

Military Economic Advisory Committee Minutes
February 21, 2019
Port of Morrow Riverfront Center, Boardman, Oregon

Attendees: Kathleen Cathey, Melissa Lindsay, Jeff Maffuccio, Bob Guertin, Larry Lindsay, Carla McLane, Stephen Wreccics

By Phone: Tucker Billman, Kellen Tardaeweather, Stan Hutchison

Introductions were made and minutes from January were reviewed and approved.

Mission, Vision, Goals, and Objectives Discussion:

The group agreed that development work for the Mission Statement and Goals should be considered complete and final in form, however, can be amended in the future. The group had a short discussion that focused on historical events that spurred recognition of the need for a Green Energy Corridor(GEC). Rulemaking would need to happen prior to any changes to local development code. County may develop draft version of development code to see what the addition of a GEC would look like to help guide conversations related to rulemaking. Group conversation on how the development of a GEC could open the door to solar development in Morrow County. Potential for Morrow County to coordinate with other counties seeing similar issues when drafting development code surrounding GEC. MEAC could also have a voice in the process. Conversation around if MEAC could focus on the UEC line to help leverage GEC. GEC to remain on agenda for next month with a potential April MEAC meeting in Lexington focused on energy projects in Morrow County. Lexington meeting to include a county wide map of renewable energy development.

Morrow County Planning Commission

Renewable Energy Work Sessions Update:

Morrow County Planning Commission has had three listening sessions related to renewable energy development. The first session was a general overview of renewable energy i.e., glare/glint, viewshed, and setbacks. The second session was delivered by Steve Cherry of Oregon Fish and Wildlife mainly focused on the impacts of renewables to flora and fauna. The third session was noise and wind modeling by Acoustical Engineer Kerrie Standlee.

Energy Project Updates:

Boardman to Hemmingway – Fast41 process paused until Navy gets information to IPC. Notice of Intent for ROD drafted, could be issued in the next two months. Concerns surrounding BPA-IPC easements and lease terms, IPC and county prefers an easement in perpetuity. Noise section of the DPO is completed, work continues. DPO Public Hearings tentatively scheduled for the last two weeks of June 2019. DPO issuance targeted for April-May 2019 with a 60-day comment period.

Green Energy Corridor- Covered under Mission, Vision, Goals, and Objectives discussion.

Wheatridge – Amendment 4 request under local review. Comment deadline has been extended, Morrow County has met the original deadline. Issued local CUP for wind component based on original site certificate and Amendment 1. Planning Staff are anticipating amendment to local CUP for Amendments 2 and 3 in the near future. ODOE has completed review, RAI on track to be issued in the next two weeks. Local Solid Waste Ordinance will need to be incorporated into Battery and Solar Amendments.

Nolin Hills – No updates.

Orchard Wind – Awaiting start of construction, expected later this year with planned operation middle of 2020.

Boardman Solar – Local CUP has been issued, Gilliam County CUP pending for GenTie, tentative 2020 to begin construction.

Carty Solar – Site Certificate issued, no other updates.

Harp and Morrow Solar – Both Harp Solar and Morrow Solar projects were sold to Avingrid.

Items for the Good of the Order:

Discussion around the seasonality of wind resources. Amendment to the Summit Ridge Wind Farm to extend construction deadline. LCDC Solar Rules committee concluded and adopted rules as temporary. ODOE/EFSC Solar Rules Advisory Committee still in process, meetings in Salem. Third RAC surrounding compliance upcoming.

Meeting adjourned 10:45