



## **ENERGY & CLIMATE COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA**

Wednesday, May 1, 2019, 8:00 AM

2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Conference Room, City Hall

### **Members:**

Dr. Ann Shedd, Chair  
Peter Hansel, Vice Chair  
Terry Clark, Councilor  
Chris Brehme  
Jess Baum  
Jake Pipp  
Ken Dooley  
Larry Dachowski, Alternate  
Aperr Naadzenga, Alternate  
Cary Gaunt, Alternate

### **Staff:**

Rhett Lamb, ACM/Community Development Director  
Mari Brunner, Acting Planner

1. Call to Order and Roll Call
2. Approval of April 3, 2019 Meeting Minutes
3. Expanded Committee Membership
4. Energy Plan
  - a. Definition of “Sustainable Energy”
  - b. May 8, 2019 Work Session agenda
5. Legislative Updates
  - a. HB 365 “Relative to net energy metering limits for customer generators”
  - b. SB 165 “Relative to net energy metering by low-moderate income community solar projects”
6. Guest Speakers & Educational Opportunities for future ECC meetings
7. Monadnock Earth Festival de-brief
8. New Business
9. Upcoming Meetings
  - a. Wednesday, May 8, 2019: ECC Work Session (3:00 PM)
  - b. Wednesday, June 5, 2019: Monthly ECC meeting (8:00 AM)

## **ENERGY & CLIMATE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

Wednesday, April 3, 2019, 8:00 AM 2nd Floor Conference Room, City Hall

### **Members:**

Dr. Ann Shedd, Chair  
Peter Hansel, Vice Chair  
Terry Clark, Councilor  
Chris Brehme  
Jess Baum  
Jake Pipp  
Ken Dooley  
Larry Dachowski, Alternate  
Aperr Naadzenga, Alternate  
Cary Gaunt, Alternate

### **Staff:**

Rhett Lamb, ACM/Community Development Director  
Mari Brunner, Acting Planner

### **1. Call to Order and Roll Call**

Dr. Shedd called meeting to order at 8:00 am.

### **2. Approval of March 5, 2019 Meeting Minutes**

Vice Chair Hansel moved to accept the March 5, 2019 with revisions, Councilor Clark seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

*Revisions are as follows:*

**Page 8, last full paragraph, change Mr. Malanski to Mr. Mazlanski.**

**Page 9, last paragraph, second sentence, change “the information” to SAU Energy Savings information.”**

### **3. ECC Meeting Schedule**

Dr. Shedd stated that the next committee afternoon work session will be on Wednesday, May 8 from 3-5 pm at a location that will be determined. Dr. Shedd suggested that the committee think about the content for the meeting. She said some of the content will focus on the Community Engagement working group, what the format for engaging the community will be and what information they plan to communicate to the public. Dr. Shedd asked members for their preliminary thoughts on the meeting schedule change and what they plan to do with their afternoon sessions. Ms. Baum stated that the Communications group, which includes Mr. Brehme, the new City intern and herself, will be meeting tomorrow and will have information to

share with the committee for the next meeting. Ms. Brunner said the idea proposed at the last ECC meeting was to have the Communications group bring an outline that the committee could work on at the afternoon meeting. Dr. Shedd asked if the Communications group will have an outline of the communications strategy prepared by the May 1st meeting so that members have time to digest it between the May 1st meeting and the May 8th work session. Councilor Clark stated that he will report on his meeting with the Mayor about committee membership and the prospect of including members who do not reside in Keene. Dr. Shedd said that Councilor Clark can report on that meeting either today or at the work group session. Dr. Shedd stated that they need a formal name for the work sessions and Ms. Brunner suggested they call them “quarterly work sessions.” Ms. Baum said that the communications piece involves talking about the plan, but can also focus on readdressing the scope of the plan. Dr. Shedd stated that the committee has not yet finalized their Values statements and Ms. Brunner replied the statements are included in the packet. Dr. Shedd stated that she thinks the Values statements still require additional wordsmithing.

