

Norwich Energy Committee
2/3/15 meeting

Attending: Linda Gray, Tom Gray, Walter Gustafson (VPIRG), Jillian Mayer (350VT), Troy McBride (Norwich Technologies), Oli Simpson (Norwich Technologies), Rob Sydney, Meghan Wilson

- VT legis. initiative on carbon pollution tax

Walter Gustafson, VPIRG, outlined the supporting economic analysis by REMI, the proposal for gradual pollution tax of \$50-100/ton with 90% of revenue returned to taxpayers, and opportunity for further information at an educational forum on Thu 3/5 at the Montshire and via web site:

energyindependentvt.org.

- Plans for 2015 Solarize campaign

Committee consensus over past couple of meetings to continue w/ Norwich Tech and Solaflect - both are Norwich-based companies, their products (fixed mount and tracker) complement each other, offer good options for customers. Solaflect staff unable to attend due to conflict; comments were emailed.

Timing -- consensus to move active campaign to May-June (instead of Aug-Sep)

Actions -- continue w/ outreach at dump and Dan & Whit's, post map of Norwich solar homes (100+) on NEC web site, develop ~6 "case studies" of solar homeowners, work w/ solar homeowners on neighborhood events to talk solar.

Meet next week to focus solely on Solarize 2015; Linda will email to set a date and time.

- Plans/brainstorming for residential weatherize/efficiency campaign

Linda Gray described Dec-Jan outreach @ Farmer's Market and Dan & Whit's, proposed Saturday mornings at the dump when warmer, and at Town Mtg: at the back of the hall on Mon evening during the discussion and (if weather is suitable) outside during voting on Tues. Linda will contact the Town Clerk for permission.

Discussion of other ways to get residents thinking about how their energy choices/actions affect global warming: hold a community event like the "Community Profiles" from the 1990s or Town Eating Day? Develop pledge cards with Top 10 actions?

Suggestions: "Vermontivate" online game (runs 3/23-5/2) and a focused series of "Did You Know?" list serv postings.

- Updates:

Committee charge/membership - no objections or comments raised

Proposal for developer-financed solar project at DPW land: bond vote for DPW building (D&W = customer), after vote to pursue ground site (Montshire = customer)

Vital Communities "Toolkit" webinar Wed 2/11 6 pm; Linda will email details

Save the date for UV Roundtable, 4/28 at Montshire

Ben Civiletti, VNRC, will attend 2/24 meeting

Next meeting = Tuesday, 2/24, 7 pm, Tracy Hall

Submitted by Linda Gray