

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

Attendees: Bob Guertin, Larry Lindsay, Carla McLane, Stephen Wrecsics, Stan Hutchison, Mellisa Lindsay

By Phone: Kim Peacher, Alec Shebiel, Laura Miner

Introductions were made and minutes from February were reviewed and approved as presented.

Mission, Vision, Goals, and Objectives Discussion:

DLCD scheduled to commence rulemaking surrounding Green Energy Corridor (GEC) in 2019. Morrow County to reach out to Umatilla County for continued discussion of development of GEC. UEC continues to work on securing easements for GEC transmission line.

Morrow County Planning Commission

Renewable Energy Work Sessions Update:

Planning Commission continues to work on Renewable Energy Work Sessions. Morrow County Planning Commission has had three listening sessions related to renewable energy development. 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. Work sessions have concluded; Commissioners and Planning staff will review path forward. Planning staff anticipate draft changes to code sometime over the summer.

Energy Project Updates:

Boardman to Hemmingway – Drafting of the DPO continues. Target dates for DPO hearings are June, 18 – June 27, 2019. Meetings to begin in Malheur County and are tentatively scheduled to be in Morrow County Wednesday June 26. IPC email to planning staff: *“At the time of the last MEAC meeting, Idaho Power had completed the cultural report to incorporate Navy’s comments from their review in early February – I believe Navy was “okay” with the report. In early March, CTUIR requested to review the report, and associated site forms, before IPC submit the report to Oregon SHPO. We expect CTUIR to complete their review by end of March. When IPC submits the report to OR SHPO, an identification number will be issued. That number will allow Navy to “re-start” the FAST-41 process. SHPO requires 30 days to review.*

In conversation with Navy, IPC expects the timeframes for a ROD will be similar as provided in June 2018 – approximately one month after consultations are complete – hopefully by mid-year.” IPC email also included a link to the FAST-41 schedule at: <https://www.permits.performance.gov/permitting-projects/boardman-hemmingway-transmission-line>

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

Wheatridge– County provided limited comments to Amendment 4 request and has received the request to amend local CUP as it pertains to Amendment 2 and Amendment 3. Comment deadline has been extended; Morrow County has met the original deadline.

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 for GenTie is still pending. 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:

- Legislative update discussion surrounding Renewable Energy.
- OMD is beginning the process to select a design build team for their Bombing Range flight facility.
- April 16-19, Army Corps of Engineers will be conducting a UXO sweep of the proposed construction footprint.
- Navy RAICUZ Study on schedule for Summer 2019.
- May MEAC meeting is scheduled to be held in Lexington with a mapping component to visualize where energy projects are located in Morrow County.

Meeting adjourned 10:00