Vice Chair Hansel asked if it is too early to start talking about the plan and the various components that they can divide and conquer. Ms. Brunner suggested keeping that as a topic for a future work session as members thought it would be helpful to have one focus topic for work sessions. Dr. Shedd stated that perhaps the content and communications could progress in parallel because if they wait until July to start talking about content they will already be six months into their twenty-four month timeframe. She suggested that the other working groups focus on content and share that information at morning meetings. Ms. Brunner stated that for the content piece it would be helpful for staff to be involved as the City is looking at hiring a consultant. She said the ECC did a good job at coming up with what the plan should include at their January Retreat, however, she said getting more specific will be difficult at this stage as the City is aiming to hire a consultant and she wants to avoid duplicating their efforts. Dr. Shedd asked whether committee input could help shape the RFP. Ms. Brunner said the City already has a draft RFP that has not undergone review yet. Dr. Shedd asked if the RFP could be shared with ECC before it goes out. Ms. Brunner agreed, however, she said they are currently in the process of identifying funding sources and once they acquire funding that will drive what is in the RFP so to share it right now would be premature. Vice Chair Hansel stated that he is concerned the City’s process will keep ECC in a holding pattern for months. Ms. Brunner encouraged members to consider what role ECC will play in developing content. Vice Chair Hansel replied that in the absence of a consultant, development of content would be ECC’s role and they would need to know soon. Dr. Shedd said that the city of Hanover worked very closely with their consultant and she envisioned ECC providing similar advice and direction to the City and the consultant.

Ms. Brunner stated that ECC would certainly play an advisory or steering committee role with development of the plan. She stated that after learning about Concord’s process and sharing it with the committee last month, she realized that the level of effort that would be needed from volunteers of the committee to create the content for the plan on their own would be unrealistic as it would require a commitment of approximately 15-20 hours per member monthly. She explained that the City is currently understaffed and she understands the frustration with the slow pace, however, she wants to avoid putting too much burden on the ECC. Understanding the different renewable energy strategies and developing a plan takes a high level of expertise and time and it could take a long time just to learn about the different strategies for a plan. That it is

why the City would like to hire a consultant to do the heavy lifting; ideally, a consultant would come to the table with the technical knowledge and could help the ECC and City staff move forward with identifying the best strategies for Keene.

Councilor Clark asked why not hire a Sustainability Coordinator to write the plan and Ms. Brunner replied that from what she understands, a Sustainability Coordinator typically would not be responsible for writing a plan and instead would implement projects. Councilor Clark asked if hiring a consultant was ECC's idea and Ms. Brunner replied that it was staff's idea. She explained that it is easy to write a plan but ensuring the plan is implemented is the difficult part. She said she wants to make sure the plan is adoptable and that there is sufficient buy-in from the community. She said all the information is out there, however, the value of a consultant is they will compile all the different strategies available in New Hampshire and present that information to City staff and ECC rather than ECC and the City doing all of that work themselves.

Vice Chair Hansel agreed that identifying the work that is being done in other communities and how to adapt those models to Keene is an important part of the process. Ms. Brunner agreed that the consultant can also help get the baseline data from Eversource. She stated that they do not have to hire a consultant but she recommends that they do based on what she has seen in other communities and keeping in line with their December 2020 deadline. Mr. Pipp said he is in agreement with the idea of hiring a consultant as it would speed up the process and the work would place too much of a burden on each committee member. He stated that a number of the members of Concord's committee have professional backgrounds in the energy sector which makes it easier for them to draw from that knowledge base and they also have a Master's student writing up their plan. Dr. Shedd agreed that the Concord committee has different resources available.

Councilor Clark asked if hiring a consultant would stall ECC's progress. Ms. Brunner stated that there is a lot of work to be done in community outreach and education, for example, by helping external groups promote the plan to the community. She said the ECC could play a crucial role in that capacity in addition to informing the plan and process. She said the Town of Hanover has been conducting a series of neighborhood meetings and that outreach has helped generate a lot of the ideas that are going into their plan. Ms. Baum suggested expanding on this content during their May 8th meeting.

#### **4. Monadnock Earth Festival Saturday, April 20, 2019**

Dr. Shedd stated that the Monadnock Earth Festival will be held Saturday, April 20 from 12-4 pm on Railroad Square back to the Monadnock Co-Op. She said the Energy Hub will also be organizing an Electric Vehicle Expo in the Whitney Brothers parking lot. She said ECC can sign up to table for the event but she needs committee members to commit to staffing the table and they will also need to decide on the content they will share with the public. Dr. Shedd stated that last year, Mr. Brehme created a map showing the various solar installations in Keene and they also shared the GHG emissions report. Dr. Shedd asked for thoughts on participation for that event. Councilor Clark, Vice Chair Hansel and Dr. Shedd stated that they will all be present. Ms. Baum said she cannot attend and Mr. Pipp said he might be able to attend.

