

Florida Energy & Climate Commission
Wednesday, August 19, 2009
1:00 p.m. – Until Completion
Conference Call

The Conference Call was called to order by James F. Murley, Chairman of the Florida Energy and Climate Commission at 1:10 p.m.

Roll Call.

Members Present:

James F. Murley, Chair
Kathy Baughman McLeod
John “JB” Clark
Howell L. Ferguson
Debra S. Harrison
Timothy Jackson
Nils J. Diaz
Nick Gladding

Staff Present:

Jeremy Susac
Rob Vickers
Alexander Mack
Ben Stuart
Brittany Cummins

Chairman Murley called the meeting to order and then welcomed the Florida Energy and Climate Commission members and members of the public on the phone and public present at the Toni Jennings Room where staff conducted the call.

Chairman Murley moves to agenda item eight in lieu of travel constraints. Mr. Vickers, Mr. Susac, and Mr. Stuart present to the Commission mechanisms for implementing the spending plan for the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. Mr. Ben Stuart invites Mr. Chris Fontis and Mr. Peyton to address the Commission regarding the Strategic Fund and its benefits.

Commissioner Gladding moved to amend the August 19, 2009 agenda as modified, Commissioner Diaz seconded the motion.

Commissioner Baughman-McLeod moved to approve the July 22, 2009 FECC Meeting Minutes, Commissioner Ferguson seconded the motion.

Julie Ferris, Florida Department of Environmental Protection, presented on Cap and Trade Development in Florida and took questions from the Commission. Commissioner Ferguson commented that he encourages aggressiveness in conjunction with the Department of Environmental Protection and the Federal government. Ms. Ferris commented that Secretary Sole was open to guidance.

Jeremy Susac, Executive Director, noticed Representative Joseph Abruzzo and his work on House Bill 167 implementing the Energy Efficient Appliance Rebate Program.

Rick Dixon, Florida Building Commission presented on the Florida Energy Efficiency and Conservation Act and took questions from the Commission regarding hurricane safe products and energy efficiency.

Jeremy Susac, Executive Director, presented on the consideration of Post Hearing Comments for the Florida Energy Efficiency and Conservation Act and took questions from the Commission.

Chairman Murley opened the meeting to public comment on the Florida Energy Efficiency and Conservation Act. Public comments were taken, below is a list of speakers.

Tom Larson, Southern Alliance for Clean Energy

Benjamin Longstress, National Resources Defense Council

Several of the Commissioners state they do not feel comfortable voting on an agenda item without fully understanding the issue. Commissioner Harrison notes that having the meeting materials farther in advance would greatly assist the Commission in reaching the most comprehensive decision and clarity.

Commissioner Baughman-McLeod suggested that the Commission hold an emergency meeting to finalize comments for the Post hearing comments for the Florida Energy Efficiency and Conservation Act. Carly Hermanson, Assistant General Counsel for the Governor's Energy Office, advised that there would need to be an immediate threat to public health, welfare, and safety in order to continue with an emergency meeting. Commissioner Clark moved to hold an emergency meeting on August 27, 2009. Commissioner Harrison seconded the motion. Jeremy Susac, Executive Director, requested questions from the FECC in order to fulfill the FECC requirements of the Florida Energy Efficiency and

Conservation Act. Commissioners Clark and Baughman-McLeod offered congratulations to Mr. Susac on his work product.

Alexander Mack, Community Program Administrator, gave a presentation on the Grant Portfolio and the Solar Rebate Management Update. Jeremy Susac notified the Commission that Kelley Smith, Grant Manager, would be addressing the termination of the grant to the Florida Biomass Energy Consortium. Kelley Smith presented to the Commission the staff's reasons for terminating the grant and allowed Mr. Seagrest to respond. Mr. Seagrest also answered questions from the Commission. Mr. Susac thanks Mr. Seagrest for his comments and emphasizes the importance of preserving the integrity of the process. Commissioner Baughman-McLeod moves to terminate the grant, Commissioner Gladding seconded the motion.

All motions were unanimously approved by the Commissioners.

Public comments were taken on all agenda items, below is a list of speakers.
Samantha Hunter Padgett
Bruce Kershner
Terry Deason

Commission members reviewed the Tuesday, September 29, 2009 date for the next FECC meeting in Tampa, FL. Staff will post the agenda and meeting materials on the Commission's Web site as soon as they are available.

Chairman Murley notified the Commission that they were invited to attend the Florida Energy Systems Consortium Summit in Tampa, FL in conjunction with the next regularly scheduled FECC meeting. Chairman Murley thanked all the Commission Members, staff and public and then adjourned the meeting at 5:35 p.m.

Meeting materials and audio for this meeting are available on the Commission's Web site.