

MMR ENERGY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Date: 13 Nov 2008

Time: 2:00-3:45 pm

Location: PAVE PAWS Airmen Support Facility

Agenda:

- Outreach, Elizabeth Kirkpatrick
- Alternative Energy Initiative Process Discussion/Comments, Brian Nickerson
- Wind Energy Capacity of MMR?, Brian Nickerson
- Army Wind Turbine Plans Presentation Follow-Up, Paul Nixon
- Organization Updates: Goals, Activities, Scheduled Energy Audits
- CGES/BX/Commissary Baseline, John Brazier/Gerry Cogliano
- Overview of EEA Discussions with MMR Leadership on the Possibility of Additional Wind Turbines at MMR, Mark Begley/Greg Watson/Steven Clarke
- PAVE PAWS Tour

Attendees: See attached distribution list

1. Rose Forbes (AFCEE) opened the meeting by welcoming the attendees and providing an overview of the agenda.
2. Elizabeth Kirkpatrick (USCG) discussed Committee Outreach activities including:
 - October as Energy Awareness month. Elizabeth noted the limited activities this past October including the marquis messages and encouraged the Committee to start planning earlier for October 2009.
 - Energy Committee Website. E&RC is amenable to hosting a webpage for the Energy Committee on their website. Committee members are encouraged to provide recommendations for the web page.
 - Energy-related documentaries on local TV stations pending specific agency approvals.
 - Articles in Otis Notice. Elizabeth suggested base energy use and conservation as one idea for the next articles.
 - Using E&RC funding for posters and/or bookmarks
 - Community Involvement – partnering with local organizations off base; participating in student environmental fair. Robert Blair (102 IW/CE) mentioned the Upper Cape Tech as a potential partner organization.
3. Brian Nickerson (E&RC) discussed the draft “Alternative Energy Initiative Process” (see attached) which was developed in an attempt to assign timelines to and expedite the processing of renewable energy initiatives (i.e. wind turbines, solar projects) proposed for the MMR. Brian asked Barbara Burnett (PAVE PAWS) about the timing for the PAVE PAWS review process. Barbara discussed the formation of “encroachment committees” to evaluate potential wind turbine

- impacts on the airfield and radio frequency. Barbara also mentioned that PAVE PAWS submitted data to the FAA to become part of the FAA/OEAAA process, which will help streamline the review process once implemented. Rose noted that the process timeline may need to be adjusted as the Committee works through projects. Committee members wishing to comment on the process should contact Brian Nickerson.
4. Brian also discussed the idea of attempting to determine the wind capacity available at MMR and queried the Committee to see if this was a worthwhile exercise. Most Committee members were noncommittal so it was decided to let people think about it until the next meeting.
 5. At the October Energy Committee meeting, Paul Nixon (IAGWSP) presented on wind energy and a proposed wind turbine project on MMR. His project includes two mid-scale turbines located in two separate areas of the base. Paul updated the Committee members on progress since the last meeting and indicated there were adjustments to the proposed locations and that the Army Corps of Engineers (the contracting service agent) had released a “sources sought” for potential wind turbine construction contractors. Paul also mentioned he is waiting on the funding legislation proposed by Congressman Delahunt to pass so the Army can use O&M funds to purchase and install the turbines.
 6. Guests from the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (EOEEA) were present at the Energy Committee meeting and to ensure they had enough time to present their topic, Rose postponed two remaining agenda items (CGES/BX/Commissary Energy Baseline and Organization Updates) until the next Energy Committee meeting. Mark Begley (EMC) introduced Greg Watson and Steven Clarke from EOEEA who were in attendance to discuss the State’s interest in possibly installing additional wind turbines on MMR. Greg Watson gave an overview of the state agency and of the MA Renewable Energy Trust Fund that provides funding for renewable energy production (solar, PV, wind, wave, and tidal). Greg also briefed the Committee on the Green Communities Act that was recently passed and covers the spectrum from increasing energy independence to climate change/clean air initiatives. Steven Clarke then presented an overview of EOEEA’s concept of installing additional turbines on MMR. Steven’s presentation is attached to the emailed minutes. EOEEA plans to propose their concept to the MMR Commanders on 25 Nov 2008.
 7. The meeting ended at approximately 3:45 pm and several members participated in the PAVE PAWS tour.
 8. Next meeting: The next energy committee meeting has not been scheduled. Potential agenda items include the CGES/BX/Commissary Energy Baseline, Outreach Activities update, small wind, solar, and EOEEA/MMR meeting update.
 9. Remember to schedule your energy audits if you have not done it yet. Contact Cape Light Compact at <http://www.capelight-compact.org/> or call 1-800-797-6699 or NSTAR at <http://www.nstaronline.com/>.
 10. Please contact Rose Forbes at 508-968-4670 x 5613 or email rose.forbes@brooks.af.mil if you have any questions, comments, or suggestions about the minutes or the MMR Energy Committee.