Dr. Shedd said the Clean Energy team will also have a table and Ms. Gillard replied that they will be deciding their tabling tonight. Dr. Shedd said that last year Mr. Brehme shredded his pop-up tent. She said she will inform the event coordinator at the Co-op that ECC would like a table T the event. Vice Chair Hansel asked what content they will share. Ms. Brunner suggested including the handout Mr. Dooley provided about the School District's energy- related project. Dr. Shedd suggested also sharing the solar project at Marlboro Street as well as the Resolution for 100% Renewable Energy.

Vice Chair Hansel suggested having a laptop screen to dial into the solar dashboards so people can watch them in real time. Dr. Shedd stated they may have to request access to electricity. Ms. Brunner said she can ask the City about a laptop or Chrome Book, however, she is traveling that weekend. Dr. Shedd said having a screen shot would be enough. She said if they do end up having a screen, they can also toggle the access point on the Button UP NH Saves website so people can enter their information in and determine their own eligibility for the program. Dr. Shedd stated they could also display an EPA graphic on what is green power that divides it into conventional, renewable and green for educational purposes. Members liked that idea. Ms. Baum suggested showing people where their energy comes from. Ms. Gillard replied that the Clean Energy Team has a PowerPoint on their website showing the different green energy options and the steps on how to convert to green energy. She suggested maybe sharing that PowerPoint link at the Clean Energy Team's table. Ms. Gillard stated that Clean Energy team spoke about having Mr. Felix from Keene State College speak at the event to promote further discussion and that could complement ECC's table. Dr. Shedd shared the Clean Energy Team's website ([www.cleanenergyteam.org](http://www.cleanenergyteam.org)) which she said includes the Resolution.

Ms. Brunner asked if they want to display the trifold poster again this year and members replied yes. Ms. Brunner said she would need updated content to put on the trifold; Dr. Shedd suggested including the EPA graphic and the sustainable energy resolution. Councilor Clark suggested summarizing the Resolution for people and maybe providing a sign-up sheet for people to get involved.

## **5. NH Saves “Button Up” Workshop Recap**

Dr. Shedd stated that several members were present at the NH Saves “Button Up” workshop. She said that the Clean Energy Team did a phenomenal job at getting people to attend. Ms. Gillard said there were 53 people in attendance. Dr. Shedd said the presentation was informative and some of her neighbors said they went home and determined their eligibility. Vice Chair Hansel said it would be interesting to track how many people actually sign up. Ms. Brunner said she learned that there are rebates offered for installing certain equipment, for example, air-source heat exchange pumps (mini splits). She said many people (including her) are unaware of the rebates and ECC can help promote the rebates. Dr. Shedd said the local contractors should publicize them and Eversource should work with the contractors to let customers know that there are rebates available.

## **6. Legislative Updates**

### **a. HB 365 “Relative to net energy metering limits for customer generators”**

Ms. Brunner stated that ECC's HB 365 letter went out yesterday. She said it was sent to the Senate Committee that was hearing it and then it will be sent out to the whole legislature, including the House and the Governor. Councilor Clark said there is very little reconciled between the House bill and the Senate bill. Dr. Shedd said it passed with a comfortable enough majority and if that is sustained in the Senate it should be veto proof.

**b. SB 122 “Relative to expenditures from the energy efficiency fund”**

Dr. Shedd said this bill relates to supporting NH Saves and other energy efficiency measures. She said the full text is in the packet. She said the bill would divert RGGI funds to energy efficiency programs and it also includes municipal and school projects. Ms. Brunner said that prior to this bill, RGGI funds (up to 2 million) could go to municipal and local government projects. This bill would increase the amount to 5 million and include schools as eligible recipients in addition to local governments. Ms. Brunner said she was not sure how these funds were used in the past; perhaps the whole 2 million was not being used and they are trying to increase the eligible applicants that can use the funds.

