

WSU Sustainability & the Environment Committee

AGENDA

DATE, TIME, & LOCATION: Friday, October 1, 2010 2:10-3:10pm, Lighty 405

ATTENDANTS: Andy Ford, Skuyler Herzog, Dwight Hagihara, Marty O'Malley, Dennis Gransbery, Terry Ryan, Rich Heath, Jamie Bentley, Terry Baxter-Potter, Adē Snider

1. Call to Order – Dwight Hagihara *Committee Interim Administrator*
2. Approval of September 3, 2010 Minutes – Dwight Hagihara
3. Greenhouse Gas Reporting – Marty O'Malley
EHS has completed a survey for the WA State Department of Ecology. The survey was submitted electronically. Survey is about actions taken by WSU since 2005 to lessen greenhouse footprint and address climate change. The survey lists 86 specific energy use reduction actions. Of the 86 actions, WSU already does 64 (75%). Five actions WSU had not considered. There are some actions to be taken in the future associated with vehicle fleet - specifically electric cars/charging stations. Ecology asked a question about fugitive emissions -- 632 metric tons of equivalent CO₂. Copy of survey is available, if interested email martyo@wsu.edu. There were 10 actions deemed inappropriate or inapplicable to WSU. An example given was retrofit buses, WSU doesn't own and operate buses. Offsets discussion started by Andy Ford. He was asking about possibility of purchasing offsets from third-party companies to compensate WSU's numbers. Third-party offsets are expensive and there may be other ways for WSU to compensate - example would be finding ways to utilize forested lands that WSU owns.
4. Energy conservation project – State grants – Terry Ryan
Round 1 - Proposal process deadline was July 31st 2010. WSU submitted a proposal which was fully funded. Round 1 projects are:
 - Puyallup lighting upgrades
 - Spokane Phase 1 classroom building lighting and HVAC system planning
 - Tri-Cities replace East Building boiler
 - Sloan Hall HVAC upgrade
 - SREC air-handling upgrades, control changes, heating system upgrades, lighting upgrades. The SREC is ten years old and some of its systems are outdated
 - Smart grid demo project – RFP from DOE on which we are an Avista partner under Battelle Labs and includes 1)HVAC retrocommissioning including zero air flow in non-lab areas in the evenings and weekends. Load shed for electric grid stability would also trigger zero flow in rolling 10 minute periods in 30+ different buildings. WSU also has a few generators that can be used locally to help rebalance the electric grid 2)Enterprise Energy Management System platform for network meter information may help with behavioral changes to energy uses 3) Conservation Voltage Reduction to maintain internal voltage of buildings with control, reducing impact on equipment and save energy.

Round 1 greenhouse gas reductions is 1600 metric tons of CO₂
Round 2 – Proposal turned in September 20th. Commerce decision due by October 9th
Round two projects include an upgrade to the IT building chilled water system and an in-vessel composting system. Round 2 greenhouse gas reductions would be 650 metric tons of CO₂.

A question was raised about presence of water meters on campus. Very few water meters currently on campus. Municipal water meter act mandates that by 2016 WSU has to be able to account for how much water is drawn and how the water is used. The two numbers must be within 10% of each other. All new WSU buildings have water meters in their plans. WSU does have good metering on its wells.

5. BOD Sampling – Gene Patterson

Marty presented on behalf of Gene. WSU has a state issued waste discharge permit from Department of Ecology. Part of most recent permit requirement is a waste water analysis. A high BOD (Biological Oxygen Demand) level was found at the WSU-City of Pullman intercept. The higher the level of organic matter is in the water, the higher the amount of oxygen is required to break down the organics at the treatment plant. The city of Pullman current treatment plant is reaching limit of organic material they can handle. Ferdinand's, Northside Dining Center, and CUB dining services were identified as three potential areas raising the BOD. Ferdinand's cheese production results in 1500 gallons of leftover whey per week that was being dumped down a drain. The city can require a pretreatment before we dump whey. EHS helped develop alternative plans for the disposal of the whey. One suggestion was to transport whey to WSU dairy south of Pullman and either reuse in cow feed or dump the whey in the dairy wastewater ponds. The wastewater ponds are used from June through October as an irrigation source. The second suggestion proposed was to transport whey to compost facilities on Pullman campus. Whey is compostable. Rick Finch is confident compost facility can handle the amount of whey Ferdinand's produces. Problem may be in winter when less dry material is available to sop up the whey before composting.

6. Jamie Bentley gave an update on the green bike system. Last year, 583 people used the bikes 1200 times. This year, in the first month, 782 people have used the bikes 1200 times. Staff can use the system. There are currently 2 stations at the CUB, 2 stations at the SREC, and 32 bikes. There are two more sites being developed.

7. Meeting adjourned 3:20

NEXT MEETING: November 5, 2010 – Light 405 – 2:10pm-3:10pm