
Solar Forum –Notes

DATE: Friday **December 14, 2001**

TIME: 10:00 to 5:00 pm **PLACE:** PG&E Pacific Energy Center, 851 Howard St., San Francisco, CA 94103

Introduction

Rahus - PV Alliance, California Solar Center, Solar Schoolhouse & Solar e-Clips – Tor Allen

Discussion of the different projects/initiatives administered by The Rahus Institute

PV Alliance <http://www.californiasolarcenter.org/calpvalliance.html>

California Solar Center <http://www.californiasolarcenter.org/index.html>

Solar Schoolhouse - brief intro to a new schools program under development and piloted at local schools in the Bay Area.

Solar e-Clips – weekly news digest on solar issues posted by the Rahus

<http://www.californiasolarcenter.org/solareclips/solareclips.html>

STATUS REPORTS

Emerging Renewables Buydown Program Update– Sandy Miller (CEC)

smiller@energy.state.ca.us (916) 653-2834

status report including funding spent and remaining for PV Rebates

http://www.californiasolarcenter.org/pdfs/12-14-01_PVAlliance_SandyMiller_CEC.pdf

Also, discussion of ineligible Inverters (Xantrex/Trace Engr) see notice

http://www.energy.ca.gov/renewables/notices/2001-12-11_ineligibl_invert.html

A) Legislation – brief discussion of solar legislation passed in 2001 ref. to website for more details. The CEC is working with the Franchise Tax Board on implementing the State Solar Tax Credit (SB 17X). more information to follow in weeks ahead.

<http://www.californiasolarcenter.org/legislation.html>

B) Barry Cinnamon (CALSEIA) –discussion about CalSEIA's work in crafting solar friendly legislation. Yr2002 goal to make new net metering rules permanent (will expire 1/1/2003 in current form). Encouraged attendees to become members and support this ongoing effort.

<http://www.calseia.org>

C) SDHW – PV Battery Grant Program – Drake Johnson/Melinda Merritt (CEC)

mmerritt@energy.state.ca.us (916) 654-4536

Program update: http://www.californiasolarcenter.org/pdfs/12-14-01_SB1345_GrantUpdate.pdf

Notice of Jan 9th 2002 Meeting to approve program changes

http://www.energy.ca.gov/renewables/notices/2001-12-24_notice.html

D) Title-24 & PV –Bruce Maeda (CEC) – Bmaeda@energy.state.ca.us

Here are some references to the standards development process and the analysis of measures for the new standards.

http://www.energy.ca.gov/2005_standards/documents/2001-11-08_MEASURES.PDF

Photovoltaics and Time Dependent Valuation (TDV) topics are at the end of this document.

The more general info is at:

http://www.energy.ca.gov/2005_standards/index.html

Discussion about the opportunity to include PV in the standards, providing greater incentives in future to incorporate PV into every new home built. Note: PV industry NOT dialed into this process. JP Ross of Greenpeace has since taken the initiative to get involved in the process. Still a need for folks knowledgeable about the Title-24 Bldg standards process and how PV can fit in there? This has the potential for pushing new homes toward the "Zero- Energy House" concept that DOE is working on. Looking for help from Les Nelson(CalSeia), Elaine Hebert (NorCal Solar Energy Assoc. pres and CEC staff), and Nehemiah Stone (HMG). We understand the urgency of the next few weeks (months?) as to whether PV is included in the next phase of standard development, but not clear how to influence this process.

E) Renewable Energy Program – Investment Plan – Tim Tutt (CEC)

ttutt@energy.state.ca.us (916) 654-4590

The extension of the Renewable Energy Program, past 12/31/01, is dependant on passage of enabling legislation adopting the **Renewable Energy Investment Plan**

http://www.energy.ca.gov/renewables/00-REN-1194/documents/2001-6-22_500-00-022.PDF

This legislation is expected to be introduced in January 2002. We will notify industry of the bill number (as it becomes established), so as to write letters to legislators encouraging passage. projected passage by March 1st.

Taxable Rebates – Per the Energy Policy Act of 1992, Energy Conservation Measure rebates are not taxable for residential customers, and only 35% of the rebate is taxable for Commercial customers. The CEC (**Gabe Herrera gherrera@energy.state.ca.us (916) 654-5141**) is requesting a formal interpretation from the IRS stating that Net Metered PV systems can be considered an Energy conservation Measure. Contact Gabe if there are any questions regarding 1099s you receive.