Dr. Shedd said it worked out that only 20% of NH's RGGI funds are going to energy efficiency programs compared to 80% for other RGGI states. She asked members if they know the issue well enough to ask the City to comment on it. Ms. Brunner said Clean Energy NH used to provide an analysis of each bill that was helpful; she could ask to see if they can do that for the ECC so the committee members understand it more for the next meeting. Dr. Shedd said she does not know the schedule for committee hearings and timing may be an issue. Dr. Shedd agreed that the committee should do more research on this topic.

**c. SB 165 “Relative to net energy metering by low-moderate income community solar projects”**

Dr. Shedd stated that Councilor Hansel had requested that ECC advise Council on the SB 165 bill which addresses net metering for low and moderate income community solar projects. She said it has come out of the Senate committee with an “ought to pass” recommendation and is now coming to the House's Energy, Science and Technology committee. Dr. Shedd stated that the bill could set a strong precedent for other programs. She said net metering is typically set up in such a way that the host has to take responsibility for doling out payments for any excess energy that is produced; however, this bill would include the option of on-bill crediting, which would make net metering projects much simpler. She said instead of having to distribute payments to all of the subscribers of a project, the funds would be reflected as a credit on subscriber bills. Ms. Brunner said neighboring states like Vermont use this concept as well, for example, subscribers can opt for solar gardens, which is an easy way to support and benefit from solar. She stated that net energy metering can be a burden for low and moderate income people as any checks received is taxable income and can impact any programs or benefits they may receive. Ms. Baum stated that this bill would also lower barriers to other projects that have been discussed. Dr. Shedd stated that if the Tanglewood Estates decided to put in a community solar garden, this bill would allow their residents to subscribe to being members or not, and those who do subscribe would not fall into the logistical difficulty and potential tax impacts. Ms. Brunner

stated that one of the barriers right now is that if a group of neighbors want to do a net metering project together they have to form an LLC or other legal entity to handle the money coming in and distribute the funds which is a huge barrier to everyone and even more so for low and moderate income people as the money is taxable.

**Ms. Baum moved that ECC recommend to Council that they submit a letter of support for SB 165 to state legislators and the Governor, Mr. Pipp seconded and motion passed unanimously.**

Ms. Brunner stated that she will try to get this item on the Council's Thursday agenda to get the letter to the legislature on time. Councilor Clark said he can move to suspend the rules at the Thursday's meeting if information is available on Thursday because it is a time sensitive matter.

## **7. Energy Plan: Communications and Outreach intern**

Ms. Brunner stated that page 18 gives a high-level overview of the scope of work for the new City intern, Ms. Shaylin Salas. She said Ms. Salas could not be here today as she is presenting on the sustainable energy resolution to a class of students at Franklin Pierce. She will be working in the Community Development Department on Mondays and Thursdays and helping with ECC's Communications working group and she envisions her coming to the monthly meetings to provide updates and quarterly meetings as well whenever possible. Ms. Brunner said her concentration is focused on advocacy and social justice, how to organize in a community, and is also active with the Clean Energy team. She said Ms. Salas is also participating in the ICLEI Climate Leaders training program which will help her build her expertise in this area. Dr. Shedd said Ms. Salas asked to speak with her as she has started a spreadsheet of contacts and maybe Ms. Brunner can send the spreadsheet around to members so they can add possible members to stakeholder groups to it by emailing Ms. Brunner.

Ms. Brunner stated that the potential stakeholder focus groups are **Institutional** uses such as SAU 29, KSC, AUNE, River Valley, Cheshire Medical Center and anything with a campus; **Business and Commercial; Residential** (split into two groups: Residential: single and two family homes, and **Real Estate**: multifamily homes, lodging and hotels). She said Ms. Salas suggested also adding an **Agricultural** and **Conservation** sector as there are oftentimes a conflict between those two groups. Vice Chair Hansel stated that Ms. Amanda Littleton is trying to get a group net-metered Farmer's group going and they could be added to a focus group. Dr. Shedd said they had three regional meetings in Walpole, Keene and Jaffrey about the community solar for farmers project and had a number of farmers interested through the Monadnock Sustainability Network.

