



## CLAREMONT ENERGY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Thursday, September 6, 2018  
Visitor Center, 14 North Street, Claremont, NH

### MINUTES Approved 11/19/2018

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM.

#### I. **Roll Call**

**Present:** William Carpenter, Derek Ferland, Robin Hutchins, David Lucier, Scott Pope

**Absent:** Rebecca MacKenzie

#### II. **Introduction**

MMcCrory provided an overview of the topics of discussion for this meeting and encouraged the EAC to consider other topics for discussion during future meetings:

- Election of EAC Chair and Vice Chair will be deferred to a future meeting.
- The City Council is considering renewable energy supply system tax exemptions (RSA 72:61-72). The EAC should review and make comments on the proposal.
- EAC members are encouraged to attend statewide and regional energy-themed conferences:
  - Mascoma Valley Energy Expo (September 29)
  - NH SEA Local Energy Solutions Conference (November 16)
  - Vital Communities Energy Roundtable (May 2019)

The City will cover individual registration fees for these events.

#### III. **Discussion of City Council Requests: SB 365 & SB 446**

MMcCrory facilitated a discussion among EAC members, summarized by the following bullets. MMcCrory asked members present to consider information provided by RMacKenzie, who was unable to attend the meeting

SB 365 (regarding biomass generation facilities)

- RHutchins reiterated concerns submitted by RMackenzie that overriding the veto for this bill would have health impacts, environmental concerns, and would be costly.
- DLucier, WCarpenter, and SPope considered the inclusion of the Wheelabrator facility as inconsistent with the overall intent of the bill. Biomass power generation, as well as other power generation technologies, has a range of economic, environmental, health, energy diversity, and electrical infrastructure impacts.

- DFerland stated there was not enough information, nor enough time, to thoroughly research the issues and make an informed assessment. He noted the County facility biomass plant in Unity operates well. Also, more efficient energy technologies will replace existing technologies.
- Consensus among the members present: power generation has multiple impacts to the state including pollution and other environmental issues, local and state economies, electrical grid capacity. There are many complex considerations that can be discussed in greater detail at future EAC meetings.
- There needs to be a diversity of energy sources and a certain energy source that provides a baseline supply that wind or solar energy cannot provide.
- Consensus on statement to City Council about SB 365:
  - Support, with reservation, the override of this bill with possible future legislative remedy to exclude the Wheelabrator facility.
  - Recognize 4 members support the override and 2 members remain opposed.
  - Explain the complexities of electrical power production (summarized above).

SB 446 (regarding, principally, net metering caps for solar facilities)

- Strong consensus to support override of this bill with the statement that statewide policy should support opportunities to expand renewable electrical generation.

#### IV. **Other Business**

RHutchins noted she will not be able to regularly attend the meetings over the coming months and asked to serve as an Alternate. WCarpenter volunteered to serve as a full member. There was agreement the two would switch positions as alternate and full member.

Future meeting times – MMcCrary will coordinate with EAC members to establish a regular meeting time.

#### V. **Future Agenda Items**

Topics for future discussion by the EAC:

- Review the statewide 10-Year Energy Strategy.
- Develop a long-term goal/plan for the City's energy generation goals and priorities
- Review the RSAs establishing the EAC

#### VI. **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 7:20 PM

**Respectfully submitted,**  
Michael McCrary