

CAP Advisory Group Meeting Summary - Sept 24, 2008

Members Present:

Henry Mueller
Jeff Fiedler
Steve Mudd
Pam Milmoie
Ron Shaw
Amy Ellsworth
Sheila Horton
Francoise Poinatte
Adriana Raudzens-Bailey
Dan Powers

Guest:

Susan Innis - Governor's Energy Office (Colorado Carbon Fund)

Staff:

Kevin Afflerbaugh, Sarah Van Pelt, Yael Gichon

Staff updates – Council study session on the CAP is planned for Nov 18th; Next month – RECO report will be finalized

Presentation - Colorado Carbon Fund - Susan Innis

The fund is using a voluntary carbon standard for certification. Five criteria:

- Real
- Surplus
- Verifiable
- Permanent
- Enforceable

CCF will accept applications for energy efficiency projects, renewable energy projects, methane capture and transportation projects.

Looking at projects that reduce 2,500 mtCO₂e emissions annually (can aggregate)

Electricity projects will not be considered. Projects that have DSM rebates will not be eligible.

Climate Trust is running this program for GEO.

This program will pay \$5-\$10/ton for carbon reductions.

The goal is that program funds will be the “last money” into a project to create additionality.

Budget – contract with Climate Trust through 2010 – GEO put in seed funding for marketing, salary, admin. Projects funded directly through donations (people offsetting their emissions).

\$20/ton to offset carbon

1st 2 yrs admin will be covered by State and grants.

Hoping to raise \$3M/yr by 2010.

Offsets will be retired by Climate Trust on behalf of consumer.

Program is tax-deductable because funds are managed by Climate Trust.

Direct emissions only (smoke stack/tail pipe) - not emissions at power plant (electricity).

Use RECS for electricity related emissions and Offsets for indirect (flying, etc)

License Plate available - \$25 donation or ½ of your vehicle emissions, plus \$50 at County

Xcel DSM discussion

Boulder’s share of DSM calculated based on share of sales in Boulder. In 2009, Gas DSM = 356 mtCO₂e and electricity is 6,917 mtCO₂e.

Even if the city gets its “share” of DSM investment, we won’t make that much progress towards goal. Energy efficiency is only one slice of inventory pie.

We could do much better if we have an aggressive program to go after this (to get more than our share).

Target for Xcel is % of sales. 100 GWH/yr to save.

What complementary programs could we put together?

CAP-AG supports the CAP providing incentives.

Amy E: Suggested focusing on Multi-Family because it is not addressed by Xcel. Work with landlords – work on common area measures and education for tenants. A couple of programs starting to develop. Follow up with Amy

Sheila: Help properties do sub-metering so tenants can see actual cost since landlords cannot pass along the cost of utilities to tenant. Tie user to payer. Difficult to do because

of utility law. Can't pass on the cost of sub-metering to tenant – so barrier to letting tenant know how much they use. Important to commercial buildings as well as residential.

Ron S: Is this addressed in the commercial code? No.

Amy E: Thistle did a pilot project with sub-meters.

Sarah – BHP sub-metered at Broadway facility. Good to start with non-profits.

Ron S. – In commercial codes, let's make it easier to sub-meter.

Adriana – How likely is it to change code in relation to sub-metering? What stage are we at as far as pursuing regulatory options?

Sarah – Report on RECO this week, presenting to Council on Nov 18th. Will hear from City Council on the direction of developing codes. Will also begin staff research on commercial side.

Dan – County meeting for commercial codes next week to develop a proposal for new construction and significant remodels.

Sheila – Not suggesting that sub-metering be part of code – but rather that funds be available to help landlords sub-meter if they want.

Pam – Could we do a legislative fix?

Would sub-metering be affected by SmartGrid?

Pam – Air compressor efficiency – target this, cheap, a lot of them, opportunities for quick payback. This is one that we should target. Push the ones for the masses rather than large business opportunities. Make sure that follow up and upsell is happening.

Steve Mudd – Xcel will promote the new programs through account managers on business side. Account managers get incentives for closing deals.

Sarah – Only 10 businesses in Boulder have account managers.

Henry – If small business wants to go thru audit, still have to go through city, so we can follow up. Also, the city needs an aggressive recognition program, not just awards. Businesses can use this in marketing. Get Camera to do “Best of Green Boulder”.

Adriana – ClimateSmart recognition could be just as obviously displayed as “Best of Boulder”.

Kevin – 10 for change is a way to recognize businesses.

Pam – Could business to business challenges be a strategy?

Dan – Yes, if there is a champion to rally this. 10 for change is a good model to pursue right now. Recognition is important, but on more pragmatic view – 1st – quickest ROI, put most energy into, get biggest foot into most doors in business community. 2nd – can city leverage programs that have other entities partnering to leverage resources since city does not have enough resources (ex: BGBG commercial workshops – helping them market this) 3rd – People who are philosophically inclined to get involved, Ex: Natural Capitalism Solutions small business tool.

Jeff – On audit follow-up – can audits be public so bids can be generated automatically?

Others suggested that implementation assistance could be a solution to this.

Clean Tech Solutions does a Home Performance type service – audit, retrofits, test out.

Sarah - Help with developing energy management plans

Ron - Is Xcel developing something to help businesses track carbon?

Steve Mudd – SmartGrid will have the ability to do this. Although commercial is a lot less developed than residential

Sarah – SmartGrid study session with Council on 10/28.

Sheila – Suggested training for lighting contractors, electrical contractors and service people – workshop for providers on newest technology.

Sarah – Work with permit office and contractor licensing.

Henry – BGBG commercial brown bags are running great workshops.

Sheila – Not just focus on developers, but people actually doing work. Home Depot lighting guys get asked a lot of questions.

Francoise – Expand recognition to people that have done trainings, contractors and retail outlets. Provide recognition for people that have attended trainings.

Henry – Need equivalent of Green Points certification for commercial.

Sarah – For Trade Ally Network, could require certain number of trainings and reporting on installation of high performance equipment.

Adriana – City could boost program participation through advertising. ClimateSmart could have cross promotion by other local partners.

Henry – BGBG is trying to create website to be a source for all local resources.

Pam – Building commissioning – buildings never work the way they are designed to work. Opportunities to improve performance.

Kevin – Could look at recommissioning for smaller businesses.

Henry – An inventory or breakdown of number of buildings of different sizes could guide where we put our efforts. County assessor could do this.