

January 27, 2009 7:00PM Village Hall Draft  
Attendees: Walter Clarke (WC), Eric Hoffert (EH), Howard Levison (HL),  
Barry Zack (BZ)

Items Discussed:

Sustainable Jersey – to go live on February 26

Mandate will require municipalities to measure CO2 utilization within two years (by 2011)

Mandate will also be put into place to reduce emissions by 20% by 2020

Buildings are responsible for more emissions than automobiles

Motion sensors can be used to more effectively control lights

LED lights can be a replacement for CFL, providing more light and using less energy

Kelvin is a better metric (i.e., 5,000 degrees)  
for measuring brightness

Lumens is a good metric and the equivalent  
should be clearly displayed on packaging

More information is needed on how to discard CFL lights. BZ Notes that we have a page on the website dedicated to the above subject:

Recycling has gone from \$41/ton to a service that needs to be paid for; this is an economic issue; recycling materials are being held in warehouses due to the drop in commodity markets and the economic slowdown

Gaslights represents 75% of the energy costs for the town which are close to \$1,000,000 per year

PSE&G has just begun the laboratory testing of a prototype reigniter switch that would be installed on individual gaslamps to turn them on and off by means of a solar sensor/monitor. Gaslights will monitor the presence of light once it is dark the gas will be turned on with a sparking mechanism; when it is light then the gas flow will be disabled. This should reduce gas usage by 50%.

Gaslights could be replaced with electric lights but this would require massive trenching and rework to install electric lighting on all streets.

Additional ideas: use localized solar panels to electrified lamps without requiring wiring (i.e., a "solar gas lamp"); wireless power transmission could be used to deliver power to gas lights to avoid electric trenching.

Newstead has less trees and could deploy more solar panels

Actions Items:

SOMA-TV is channel 19 on Cablevision; On FIOS it is channel 44. to carry Sustainable Jersey kickoff? Action: WC

Energy Policy committee should present periodically to the Board of Trustees. Action: WC

Sustainable Jersey work should begin soon for South Orange Action: WC

WC has re-signed up South Orange for participation in the NJCleanEnergy campaign. More info to come. Action: WC

A request was made to PSE&G for one year billing data Action: HL

BPU limits how much power can be sold back to the grid and this restriction needs to be removed at a federal or state level; there needs to be thousands of "micro utilities" which can source power for the grid – this is a better decentralized approach Action: BZ

New Jersey should adopt the net metering approach that has been taken by New York where residential and business customers can sell energy back to the grid respectively at 25 kilowatts and 2 megawatts; there should be a letter writing campaign to do this for South Orange and New Jersey and possibly leveraging the massive letter writing campaign capability for the Sierra Club Action: BZ

Research will be done to determine if PSE&G can provide access to consumers for smart meters in the home Action: EH

Solar scooter parking lot project update is needed along with DPW roof project update; also need to understand how this project is to be paid off. Action: WC