## **8. Committee Membership**

Councilor Clark stated that he and Dr. Shedd talked to the County Administrator about collaboration and the question was raised about the County having a seat on the ECC. He met with the Mayor and talked about expanding the membership of the ECC and they decided that having 11 voting members would be a good number and ECC would have to get a memorandum

of understanding from the SAU, the County and any other stakeholders that they would want to have a voting seat at the table. Ms.

Brunner stated that current voting membership is 7, so this would increase it by 4 seats to 11 voting members. Vice Chair Hansel said it will open seats up to non-resident entities like Keene State College. Ms. Baum said it could also include members of the Conservation District or farmers that represent a stakeholder group outside of Keene. Ms. Brunner stated that this discussion could be an agenda item for the next meeting. Dr. Shedd stated that Mr. Dachowski will be stepping down from the committee so they can also think about who would fill his alternate seat. Ms. Gillard stated that they are working with the County Commissioners to do a presentation on county solar. Councilor Clark said he invited the County to come and present to ECC as well. Vice Chair Hansel asked if Ms. Gaunt is an official alternate and Dr. Shedd replied in the affirmative.

#### **9. Announcements and New Business**

Dr. Shedd stated that next Wednesday from 8-10 am there is a Regional Issues series on promoting the Monadnock region.

Dr. Shedd stated that on Tuesday, May 7th the Monadnock Energy Hub is having their quarterly meeting at the Hancock Library from 3-5 pm. Agenda details to be announced.

Vice Chair Hansel said NH Clean Energy will have a webinar and he can send around the date and registration information. He is one of the presenters representing Filtrine Manufacturing.

Ms. Baum stated that she will not attend the May 1st meeting as she will be attending a conference. Vice Chair Hansel noted that he may be at the same conference as well.

#### **10. Next Meeting: Wednesday, May 1, 2019**

Dr. Shedd adjourned the meeting at 9:03 am.

**Respectfully submitted by,**

**Ayshah Kassamali-Fox, Minute-Taker**

**Reviewed and edited by Mari Brunner, Acting Planner**



City of Keene, N.H.  
*Transmittal Form*

April 11, 2019

**TO:** Mayor and Keene City Council

**FROM:** Finance, Organization and Personnel Committee

**ITEM:** J.1.

**SUBJECT:** Membership on the Energy and Climate Committee

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**RECOMMENDATION:**

On 5-0 vote, the Finance, Organization and Personnel Committee recommends the adoption of Ordinance O-2019-07-A as amended.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

**Description**

Ordinance O-2019-07-A

Ordinance O-2019-07-A\_redlined

**BACKGROUND:**

Mayor Lane stated Ordinance O-2019-07 is intended to increase the membership on the Energy and Climate Committee from seven members to 11 members. The Mayor stated the reason for this is the responsibility of the Committee has changed dramatically; the committee is developing a plan to make the city 100% renewable. This requires a certain amount of community involvement. The committee would include representation from the county, businesses in the community – people who could buy into this program to make is successful.

Councilor Powers asked whether this was one of the committees that was restricted only to Keene residents. The Mayor stated he did not think so.

Councilor Clark asked whether there would be specific seats designated for specific representations. Mayor Lane answered in the negative and went on to say the city and an organization could certainly enter into a Memorandum of Understanding but this is something the Council would do, not something that would come from the Committee. Attorney Mullins stated he could not recall any other committee that had this sort of representation. He added this is a legislative body and the City Council has the prerogative to allow membership from outside of the city. If this is something that the Council would like to change, language would need to be added into Section 2-1089. Today it is silent on that issue.

Councilor Clark asked whether language should be added where it indicates membership does not have to be just for Keene residents. Attorney Mullins felt it would be best to add such language.

Ms. Anne Shedd Chair of the Energy and Climate Committee addressed the Finance Committee and stated cities such as Concord and Hanover have 11 members on their Energy and Climate Committee and are doing good work. She extended her appreciation for being able to increase the number. Ms. Shedd noted there is fairly good representation of various sectors on this committee and Ken Dooley who is the Facilities Manager for the School District is a Marlow resident and referred to the good work this individual has done for the

school district. She referred to the various sectors represented on this committee; Keene State College, Alumni and a current student from Antioch University, local businesses, Keene School District. She asked whether it would be prudent to request this would take effect 60 days to identify other representation for the committee.

The Mayor stated he would like to have three alternates on this committee

Councilor Clark made the following motion which was seconded by Councilor Powers.

