

CLEAN ENERGY ADVISORY BOARD
Program Development Committee Meeting

DRAFT MEETING MINUTES

February 24th, 2021 (Wednesday)

12:30PM – 1:30PM

****Meeting was open to the Public ****

Meeting Recording Found [here](#)

CEAB website hosted at energy.virginia.gov, direct link [here](#)

Call to Order

Meeting called to order by the chair Bill Greenleaf at 3:03 pm

Roll Call

KC Bleile - present, Bill Greenleaf - present, Janka Casper - present, Taylor Brown- present

DMME Staff: Carrie Hearne, Jordan Burns, Larry Corkey

Office of Attorney General: Grant Kronenberg

Electronic Meeting Policy

Carrie Hearne of DMME read the electronic meeting guidelines to the committee at the beginning of the meeting.

Janka Casper made a motion to approve the electronic meeting policy and was seconded by Bill Greenleaf. The motion passed unanimously.

Overview of Clean Energy States Alliance (CESA) Technical Assistance

Nate Hausman and Wafa May Elamin from the Clean Energy States Alliance (CESA) introduced themselves to the committee and introduced their partnership with the board and DMME in the coming year. They explained the level of expertise that they will offer to the board to help develop the implementation of the low to moderate loan and rebate fund.

State Treasury Fund Setup Status

Carrie Hearne provided a brief overview of the current status of the State Treasury Fund that will be used to allocate money for the low to moderate loan and rebate fund. She said that the money earmarked for this program will be transferred to the State Treasury Fund for future use. The initial amount being allocated is \$200,000.

Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) Opportunities and Solar Lease Legality

The committee had a discussion around two different third-party arrangements for developing and funding small-scale distributed solar installations. This includes discussing what types of PPAs are authorized in Virginia and the overall legality of solar leases in Virginia.

Grant Kronenburg of the Office of the Attorney General and Larry Corkey of DMME were present to provide an overview and answer questions. Grant Kronenburg received questions from the committee to inform further legal analysis on the subject. Questions included:

- How does a potential third-party arrangement differ in co-op, municipal utility, and investor-owned utility territories?
- Are residential solar generators in Virginia regulated as a utility?
- Are solar leases legal because the law is mostly silent on it?

Larry Corkey told the committee he is working to summarize this Virginia code on this subject and will eventually distribute this information. He said the cooperatives and investor-owned utilities do currently have a pilot program for PPAs. Low-income customers have an additional exemption from the 50 Kw minimum size for PPAs.

Questions and Comments from Committee

The committee needs to think about incentives to help solar installers to be encouraged to enter into the LMI solar market.

Public Comment

Hannah Coman, the chair of the Clean Energy Advisory Board wanted to know more about the viability of PPAs in the market with cooperatives that are buying all of their power from TVA where federal law applies.

Next Steps

March 24th will be the full meeting of the Clean Energy Advisory Board.

Conclusion

The meeting adjourned at 1:36PM