

CEAC Meeting Minutes – July 24, 2013

Attendance: Ross Abbey, Kevin Bengtson, Lisa Daniels, Darrell Gerber, Shalini Gupta, Tony Hainault, Meleah Houseknecht, Roxxanne O'Brien, Annette Rondano, Michelle Schroeder, Sarah Sponheim, Jamison Tessner, Alexis Troschinetz

Others in Attendance: Karlie Cole, Mike Bull, Jenny Edwards, Gayle Prest, Brian Ross, Brendon Slotterback

Absences: Marty Broan, Pat Mulloy, Jennifer Ringold, Michelle Stockness

Meeting Minutes and Agenda

Chair Sarah Sponheim called the meeting to order at 3:06 pm. Changes in June minutes: "May agenda" should be changed to say June agenda; Ross and Meleah expressed interest in attending the Land Access subcommittee of the Food Council, which the minutes should reflect; Emerald Ash Borer was spelled wrong. Minutes approved as amended. Agenda approved.

Announcements

1. Diane Daun has had to step off CEAC because her department at Minneapolis Public Schools has had budget cuts and she is working on other things.
2. Michelle Stockness recently had a baby.
3. Hennepin County has published a new bike map. Tony passed out copies.
4. Hennepin County has scheduled a number of household hazardous waste collection events in the coming months. For more details, go here: <http://bit.ly/ciHUDD>
5. The Friends of the Mississippi River has published a State of the River report. You can find it here: <http://stateoftheriver.com/state-of-the-river-report/>
6. An Administrative law judge ruled on proposed rate increase for Xcel Energy NSP region – 4.7%, much lower than 10% requested. Items within that rate request denied or deferred. Within the next three months, this process will end and Public Utilities Commission will vote on final rate. Bills will go back down, after going up for an interim rate increase. Items that were deferred may be part of a rate increase that comes in this fall.
7. Xcel is building three new 200 MW wind projects in the Minnesota and the Dakotas.
8. Xcel doing a study on Solar Effective Load Carrying Capability Study. The study looks at the true value of solar based on how it peaks with demand on the grid. There has already been a change to the tariff so solar gets more of a credit. Next year a "value of solar" rate will be developed, which will standardize this, and remove special tariffs and charges. Xcel partnered with Hennepin County, Minneapolis, Met Council and others to work on the study. You can find a description of the study at the PUC's website here: <http://bit.ly/11uCtsK>.
9. Minnesota is 7th in the country on a per capita basis for the adoption of electric vehicles, even without significant incentives or a large charging network.
10. The CERTS program to retrofit sink washers is ending soon (August), so please spread the word about the opportunity to participate! Restaurants can get very cheap aerators to save \$400 per year.

Energy Vision Process Overview

Brian Ross presented an overview of the Energy Pathways Study process, and led CEAC through a process to get feedback on the draft Energy Vision. This feedback will inform the final Energy Vision that will be reviewed by the City Council in September. Brian noted that the process will also include interviews with specific stakeholders from neighborhood, low income, business, regulatory and other groups. The intention was to include interviews with groups that were not represented on CEAC. Shalini suggested Brian consider also interviewing a low-income housing developer.

Small groups were formed to comment on each aspect of the Vision, and reported back on prioritization, comments on the specific vision language and gaps they saw in the Vision. Feedback was recorded on individual sheets and from group discussions.

Brian will be summarizing all the comments collected and send that document to City staff. It will be shared with CEAC and be included in the final report to the City Council. Brian will also send CEAC revisions to the Energy Vision based on their input before the next CEAC meeting.

There was some discussion of whether CEAC would have another opportunity to comment on the Vision. Gayle and Brian noted that CEAC can take a formal position on the Vision after it is finalized if they wish, and that could include specific recommendations for edits or additions.

Subcommittee Updates

Water – An advocacy group has produced outreach materials on preventing the spread of Asian Carp. If anyone would like to distribute materials to encourage people not to use locks, please let Darrell know and he can produce them.

Members mentioned interest in planning a Summer Picnic or Happy Hour.

Future meeting agenda items

- The August meeting will include a discussion with Centerpoint Energy, Minneapolis Energy Options and Xcel Energy.
- There was a brief discussion about the September meeting including a social function like the previous two years.

Adjournment The meeting was adjourned at 5:18 p.m.

**CEAC Subcommittees
July 24, 2013**

	Chair	Members	Typical meeting times	2013 ideas
Less Waste	Sarah	Jamison, Annette, Diane, Tony, Ross	2:00-3:00 before CEAC meeting	Construction debris Organics
Water	Darrell	Michelle Stockness, Meleah, Sarah	3 rd Thursday 8:00-9:00 am Wilde Roast	
Air Climate	Ross	Michelle Schroeder, Meleah, Sarah, Lisa, Pat, Shalini, Marty, Alexis, Kevin, Tony	2 nd Thursday 4:00 Common Roots	Climate Action Plan Env Justice Energy Efficiency Renewables
Utility Franchise	Michelle Schroeder	Brian, Pat, Meleah, Sarah, Lisa, Shalini, Roxanne		
Outreach	Annette			
Climate Action Plan				

Draft Motion:

CEAC formally request the Minneapolis City Council to submit comments to the Minnesota Public Utility Commission regarding the life cycle management study of the Sherburne County Generating Station ("Sherco") Units 1 and 2 (PUC Docket E002/RP-13-368). The City's comments should urge the PUC to direct Xcel Energy to lay out in its 2014 Resource Plan a timeline for replacing Sherco 1 and 2 with clean energy.

- Sherco 1 and 2, which supply power to Minneapolis (and are located just 45 miles north along I-94) were built in the 1970s as coal-burning facilities.
- The Sherco power plant is the single largest source of greenhouse gas emissions in our state, burning 30,000 tons of coal a day, and emitting over 13 million tons of carbon dioxide per year.
- This PUC docket will help determine whether Sherco 1 and 2 will continue operating as coal-burning units, or whether one or both units will be replaced with a combination of less polluting electricity, including natural gas, efficiency, wind, and solar energy.

Background:

Project Background: On July 1, 2013, Xcel Energy filed its Life Cycle Management Study for Sherburne County (Sherco) Generation Station Units 1 and 2. The Study was filed pursuant to the Commission's November 30, 2012 Order in Xcel's 2011-2025 Integrated Resource Plan (Docket No. 10-825). The Study was ordered to examine the feasibility and cost-effectiveness of continuing to operate, retrofitting, or retiring Sherco 1 and 2. The Study assesses the impact of recently finalized and likely forthcoming EPA regulations and provides cost estimates of the pollution control equipment which could be required at Sherco 1 and 2.

Initial comment period closes October 1, 2013.

Topic/s Open for Comment:

- Parties may file comments on whether Xcel's Sherco Study complies with the requirements set forth by the Commission's November 30, 2012 Order in the resource plan. The term "parties" has the meaning given in the Commission's resource plan rules, Minnesota Rules 7843.0100, Subpart 8.
- Parties may comment on the reasonableness of Xcel's Reference Case assumptions used in the Sherco study.
- Parties may submit recommendations, within the scope of the Sherco Study, to be addressed in Xcel's 2014 Integrated Resource Plan, which is scheduled to be filed February 1, 2014.
- Parties may comment on whether the February 1, 2014 deadline for Xcel's next resource plan should be modified, given the timeline of Xcel's competitive resource acquisition process.