That the Finance, Organization and Personnel Committee recommend adoption of Ordinance O-2019-07.

Councilor Clark made an amendment to add the following language to Section 2-1089, Membership: provided however, members shall not be restricted to residents of the City. In addition, three alternates may be appointed to the committee. The amended motion was seconded by Councilor Powers.

Councilor Powers stated some people feel city business should be conducted by city residents while others feel differently; the Councilor felt even though appointing non Keene residents is not a common practice, in this case because of the knowledge some of these members bring to the table, it was a good idea.

Mayor Lane stated one of the challenges he has had to face in his eight years as the Mayor is that Keene's population stands at 23,000 but the day time population doubles and those individuals are as much involved in the community and bring as much expertise to the city.

The amended motion carried on a unanimous vote.

On 5-0 vote, the Finance, Organization and Personnel Committee recommends the adoption of Ordinance O-2019-07-A as amended.



# CITY OF KEENE

O-2019-07-A

In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand and .....~~Nineteen~~.....

AN ORDINANCE .....Relating to Membership on the Energy and Climate Committee.....

*Be it ordained by the City Council of the City of Keene, as follows:*

That the Ordinances of the City of Keene, as amended, are hereby further amended by deleting the stricken text in Section 2-1089 "Membership" and Section 2-1091 "Relation to Department" of Division 19 "Energy and Climate Committee" of Chapter 2 entitled "Boards and Commissions" as follows:

## DIVISION 19. - ENERGY AND CLIMATE COMMITTEE

### Sec. 2-1088. - Purpose.

In order to protect Keene's public health, safety and welfare, as well as the economic vitality of the community, the energy and climate committee exists to:

- (1) Monitor and advocate for the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions,
- (2) Promote energy conservation and efficiency, as well as the use and production of renewable energy, and
- (3) Increase awareness of and resilience to the expected impacts of a changing climate.

### Sec. 2-1089. - Membership.

The energy and climate committee shall consist of ~~seven~~ **eleven** regular voting members, one of whom shall be a member of the city council, all of whom represent a cross section of organizations, institutions, businesses and interests in the city. **Three alternates may be appointed to the committee. Membership shall not be restricted to residents of the city.**

### Sec. 2-1090. - Terms.

Members shall be appointed for three-year terms.

Sec. 2-1091. - Relation to department.

The ~~planning department~~ **community development department** will provide staff support to the energy and climate committee. Other departments may be called upon as necessary.

Sec. 2-1092. - Functions and guidelines.

The functions and guidelines in this section are established for the conduct of the energy and climate committee. The committee shall:

- (1) Coordinate the goals and measures of the local action climate plan in order to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and increase the community's adaptive capacity;
- (2) Update the local climate action plan and greenhouse gas inventory as deemed necessary;
- (3) Promote the awards and recognitions the city and community members have received for outstanding work in the climate protection arena;
- (4) Promote and report the successes and efforts of the committee to the council and community on a regular basis;
- (5) Advise city council on matters pertaining to the local climate action plan and sustainable practices such as energy conservation, energy efficiency, and energy generation and zoning practices;
- (6) Advise city council on matters pertaining to the city's interest at the state and national level in climate change policy;
- (7) Assist the city with community outreach and education for the local climate action plan by bringing the benefits of the plan to the attention of the public through educational materials, presentations, and other methods;
- (8) Assist with preparation of grant applications and pursue other funding mechanisms to implement the goals and measures of the local action plan;
- (9) Receive gifts and donations in the name of the city with prior approval of the city council; and
- (10) Perform such other related functions as required by the city council or as requested by the city manager.

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Kendall W. Lane, Mayor



## **ENERGY & CLIMATE COMMITTEE**

### **WORK SESSION AGENDA**

**Wednesday, May 8, 2019, 3:00-5:00 PM**  
Parks and Recreation Department, Room 11  
312 Washington Street, Keene, NH

**Topic:**

Public engagement strategy for the sustainable energy plan

**Meeting Goals/Outcomes:**

1. Come to a consensus around the ECC's role in the development and implementation of the energy plan.
2. Come to a consensus around the goal/purpose of public outreach and engagement for the energy plan.
3. Get feedback on engagement tools and develop a draft timeline for public engagement.

