SAN FRANCISCO PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

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Citizens' Advisory Committee
Power Subcommittee

Approved MINUTES

February 1, 2011
1155 Market Street, San Francisco
4th Floor, Conference Room
5:30 - 7:30 p.m.

Members
Doug Cain – Chair
Walt Farrell
Winchell Hayward
Aaron Israel

Staff: Benito Capuyan

1. Call to Order
Chair Cain called the meeting to order at 5:45.

2. Roll Call
Present: Winchell Hayward, Aaron Israel and Doug Cain.
Absent: Walt Farrell

3. Approval of minutes of September 14, 2010
Committee members approve the September 14, 2010 minutes without objection.

4. Public Comment
No public comment

5. Announcements by members and reports on other meetings
No announcements.

6. Report from the Chair

Doug says that the CAC needs more members. There will be a reception to introduce new members at the next full CAC meeting on February 22, 2011. It's not an official meeting.

Aaron asked about an individual that the subcommittee looked at last year to join the CAC.

Charles Sheehan, SFPUC, informed on the status of this potential new member who was approved by the subcommittee but has not been approved by the full CAC.

7. Staff Update

Doug states that the subcommittee needs future agenda items. He asks Winchell about his recommendation letter for the fish release small hydro system.

Winchell says the recommendation was submitted to Assistant General Manager Steve Ritchie.

Doug wants to discuss this as a future agenda item.

8. Electricity Resource Plan Presentation

James Hendry presents his work on the update of the San Francisco Electricity Resource Plan (ERP). He states that he is trying to get feedback on the plan from all those interested as he moves towards presenting it to the Commission.

Main goals of the initial ERP were to close down the Hunters Point and Potrero Power Plants and to determine what transmission upgrades and alternative energy sources SF needed in order to do so.

Doug asks if a GHG free electric system by 2030 reduction is feasible?

James Hendry says the resources are out there. Over the next 20 years, transmission lines could be in place and future technology would hopefully reduce costs to achieve the goal.

The revision of the ERP was released in November for public comment. The ERP recommends actions that move SF towards a 100% GHG-free goal. One of the main concerns is that the SFPUC has limited control of the energy systems in the city. 80% of the power comes from PG&E and or direct access providers. SFPUC does not own any of the transmission or distribution systems except those in Treasure Island and Hunters Point.

James Hendry goes on to discuss some changes in the report and recommendations that empower customers through “behind the meter” activities. James speaks on other recommendations to increase City control over the remaining 83% of energy usage.

Manuel Ramirez, SFPUC, comments on CCA and “what is municipal load.”

Aaron Israel asks “what is the general use of this document?”

Manuel says it’s a list of recommendations the City can implement to achieve its energy goals.

Doug asks what percentage of municipal load isn’t covered by Hetchy Hetchy?

James says it depends on the year. We bank some power with PG&E and in most years we have enough energy for use, and often have surplus.

Aaron asks about Hunters Point / Treasure Island. When they go online, how would we serve those customers?

Manuel says we could absorb the 3-4 MW that is needed to put Hunter's Point online.

Doug asks if we can we still power Treasure Island?

Manuel says that all power for TI is covered by an agreement with WAPA - Western Area Power Authority.

Doug says it sounds like there still needs to be more power generated out of HH.

Aaron motions that the power subcommittee supports the Electricity Resource Plan as it is.

Winchell seconds the motion.

Doug recommends that the subcommittee recommend to the CAC that the ERP be adopted.

Doug asks what the BOS did with the 2002 report. Did they pick and choose parts that they liked or disliked or did they just pass it as is?

James reiterates that the primary goal of the ERP was to close down HP, as well as look at energy efficiency and for it to be a living document.

Doug asks if there are any "aspirations" in this new report.

James says trying to identify funding sources for energy efficiency is an important goal.

9. Announcements and Comments

The CAC needs more members.

10. Meeting adjourned at 6:45pm