

## Mountain Maryland Energy Advisory Committee

February 19, 2014, 3:00 p.m., Garrett Information Enterprise Center, McHenry, Maryland

### Meeting Minutes

**Committee members attending:** Mike Koch, Tim Carney, Jim Torrington, Paul Durham, Dr. Ed Gates, Jo Gilman, Mike Dreisbach, Eric Guthrie, Bob Sutton, Dr. Stephen Hartlaub, David Dorsey

**Committee members not in attendance:** Rodney Glotfelty

**Others attending:** Jeff Simcoe, Cheryl DeBerry, Andrea Varrato, Eric Robinson, Jeff Hovis

**Approval of January meeting minutes ([Attachment A](#)):**

A motion was made by Mike Dreisbach, seconded by Stephen Hartlaub, to approve the minutes. The motion was passed by a majority of the vote.

**Presentation of findings on action items from the January Meeting:**

Jeff Simcoe presented findings on three topics from the January meeting that had been identified as action items ([Attachment B](#)). These topics included the Maryland distributed energy generation project inventory, the location and other information about a Maryland backed natural gas plant, and a comparison of Garrett and Allegany County's energy profiles.

**Legislative update:**

Mr. Simcoe introduced several pieces of legislation, including an energy efficient home construction loan program, a community renewable energy generating system pilot program, and legislation aiming to increase Maryland's Renewable Portfolio Standard. The committee discussed the proposed legislation and its relevance to the committee's work.

Chair Koch asked that there be another update on these bills during the March MMEAC meeting.

**Ideas generation DropBox tutorial:**

Jeff Simcoe and Cheryl DeBerry gave a brief tutorial on how to use Dropbox and asked if committee members were having any difficulty accessing the materials. Jeff Simcoe agreed to re-invite members to the shared folders whose original invitation had expired.

**Presentation and discussion on currently submitted ideas:**

Jeff Simcoe presented highlights of each of the ideas submitted via the Ideas Generation Framework ([Attachment C](#)). Mr. Simcoe reviewed idea details, specific recommendations, and who might benefit from each of the projects. Twelve ideas were discussed.

It was agreed by the committee that the current ideas would be discussed further during the March MMEAC meeting as a full discussion wasn't possible at this meeting due to time constraints. Chair Koch asked that all members review the submitted ideas prior to the next meeting. Jeff Simcoe discussed the idea of using Survey Monkey to rank the current ideas to prioritize them for committee action. It was agreed that a survey would be produced and sent to committee members before the March meeting.

**Action items:**

Chair Koch asked that Downstream Strategies perform focused research on baseline payback periods for various renewable energy systems and their respective carbon efficiency/intensity. He also asked that research be conducted on the current state of the electricity grid. Finally, he asked that a short recap be

prepared concerning the changes to Maryland regulations concerning biomass. The findings will be presented to the committee during the March meeting.

**Public comment:**

Public comment from Eric Robinson has been captured in an audio recording ([Attachment D](#)).

**Adjourn:**

A motion was made by Chair Koch, seconded by Jim Torrington, to adjourn the meeting at 5:00pm.