

April 27, 2009
Michigan Public Service Commission
6545 Mercantile Way
Lansing, MI 48911
10:00 a.m.
Minutes

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by the Board Chair, David Walters at 10:00 a.m.

Roll Call

Members Present: Julie Baldwin, Steve Brock, Trevor Lauer, John Miceli
Mary Templeton, Thomas Vitez, Dave Walters,
David Wright

Member Participating by Phone: Robert Ianni

Alternates: Joe DeVito, Alternate for Roger Kershner
David Bertram, Alternate for Gene Jorissen

II. Web Meeting Announcement

III. Adoption of the Agenda

The Chair asked if there were changes, deletions or additions to the agenda. John Miceli made a motion to accept the agenda. The motion was seconded by Steve Brock. The Board adopted the Agenda.

IV. Approval of the proposed minutes of the April 20, 2009 meeting.

David Bertram requested a revision to the minutes to reflect that during Mr. Russ Lundberg's public comment to the Board, he stated that local zoning should be an important factor in determining wind zones. Joe DeVito made a motion to approve the minutes as amended. The motion was seconded by Steve Brock. The Board approved the minutes with the change requested.

V. Discussion with Public Sector Consultants on report preparation, project timeline, interconnection queue analysis and local government outreach.

Sally Talberg of Public Sector Consultants presented a document with Interconnection Queue Summary Tables. The Board opted to not include withdrawn projects in its report. The Board discussed the tables and provided several editing suggestions to Ms. Talberg.

Ms. Talberg then presented a third option (In addition to the two options presented at the April 20, 2009 meeting.) for gathering input from local units of government. Dave

Walters wants some involvement from local units of government before the Board issues its proposed report.

Ms. Talberg asked for comments on the Draft Template for Local Government Comments on Proposed Report. Comments would specifically be solicited from local units of government with lands that are located within the Board's wind regions. The Board discussed also asking for comments from local units of government that are not located within a wind region using a separate set of questions.

The Board discussed whether PA 295 required a hardcopy of the proposed report to be mailed to each local unit of government. The Board decided that emailing each local unit of government an electronic report link along with contact information for the Board Secretary if a hard copy was needed. Julie Baldwin mentioned that the Commission would likely cover the printing and mailing expenses since such expenses were not included in the consultant's work responsibilities.

The date for Ms. Talberg to provide the draft report was moved from May 13 to May 15.

VI. Discussion with the Land Policy Institute

Mr. McKeown presented his analysis showing the number of turbines and the wind potential from the three wind regions identified at the last meeting. There was concern that the numbers of turbines and accompanying wind potential data was not realistic.

The Board's viability of wind analysis was discussed and whether the amount of renewable energy needed to meet the RPS targets should be considered.

Joe DeVito mentioned that the acres/tower numbers in the analysis seemed reasonable. Mary Templeton suggested listing our numbers and then explaining and listing the reasons why the numbers were not realistic and reducing them by a reasonable and justifiable percentage.

Thomas Vitez asked to have the Traverse City area zone split into 2 separate zones due to transmission matters. Zone 2A: Antrim and Charlevoix and Zone 2B: Benzie, Leelanau, and Manistee.

Mr. McKeown mentioned that the EWITS (Eastern Wind Integration Transmission Study) used different criteria that selects specific wind farms only, and those numbers could be applied in the regions.

Mr. McKeown will provide 3 analyses for the next meeting that reduce the numbers of turbines:

- Select the top 5 tiers on the presented 15 tier high sensitivity map, and apply the top tier results to the entire zone, to address the concern of uncertainty in the data.
- Scale each tier down by a realistic percentage to account for land not available due to owner issues, local zoning, resource distribution issues, view shed concerns, land fragmentation in lease holding as well as open space fragmentation, land zoned residential, and environmentally sensitive areas not assessed in the exclusionary process.
- Use the EWITS scaling data in the zones already defined.

Mr. McKeown told the Board he would forward the 75% reduction information from the EWITS analysis to the Board.

The Board asked LPI and PSC to discuss which of the three methods would be the most justifiable method to bring the numbers of turbines down to a realistic maximum.

The documents discussed during Ms. Talberg's and Mr. McKeown's discussions are posted on the Board's website: http://www.michigan.gov/mpsc/0,1607,7-159-16393_52375---,00.html

VII. Planning Discussion

Ms. Baldwin asked the Board about holding a meeting in Huron County on May 11. The Board decided to wait and schedule this meeting later in the Board's process.

VIII. Public Comments

Dave Zwitter, Consumers Energy, mentioned that they were looking at $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ the number of turbines that were shown in the Board's analysis today.

Mark Holmes asked if additional funding was needed for LPI to complete the analysis. Mr. McKeown said that he is expecting to deliver what was promised in the proposal LPI made to the Board.

Matt Wagner, Detroit Edison, recommended that the Board make its numbers realistic. He said that the vast majority of Huron County residents are favorable toward wind development, but too many turbines put forth in the Board's analysis may create public concern.

Mike Serafin, Detroit Edison, suggested that both LPI and PSC presentations made to the Board should be labeled "for discussion purposes." Also, he recommended that the 200 meter buffer from residences used in the Board's analysis may need to be increased due to sound issues. Additionally, Mr. Serafin said that the Board should consider economic steps of transmission needs.

The Chairman asked that technical comments like many of the public comments received today be emailed to the Board Secretary, Julie Baldwin (baldwinj2@michigan.gov) so they may be addressed in the proposed report.

Mr. Lauer made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was supported by John Miceli. The meeting was adjourned at 12:40.

Recorded and edited by: Julie Baldwin