



CITY OF DOVER

ENERGY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

Meeting Type: Regular Meeting
Meeting Location: City Hall 2nd Fl Conference Rm – 288 Central Ave, Dover,
NH 03820
Meeting Date: **Tuesday, December 16, 2008**
Meeting Time: **5:30 pm**

PRESENT: Dona Layton, Elizabeth Goldman, Chair Eric Steltzer, Chris Parker, City of Dover Planning Director

Visitors: Dean Scontras and Richard P. Benoit from Ra Power Solutions.

Meeting began at 5:32

1. Presentation by Ra Power Solutions:

Dean Scontras and Richard P. Benoit from Ra Power Solutions spoke with the committee about erecting a wind turbine on property owned by the city of Dover. (Ra Power Solutions plans to develop a wind farm project on an 1,100-acre bison farm in Errol, New Hampshire, among pursuing several other projects.) The company is proposing to operate the wind turbine pro bono in exchange for Dover assuming responsibility for conducting wind-speed tests to determine an appropriate location for the project. Cost to Dover would be approximately \$40,000 to \$50,000. Mr. Benoit said that wind speed in Dover is most likely comparable to the wind speed at the location of the wind turbine in Kittery, Maine—approx. 9 miles per hour.

Mr. Scontras said there will be increases in federal funds that are available for states, cities, and towns to upgrade their power grids in order to utilize alternative energy sources such as wind power.

Mr. Benoit mentioned Garrison Hill as a suitable location for a wind turbine. According to Mr. Parker, the transfer station would be an appropriate place for this project. Using Garrison Hill is out of the question because there are many restrictions pertaining to the types of activities that can be conducted at this location.

Chair Eric Steltzer asked if Ra Power Solutions has experience putting up wind turbines. Mr. Benoit responded that his company works with contractors to erect these structures.

Chris Parker asked about the steps the city must conduct if it decides to do this.

Mr. Benoit responded that the city would need to collect wind data at the transfer station at an approximate cost of \$40,000 to \$50,000. AWS maps exist that would provide limited information about wind speed and wind shear. (AWS—private company contracted by the U.S. government to make wind maps of the entire United States.)

Eric Steltzer asked Chris Parker if planning department staff could do some of the analysis that is required if the DEAC provides parameters. The Planning Department could help with analyzing data to some extent.

Elizabeth Goldman asked about the impact of wind turbines on birds. Mr. Scontras explained that before putting up large turbines contractors are required by law to conduct a year-long study to evaluate the impact on migrating and stationary birds.



CITY OF DOVER

ENERGY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

Meeting Type: Regular Meeting
Meeting Location: City Hall 2nd Fl Conference Rm – 288 Central Ave, Dover,
NH 03820
Meeting Date: **Tuesday, December 16, 2008**
Meeting Time: **5:30 pm**

Eric Steltzer said that he believes the cost to the city to conduct a wind study would be disproportionate to the wind resources that exist in Dover. He suggested that the DEAC should attempt to work with/partner with the University of New Hampshire in varied ways (i.e., perhaps there is a UNH student who could perform an internship collecting wind data in Dover). The Planning Department might also be able to do an assessment to identify sites and wind resources.

2. Energy Action Plan:

Elizabeth Goldman said that she thinks the committee should look at some of the other action items (establishing wind power is one) in the energy action plan and to decide which priorities to pursue next.

Chris Parker informed the committee that the DEAC website will be updated by the date of the committee's next meeting on January 20.

The DEAC needs to begin adding the city's energy usage information from July 2007 – December 2008 to Portfolio Manager. Chris Parker will ask City Manager Mike Joyal where he can access this data.

3. Energy Audit:

ESCO Johnson Controls will be at the DEAC meeting on January 20 and will also be present at the city council meeting on January 21. Liz Goldman will write a press release and invite the press to the DEAC meeting.

4. CIP for Energy Efficiency—an item for \$1.25 million for general government and \$250,000 under sewer to be recouped.

Liz Goldman moved that Eric Steltzer send an email to the city councilors in which he acknowledges the energy item in the CIP and asks them to support it.

5. Outreach and education:

RPS grant: committee will consider applying for funds to conduct a funding a project at the Dover Community Garden or a workshop event. DEAC could partner with the Dover Open Lands Committee on outreach and education events in the future.

6. Adjournment (7:30)

a. Motion: Liz Goldman

Second: Dona Layton UA