

Approved MINUTES
Clean Energy Development Fund (CEDF) Board Meeting
August 25th 2010

In Attendance:

Board Members

	Attending	Absent
<u>Robert Dostis (RD) – Green Mountain Power</u>		X
<u>Sam Swanson (SS) – Pace Law School</u>	X	
<u>Jo Bradley (JB) – VT Economic Development Authority</u>	X	
<u>Tom Evslin (TE) – Chief Technology Officer, State of Vermont</u>	X	
<u>Ellen Kahler (EK) – VT Sustainable Jobs Fund</u>	X	
<u>Rich Sedano (RS) – Regulatory Assistance Project</u>	X	
<u>Mark Sinclair (MS) – Clean Energy Group</u>		X
<u>Jeb Spaulding (JS) – VT State Treasurer</u>	X	

Staff

<u>Andrew Perchlik (AP) – CEDF Director</u>	X	
---	---	--

Public Attendees for Board Meeting:

Mark Tanny from IVEK corporation, Senator Richard McCormack, Pat Moulton
Powden from the VT Chamber of Commerce, Bill Bassa from Northern Power.

SS chairs meeting and brings meeting to order at **1:34**

Mark from IVEK came to address the Board about the Business Solar Tax Credit situation that affects his company. SS allowed Mark to address the board at the beginning of the meeting.

Mark spoke of the importance of his PV project, how he should have been notified of the tax credit and that he is requesting that the Board add his project to the list of tax credit applicants, and if the Board could not do that than they should do something that would allow his project to get receive the 30% solar tax credit that he was counting on. He suggested that the Board may want to write a letter to the legislature expressing support for his project.

TE spoke that a letter to the Legislatute at this time would not be warranted until the Board can get more information. There was support among the Board for the project but a letter would be better drafted at a later date.

Sen. McCormack and Ms. Moulton Powden spoke in support of IVEK's project and Sen. McCormack said that maybe there will need to be a legislative remedy in January 2011.

AGENDA ITEMS:

I. ARRA-SEP Obligation and Spending Plan

- a. AP gave a description of the ARRA funds obligated to date and the DOE requirement that all ARRA funds be obligated by September 30th, 2010. AP explained that the plan was to obligate the remaining funds (about \$2 million) with a final solicitation but now there is not time to follow that plan and meet the Sept. 30th obligation deadline. AP suggested obligating the funds by placing the unobligated amounts into the existing loan program and the small-scale incentive program as well as providing funding for the Renewable Energy Atlas, and a geothermal study.
- b. TE made a motion to move the existing loan amount (\$1,479,460) to VEDA and any remaining unobligated funds to the incentive program except for \$40,000 which would be used to fund the Renewable Energy Atlas work as well as GIS mapping by the Sustainable Jobs Fund. SS 2ed the motion.

JB recused herself and left the room to avoid a conflict of interest since the motion included VEDA.

After a brief discussion, with guidance given to staff to work with VEDA to see if the loan program could be completely moved to VEDA, the vote to approve the motion was unanimous.

TE talked about smart grid program and that there may be an opportunity to use the incentive program to work with the smart grid effort.

The Board clarified that if any funds become unobligated by the end of September will be put into the incentive program.

- c. AP gave an update on DOE's goal that the State have 20% of all ARRA money spent by the end of September. AP explained that DOE is encouraging States to advance money to grantees to speed up spending. The Board did not want to forward money to any grantees with the possible exception of the two grants the CEDF has with the State.

II. Solar and Small Wind Incentive Program

- a. AP gave a brief description of the issue of allowing leasing companies to access the Incentive Program. The Board asked AP to work with VEIC on supplying a written proposal to the Board for consideration at the 9/22/10 meeting.
- b. AP presented a proposal to lower the incentive limit for PV. He proposed that starting October 15th 2010, the PV max size should be lowered to 60kW for ground mount (from 150kW) and to 100kW for roof mounts (from 150kW) so as to meet NEPA category exclusion. This would eliminate the need to seek NEPA approval for PV projects in the program.

SS moved to accept AP's proposed changes to program, JS 2ed the motion. After a brief discussion in which the members expressed a desire to receive more information regarding the incentive program, particularly on how long it is projected to last, the vote was unanimous to approve the motion.

III. Solar Tax Credits

- a. AP gave a description of the \$500K second round business solar tax credit and the Board developed the following details:
 - a. Allocation date would be October 15th, even though applications will be received up to December 15th, 2010.
 - b. Projects that applied in the first round would be allowed to re-submit a new application with corrected information. All applicants in the first round with projects under 150kW would be automatically eligible for the second round and would not need to reapply.
 - c. Projects would be eligible by supplying just the company's EIN, number. Applicants are not required to list individual social security numbers of the tax payers that will make use of the credit.
 - d. EK made a motion to adopt the above criteria and SS 2ed the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
 - e. The Board wanted the following notification process to be carried out for the second round:
 - i. All 2010 PV CPG applicants to get mailed an announcement
 - ii. Notify Renewable Energy Vermont
 - iii. Ask the Tax Dept. if they could send a memo to their list
 - iv. Send out an announcement to the CEDF email list
 - v. Have VEIC send out an announcement to their list from the renewable energy incentive program.
 - vi. Send out a press release
 - vii. Include on the CEDF web site

IV. Executive Session on personnel matters.

The Board went into executive session (AP left the room) to discuss personnel matters at 3:45 and adjourned the meeting immediately after they came out of executive session.