Rebates for Muni Customers – per AB 29, \$10 Million is allocated for muni electric customers for less than 10 kW PV systems at \$4.50/watt. First come, first serve. This was **approved on 12/16/01** business meeting. Check website for updates. Forms and guidebook are being updated.

<http://www.consumerenergycenter.org/buydown/index.html>

Performance Based Incentives – noted that Pennsylvania is implementing a German-like performance incentive for PVs. CEC is reviewing the potential for introducing an alternative performance-based incentive program to replace the existing rebate based only on rated capacity.

F) USPostal Service – Ray Levinson (USPS) rlevinso@email.usps.gov (650) 635-3292 – just recently completed a large PV installation in LA area. Creative approach to getting funds to pay for PV installation in a situation where no capital funding is available. Used GSA purchasing schedule to buy "PV tiles" resulting in turnkey installation using Powerlight Powerguard product. Good example of how to hurdle the hurdles. More details will follow in Solar e-Clips in the months to come.

PG&E – ENET Program Status Update– David Ore (PG&E) deo1@pge.com (415) 973-2291 *David, program manager for the ENET program, presented a status report on the ENET program and the status of updated interconnection protocols (Rule-21). Application process will be online soon plus additional streamlining features to be implemented.*

http://www.californiasolarcenter.org/pdfs/12-14-01_PV_Interconnect_DavidOre_PGE.pdf

Self Generation Program – CPUC – John Galloway (CPUC) jhg@cpuc.ca.gov John provided details of how the Self-Generation Program is progressing, including reservation and installed system

data for PG&E, SCE, San Diego, and So Cal Gas. He reviewed the status of Interconnection Protocols for PV systems larger than 10 kW, which as of 11/18, is an area of contention with the utilities, CPUC, and the PV industry.

links to each Self Gen program can be found here;

<http://www.californiasolarcenter.org/incentives.html>

San Diego Regional Energy Office – Scott Anders (SDREO) san@sdenergy.org (619) 595-5305
Scott provided details of activities in the San Diego region, including the Self-Gen program. Also, their experience in being a non-utility administrator of the Self-Gen Program.

<http://www.sdenergy.org/>

Architectural Resources at PEC – Bill Burke (Pacific Energy Center) (415) 973-9951

Bill will demonstrate the Heliodon, a building model evaluation tool, available for use at the Center.

Very useful in evaluating shading concerns throughout the year.

more information:

http://www.pge.com/003_save_energy/003c_edu_train/pec/toolbox/arch/heliodon/heliodon.shtml

Also the tool lending library – solar pathfinder, power monitoring eqpt, etc. available for loan for free.

http://www.pge.com/003_save_energy/003c_edu_train/pec/toolbox/tll/tll_home.shtml

The Potential for Solar Electricity Generation in San Francisco – Karina Garbesi (CS Hayward) kgarbesi@csuhayward.edu (510) 885-3172

Karina will present a recent study detailing the potential for solar electric generation in San Francisco.

The study considers weather & space constraints. With the passage of the Solar Bond Measure in November, this study provides fundamental information in developing a solar electric implementation plan. David Hoschild, www.votesolar.org, also shared a few words on the Bond Measure campaign and plans to offer the strategy to other cities.

<http://www.californiasolarcenter.org/pdfs/SFPV.pdf>

California Power Authority – PV RFB – Tracy Saville (California Power Authority)

tracy.saville@dgs.ca.gov (916) 651-9799

Tracy described the current Request for Bid solicitation (and subsequent RFPs for specific projects) for Decentralized Solar, which seeks to install up to 80 MW of PV in the next 4 years in California

<http://www.capowerauthority.ca.gov/Requestforbids/main.asp>

Local Government Commission – Alison Pernell/ Pat Stoner (LGC) apernell@lgc.org (916) 448-1198 x324

Introduction to the SPIRE program, a new initiative to implement renewable energy projects at the local government level.

http://www.californiasolarcenter.org/pdfs/12-14-01_PVAlliance_Pernell_LGC.pdf

for workshops for local govt on PV go to this site

<http://www.lgc.org/techserve/spire/index.html>

CEC PIER PV – Joe McCabe (CEC) jmccabe@energy.state.ca.us (916) 654-4412 Joe provided an outline of PIER PV Research projects to be conducted by SMUD, Commonwealth Edison, Endecon, NREL, SEPA, and others.

http://www.californiasolarcenter.org/pdfs/12-14-01_PVAlliance_McCabe_CECPIER.pdf