of capacity to generate 91 MW, is it permitted or installed or potential. E. Klofft responds that this is from DPS, installed & permitted capacity.

D. Seeley notes that Figure 4.5 numbers are off, staff will review.

W. Irwin asks for an explanation of Figure 4.7's balloon.

K. Waite asks for any number from GMT on level of ridership on buses that make it more efficient than car.

M. LeFluer notes that GMT offers vanpool and carpool options, have fleet of cars & minivans that are ADA compatible, they could be used more for low demand scenarios.

B. Buermann responds to K. Waite that there is a number- not sure exactly but it is around 4-5 people.

K. Waite says there should be at least a mention of trying to increase ridership as a goal.

B. Buermann agrees and GMT constantly reviews routes and patterns to make it most efficient possible, switching vehicle types can increase costs which makes right-sizing hard.

W. Irwin notes that Figure 4.8 has some artifacts that will need to be removed for final.

K. Waite revisits equity section, distributive equity doesn't make sense, M. Valenta and staff will reword.

Adjournment

K. Waite motion D. Seeley seconds. Motion carried.