**Agenda:**

1. Call to Order and Roll Call
2. Energy Plan
  - a. ECC Role
  - b. Communications and Outreach
3. Other Business
4. Next Meeting: Wednesday, June 5, 2019

**Members:**

Dr. Ann Shedd, Chair  
Peter Hansel, Vice Chair  
Terry Clark, Councilor  
Chris Brehme  
Jess Baum  
Jake Pipp  
Ken Dooley  
Larry Dachowski, Alternate  
Aperr Naadzenga, Alternate  
Cary Gaunt, Alternate

**Staff:**

Rhett Lamb, ACM/Community Development  
Director  
Mari Brunner, Acting Planner  
Shaylin Salas, Communications & Outreach Intern

# U.S. Environmental Protection Agency - Green Power Partnership

## What Is Green Power?

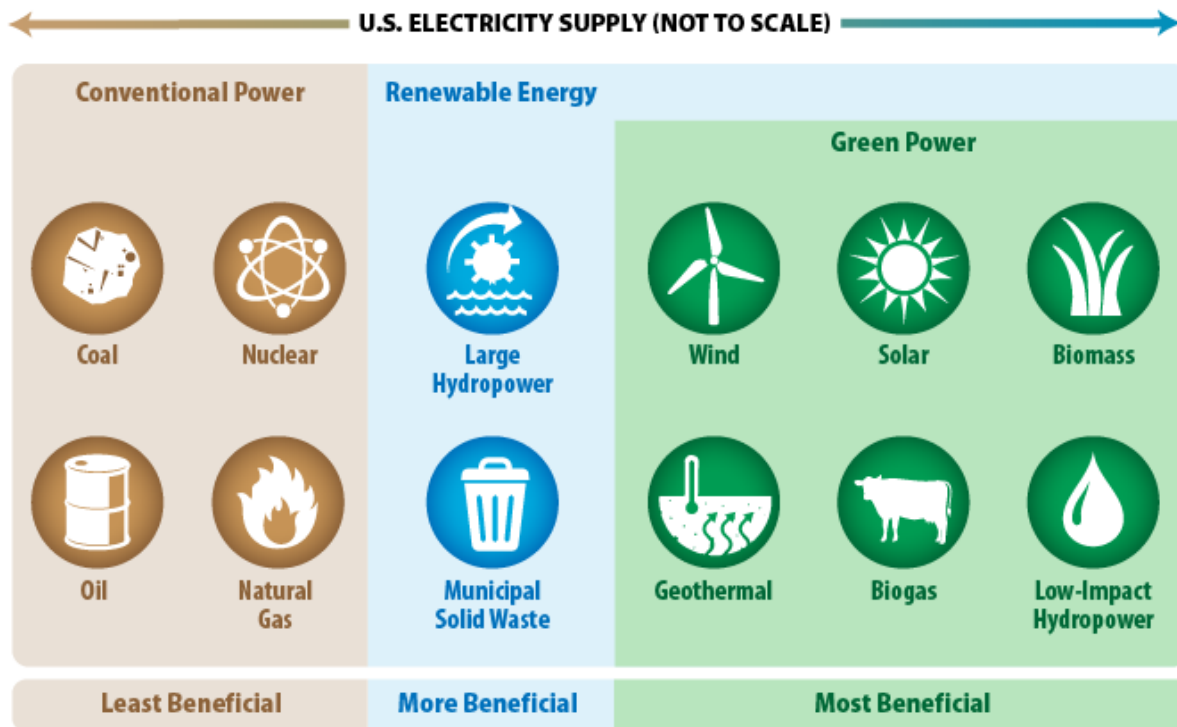
The U.S. energy supply is composed of a wide variety of energy resources; however, not all energy resources have the same environmental benefits and costs.

**Green power** is a subset of renewable energy and represents those renewable energy resources and technologies that provide the highest environmental benefit. EPA defines green power as electricity produced from solar, wind, geothermal, biogas, eligible biomass, and low-impact small hydroelectric sources. Customers often buy green power for its zero emissions profile and carbon footprint reduction benefits.

**Renewable energy** includes resources that rely on fuel sources that restore themselves over short periods of time and do not diminish. Such fuel sources include the sun, wind, moving water, organic plant and waste material (eligible biomass), and the earth's heat (geothermal). Although the impacts are small, some renewable energy technologies can have an impact on the environment. For example, large hydroelectric resources can have environmental trade-offs on such issues as fisheries and land use.

