



Austin Generation Resource Planning Task Force
Meeting Minutes
May 21, 2014

The Austin Generation Resource Planning Task Force ('the Task Force') convened in a meeting at Austin City Hall, Room 1029, 301 West Second Street, Austin, Texas.

CALL TO ORDER – Michael Osborne called the meeting to order at 2:37 p.m.

Task Force members in attendance: Carol Biedrzycki, Clay Butler, Barry Dreyling, Michael Osborne, Cyrus Reed, Mike Sloan, and Tom “Smitty” Smith. Grace Hsieh and Michele Van Hyfte were not present at the Call to Order, but arrived afterwards.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. **The motion to approve minutes of the May 14, 2014 meeting, by Mr. Reed and seconded by Ms. Biedrzycki, passed on a vote of 7-0 with Ms. Hsieh and Ms. Van Hyfte off the dais.**

CITIZEN COMMUNICATION: GENERAL

The following persons addressed the Task Force:

Susan Lippman – reported the cancellation of a group tour of the Fayette Power Project a month after witnesses reported a fire at the plant in late March.

David Clauss of American Youthworks and Austin Housing Repair Coalition – it was decided Mr. Clauss should speak later in the meeting on agenda item #3, energy efficiency and equity.

Charlie Hemmeline – the solar industry has matured and made technological advances including grid integration; Austin has been a leader in supporting solar energy and he urged continuation of that leadership in the solar “portfolio” from residential to utility-scale projects.

Kaiba White – urged members to schedule a public input meeting so they can get the word out; reminded members of the resolution passed by Council last fall to consider the LSAC recommendation of 400 MW solar.

Ben Kessler – said it was awkward to speak prior to presentations, but would encourage members to recommend shutting down the coal plant and not building a gas plant; also spoke in favor of holding a public input session. (Mr. Reed told Mr. Kessler that based on suggestions from the public, their rules were changed so that Citizen Communications were at the beginning of their meetings.)

BRIEFINGS

2. Briefings and presentations related to solar energy from Mr. Bret Biggart of Freedom Solar Power; Travis Moller of Meridian Solar; Steve Weise of Clean Energy Associates; and Danielle Murray of Austin Energy.

Mr. Osborne suggested moving ahead to Item #7 to hear the presentation on storage.

OLD BUSINESS

7. Discussion regarding energy storage technologies including a presentation by Joe Spease of WindSoHy.

Mr. Osborne suggested moving to Item #6 to hear presentations on peak demand and demand side management.

OLD BUSINESS (continued)

6. Discussion regarding energy resources, peak demand and demand side resources including presentations by Chris Hickman of Innovari. Mr. Hickman also presented the Akin, Gump presentation on demand side management.

NEW BUSINESS

3. Discussion regarding energy efficiency and equity. Ms. Biedrzycki led the discussion which included a report from David Clauss of American Youthworks and the Austin Housing Repair Coalition, who is also a contractor for Austin Energy's low-income weatherization program. She urged the Task Force to keep conservation in mind and promoted a new energy efficiency program for low-income customers.

Due to time constraints, Mr. Osborne suggested the group discuss Item 9 next.

OLD BUSINESS (continued)

9. Discussion regarding competitive issues and other obstacles to the Task Force – Mr. Dreyling reported that other Task Force members including Mr. Sloan met with Austin Energy staff to discuss data requests. He said that some compromise was achieved. Mr. Smith reiterated his request for unit specific data so that the Task Force could make credible recommendations. He said this may be discussed at the upcoming meeting of the Council Committee on Austin Energy. Mr. Smith also reiterated his request for information regarding the South Texas Project and for contact information for someone associated with STPNOC. Members discussed plans for the May 29 meeting of the Council Committee on Austin Energy.
4. Discussion of past Austin Energy presentation regarding wholesale real time market purchases including those related to unplanned outages (Item #4 on May 7, 2014 agenda) – No discussion.
5. Discussion of past Austin Energy presentation regarding present and future costs associated with generation resources—the all-in dollar per watt production costs—including O&M costs, debt and finance costs, fuel hedging contracts, fuel costs, and future costs related to new environmental regulations (Item #2 on May 7, 2014 agenda) – No discussion.
8. Discussion regarding generation plan scenarios – No discussion.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

10. Discussion regarding future agenda items, including a schedule of topics, and issues raised during briefings and Citizen Communications during this meeting – Mr. Osborne reminded members that they were invited to make presentations at the next meeting on May 28. Members also discussed start and end times for the public input session on May 29. **The motion to begin the May 29 public input meeting at 5:00 p.m. and end at 7:30 p.m., by Mr. Smith and seconded by Ms. Biedrzycki, passed on a vote of 7-1-1 with Mr. Dreyling voting against and Mr. Osborne abstaining.**

ADJOURNMENT – Mr. Osborne adjourned the meeting at 6:00 p.m. without objection.