



PIMA COUNTY ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ADVISORY COUNCIL
150 W. Congress Street, Suite 109
Tucson, AZ 85701

Summary Notes of Subcommittee Meeting – No Quorum for Official Meeting
January 20, 2010
Bank of America Building, Conference Room, 8th floor
33 N. Stone, Tucson, AZ
1:30 p.m.

Members Present:

Mr. Curt Lueck
Mr. Warren Thompson
Mr. Allan MacDonald
Mr. Ben Dorris
Dr. Eric Betterton

Members Absent:

Mr. Daniel G. Rowe
Dr. Roger Caldwell
Dr. Mark Witten
Mr. Peter Livingston
Mr. Jeff Yockey

Others Present:

Ursula Kramer, Director, PDEQ
Richard Grimaldi, Deputy Director, PDEQ
Karen Wilhelmsen, Program Coordinator, PDEQ
Vicki Bennie, Council Secretary, PDEQ
Roxanne Linsley, Az Dept. of Environmental Quality (ADEQ)
Lee Comrie, Pima Association of Governments (PAG)
Teri Raml, Bureau of Land Management (BLM)
Oley Sheremeta, Created Earth Solutions

Ms. Teri Raml, Project Manager, traveled from Phoenix to present information using power point regarding the Restoration Design Energy Project of the Bureau of Land Management. Due to the lack of a quorum, those present heard the presentation as a subcommittee. No discussion or action was permitted because there was no quorum.

RESTORATION DESIGN ENERGY PROJECT

BLM AZ Solar Strategy - Four Tracks

- 33 applications received; 371,602 Acres; 3 applications almost perfected
- Sonoran Solar Energy Project – fast track; scoping completed; DEIS - Oct 2010
- BLM Programmatic EIS – analysis of Study Areas
- Restoration Design Energy Project

Restoration Design – Unique Approach

- Renewable energy sites identified based on site characteristics
- Sites proposed and concepts developed from continuous public involvement
- State-wide perspective; all land ownerships affect renewable energy footprint
- ARRA Project – 2 Contracts – Scoping and EIS and RMP amendments

Draft Purpose Statement for EIS

Remediate or restore selected sites to foster environmentally responsible production of renewable energy at a good value for the taxpayer while providing economic opportunities for community benefits.

Restoration Design Energy Site Factors

- Utility-scale or Distributive
- Solar, Wind, Geothermal
- Site factors – soil, water, slope
- Geography/Location
- Nature of Previous Disturbance
- Land Status and Cooperators
- Availability of Transmission

Alternative Design Concepts

- Energy Generation near Demand
- Transmission and Interconnection
- Site Types Matched with Technology
- Minimizing Demand for Water Resources
- Federal – State partnership
- More.....

Restoration Design Energy Process

- Federal Register Notice – Jan 13
- Scoping Period open until Feb 26
- Public Meetings in February
- Draft EIS Released fall 2010
- Public Comment for 90 days
- Final EIS Released summer 2011

The EIS will....

- Amend RMPs to allocate sites for renewable energy generation
- Approve renewable energy project sites
- Define additional required analysis
- Determine terms for competitive leasing
- Set protocols for future project sites

Vision for outcome

- Less fragmented approach to system design
- Broader consensus on renewable energy footprint in Arizona
- New business partnerships formed
- Reduced impact to undisturbed landscapes
- Easier integration of generation into grid
- Consistency with Inter- and Intra-state transmission
- Pathways for community renewable energy projects

IX. NEXT MEETING

The next EQAC meeting will be on Wednesday, March 17, 2010, at 1:30 p.m. The meeting location will be the Bank of America Building, 33 N. Stone, 7th floor conference room.

Agenda items are:

- Election of EQAC Officers – EQAC members
- ASARCO Report – PDEQ Staff
- Ozone Discussion – PDEQ Staff
- Brainstorm issues for EQAC meetings in 2010

Ms. Raml's full presentation will be on the PDEQ website.