**Conventional power** includes the combustion of fossil fuels (coal, natural gas, and oil) and the nuclear fission of uranium. Fossil fuels have environmental costs from mining, drilling, or extraction, and emit greenhouse gases and air pollution during combustion. Although nuclear power generation emits no greenhouse gases during power generation, it does require mining, extraction, and long-term radioactive waste storage.

The following graphic depicts how EPA defines different types of energy resources based on their relative environmental benefits.



Source: <https://www.epa.gov/greenpower/what-green-power>



## City of Keene New Hampshire

March 28, 2019

RE: HB 365, Relative to net energy metering limits for customer generators

Dear Members of the General Court:

The City of Keene and its Energy and Climate Committee ask you to vote in favor of HB 365, "Relative to net energy metering limits for customer generators." This bill would raise the net metering cap for individual customer generators from one megawatt to five megawatts, and it would require utilities to account for net metered power in such a way that maximizes ratepayers' savings and minimizes ratepayers' costs.

The Keene City Council recently set a goal to source all electricity from renewable energy sources by 2030 and all thermal energy and energy used for transportation from renewable energy sources by 2050 (please see attached Resolution R-2018-36). In order to meet these ambitious goals, the City will need to work closely with community partners such as the local school district and other institutions within the community, many of whom would benefit directly from this bill as it would allow them to invest in renewable energy projects that are properly sized to meet their needs. The City itself operates a wastewater treatment plant that would require a system larger than one megawatt to cover its energy demand.

The Keene Comprehensive Master Plan emphasizes the community's desire to promote renewable energy projects, and includes a goal which states "*The city and community should actively pursue the integration of renewable, large- and small- scale energy sources, such as wind, solar, and geothermal, into the community's energy mix.*" The City has also adopted a Climate Adaptation Plan and a Climate Action Plan, both of which re-affirm the community's commitment to renewable energy and other sustainable energy resources.

As the City and the larger community strive together towards our goal of achieving 100% renewable energy, we anticipate that the quantity and scale of renewable energy projects will only increase, spurring further local investment and job creation that will benefit our community and the larger region. Already, Keene is home to one of the first community supported solar projects in the state and has over 2 megawatts of installed capacity, including a 643 kW solar PV system that was installed on the Keene Public Works building in December 2018.

I urge you to support the City's efforts and those of other large energy users in the state to control energy costs and invest in clean and sustainable energy sources by voting in favor of HB 365.

Please contact my office if you have any questions regarding this request.

Sincerely,



Mayor Kendall Lane,  
City of Keene

CC: Christopher Sununu, Governor of New Hampshire

Attachments: Resolution R-2018-36, Relating to Sustainable Energy Goals



City of Keene  
New Hampshire

April 24, 2019

RE: SB 165, Relative to net energy metering by low-moderate income community solar projects

Dear Members of the General Court:

The City of Keene and its Energy and Climate Committee urge you to vote in favor of SB 165, “Relative to net energy metering by low-moderate income community solar projects.” By allowing for members of group net metered systems to receive on-bill crediting for their share of net metered generation, this bill will reduce administrative burdens and eliminate barriers to low and moderate income community solar projects. In addition, this bill creates an incentive for developers to construct these projects by adding a \$0.03 per kilowatt-hour adder to the reimbursement rate, thereby reducing the payback period on the investment.

The City of Keene, with strong support from the community, recently set a goal to source all electricity from renewable energy sources by 2030 and all thermal energy and energy used for transportation from renewable energy sources by 2050 (please see attached Resolution R-2018-36). However, the City recognizes that the people who are most likely to be negatively impacted by climate change and environmental degradation – including low and moderate income individuals – are the people who are least able to invest in solutions such as renewable energy. By making community solar more accessible to low and moderate income communities, this bill directly addresses this concern and helps to make it possible for everyone in Keene to invest in sustainable and affordable energy sources.

Once again, I urge you to support the Keene community’s efforts and those of other communities in the state to promote clean and renewable energy for all of our citizens by voting in favor of SB 165.

Please contact my office if you have any questions regarding this request.

Sincerely,

Mayor Kendall Lane,  
City of Keene

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