

SOUTH COAST ALTERNATIVE ENERGY COLLABORATIVE MEETING
5 Mar 12

1. The meeting convened at 7:05PM. The Agenda is provided as attachment 1.
2. Meeting attendees list is provided as attachment 2.
3. David Pierce of Marion chaired the meeting. He started the meeting recognizing the various city/town/organizational representatives present.
4. Mr. Luke Hinkle from My Generation Energy was the guest speaker providing a presentation addressing the Brewster Community Solar Garden:
 - The solar garden concept developed as greater than 85% of homes do not have correct orientation for solar panels or are shaded somehow
 - Brewster Community Solar Garden installation specifics
 - Site is 2 acre former sand pit and construction debris field, in industrial area and not visible. Did not have to cut trees
 - Land is leased
 - 1440 solar panels (manufactured in USA) installed on 60 support structures, used conservation seed mix to stabilize area under the structures and eventually will use a native erosion control seed mixture
 - Support structures are cast concrete footings on top of the soil, cheaper than dug footings which were not permitted. Structure and footings designed for 120 mph wind
 - Cost \$1.6M to install
 - Commissioned 3 Feb 2012, has produced 30 Mwhr in the first month
 - Brewster Community Solar Garden project consists of
 - My Generation Energy – installed and maintains the solar panels
 - Brewster Community Solar Garden LLC – owns and manages the solar garden, sells sun shares (50). Each sun share represents the output of 28.8 panels. Tax credits and RECs flow to the LLC
 - Solar Garden Cooperative – purchasers of sun shares which results in approximately 1/6 of installation cost. Sun share owners are essentially a neighborhood association with voting rights. Anticipate each share will credit the purchaser with \$106 of credit per month for 5 years. At that time the tax credits are gone and they can decide to extend for another 5 years, purchase the project outright, or not participate any longer. Not an investment but provides 7.5% return on investment per year.

Questions and answers followed:

- Q – What is the average monthly use by the investors? A – Don't have that data yet as have only been operating for one month.
- Q – Were decommissioning funds included? A – No
- Q – Was this an optimum size for the installation? A – It was a combination of available land and available funding

- Q – How long did it take to get the interconnect agreement? A – From June to September, surprisingly short time.
- Q – What is the benefit to the Town? A – Lease income.
- Q – Why only in Brewster? A – That was who the original proposal was to, and Luke lives there.
- Q – How big is the zone for participation? A – NSTAR zone in Southeastern Massachusetts, but he tries to limit it to a specific community.
- Q – How does this relate to Green Community criteria? A – An area for generation activity

5. Individual presentations followed:

a. Mass Maritime (Paul O'Keefe)

- In the sixth year of turbine operation
 - Availability has been 99%
 - No bird kills in the last 3 years
 - Has been paid for (\$900K)
 - No complaint from nearest home that is 500 feet away. Only complaint from across the bay because of flashing light, a FAA requirement that has since been changed
 - Originally bought 5 year maintenance agreement for \$15,500 per year. Now want \$56,000 per year which they did not accept, Mass Maritime does basic maintenance for \$9,600 per year and accepts the risk.
- Have installed 81KW of photovoltaic installed
- Have 62 solar powered walkway lights
- Building new 45,000 square foot library and information center to LEED requirements. Will have 90 KW of solar panels on the roof, use geothermal heating and cooling.
- Have installed high efficiency gas boilers in each building and removed the centralized heating plant
- Have 3 65 KW micro turbines installed
- 40% of annual electrical consumption generated on campus
- Have new Energy Systems Engineering curriculum.

b. Bridgewater State (Rob Fisher)

- Have a lot of old buildings, have a decentralization plan to lower the impact of old facilities
- Will be building a new Science building to LEED requirements
- Looking at a large solar project to buy into, a 6-10 MW facility
- A wind feasibility study will be next

c. Marion

- Update on energy audit effort to date; have had inspections of nine Town facilities, waiting report to support proposed Spring Town Meeting article to initiate energy reduction efforts

- Investigating stretch code impact and which part of the Town vehicle inventory could be shifted to more energy efficient vehicles.

d. Fairhaven

- David Pierce noted that Jeff Osuch could not attend but reported that their wind turbine installation is proceeding.

e. Aachusnet

- Fire department has a solar panel installation on the roof
- There are two private permits to intall solar panels; the Town is cooperative but some abutters object
 - One part is to use a 5 acre section of a 19 acre parcel to install 5000 solar panels – approximately 1MW.

6. Meeting adjourned at 8:20 PM.

Respectfully



Norman Hills
Secretary

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South Coast Wind Power Collaborative

Music Hall

Marion, MA 02738

Monday, March 5, 2012

7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Agenda

1. Introductions of those present.
2. Keynote Speaker: Luke Hinkle from My Generation Energy (<http://www.mygenerationenergy.com>) will speak on a program he has been working on a solar panel venture called Brewster Community Solar Garden as well as other solar panel projects. Luke's company installed solar panels on Marion Energy Management member, Bill Saltonstall's home.
3. Town by town brief updates on progress made in your search for wind power or alternative energy programs within your town or school since our last meeting on Monday September 26, 2011.

Acushnet	Henry Young
Barrington RI	Rob Hart
Bourne	Liz Caporelli
Dartmouth	
Fairhaven	Jeff Osuch
Falmouth	Megan Amsler
Fall River	Al Oliviera
Marion	Norm Hills
Mass Maritime	Paul O'Keefe
Rehoboth	Judy Wilson
UMASS Dartmouth	(1) Phil Lopes Manny Del Lima (2) Susan Jennings
Upper Cape Voke	Kevin Farr
Wareham	Scott Palladine
Wheaton College	Bernice Morrissey
Westport	Dave Dionne

4. Adjournment.

6. Our next meeting will be Monday, September 24, 2012 at the Marion Music Hall at 7:00 PM.

South Coast Alternative Energy Collaborative
Meeting
5 Mar 2012

Name	Town	Phone	Email
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Tinker Saltonstall	Marion		

