

Marshfield Energy and Climate Change Committee
Solar Subcommittee
Notes of August 11th 2014 Meeting

Attending:

Ed Hutchinson, Anne Miller, Michael Horowitz, Rich Phillips

Convene: 7:10 PM

Adjourn: 8:35 PM

Business:

- 1) Agenda draft was reviewed, no modifications were made

- 2) We discussed the new Washington Electric Coop net metering policy. Michael led the discussion. Essentially, WEC will be charging solar customers a base charge for infrastructure the same as other customers and an additional charge (can't remember the amount or basis). The effect is to significantly reduce the incentive for going solar. The payback time will increase significantly. WEC will accept net metering customers under these constraints at least up to 14% of their total power load. Since they apparently are already at 12%, this legally required percentage will likely be used up quickly. Due to the fact that WEC already generates or has purchased RECs that cover 90% of it's load, they are unlikely to pursue the net metering option much further. The policy was included in the WEC Newsletter "Currents" and Michael will supply a copy electronically

It appears that heavy promotion of PV in the WEC area may not make sense. Maybe the focus there should be on solar hot water. We will be considering this as part of the "What's Next" brainstorm at the next subcommittee meeting.

- 3) Discussed the possible PV funding sources. Apparently the state incentive is down to \$0.20/W for residential, nothing for schools or commercial. There may be some money in a net zero related fund that Rummy applied for but did not receive. There may be some federal money available. Michael will check on the Rummy and federal possibilities and report back

- 4) Rich updated on the Twinfield solar project. When the next meeting is established, Rich will let members know for possible attendance. Rich will be working on a response to Norm Etkind's long list of issues and trying to get a meeting going.

- 5) We did not get to brainstorm "What's Next" for the Subcommittee. We decided to meet on September 8th at 7:00 at OSC, with a tentative agenda as follows:
 - a) What's Next
 - b) Funding options review by Michael
 - c) Twinfield update.