

BREEE News V32
Boulder Renewable Energy & Energy Efficiency Working Group
<http://boulderenergy.org>
6/20/05

"Good ideas are not adopted automatically. They must be driven into practice with courageous patience." -- Hyman Rickover

Quick Picks

Rick Gilliam on Amendment 37 Speaking Tonight (Tuesday)

Sierra Club meeting in Boulder. 7 PM Meadows Branch of the Library (Behind Safeway at Baseline and Foothills Parkway).

For more information: Contact Leslie Glustrom lglustrom@qwest.net 303-245-8637

Notes from the BREEE Meeting

About a dozen people showed up for the June 16th BREEE meeting at the Recycling Center.

3 models for continuing BREEE were presented: 1) create a new non-profit; 2) partner with an existing non-profit; 3) continue as we are (little formal organization, the ability to turn people out for council meetings, other specific events). After much discussion and thought, we decided to adopt a hybrid of options 2 & 3. The consensus of the group was that this would provide the maximum flexibility and impact with the minimum amount of work for everyone.

A few specific members representing key BREEE partnerships (the City, CRC, etc.) will commit to working a few hours each week on BREEE issues and coordinating BREEE events and meetings. BREEE will collaborate with CRC (Center for Resource Conservation) and other local enviro groups to provide specific training and workshops, such as brown bag lunch presentations, as needed. BREEE will maintain its independence. BREEE will continue to monitor and look for opportunities for input and activism on the topics of municipalization, greenhouse gas management, and franchise agreements in the city and county.

We are creating a new group and email list that is specific to planning and guiding the direction of BREEE to be called BREEECore. Think of it as a BREEE Steering Committee. Let us know if you would like to be part of the Core group. The aim is to have a much smaller forum for discussing issues pertinent to this new model/process and which issues BREEE should support and/or take a stand on. The main BREEE email list goes to more than 200

people and should still be used for discussing technical topics and topics of interest to the wider group. While currently open to all, the intent for members of the steering committee is that people agree to actively help steer BREEE.

A special thank you to the Naropa team of Lisa J. Bennett, K. Emily Gates, and Jessica R.S. Scobel. Your work helped enormously in our decision making process! We believe it will continue to help inform and guide us as we take our next steps throughout this year and next.

BREEE Meetings to be held at 8 AM on the third Thursday of each month. Contact Ken Regelson or Amy Ellsworth for more information. regelson@mac.com or aellsworth@conservationcenter.org

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Affordable Cooling Workshop. 6/25. 9 AM. Denver.

*** = BREEE event or co-host of some kind.

From Elsewhere

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To Submit to BREEE News – email Regelson@mac.com. Put BREEE News in the Subject. Suggest a title and a 2 or 3 sentence summary. Include a link to the original article or a web page, or provide your email address, for more information.

Edited and distributed by Ken Regelson. Articles that do not list who submitted them are probably from Ken.

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From Boulder & Colorado:

City of Boulder Free Energy Efficiency Upgrades

In support of its greenhouse gas emissions reduction goal, the City of Boulder is offering FREE Home Energy Efficiency Upgrades to income-qualified residents. Energy Efficiency Upgrades include (as needed) (1) checks for carbon monoxide and gas leaks; (2) furnace tune-ups, repairs, or replacements; (3) insulation addition; (4) inefficient refrigerators replacement; (5) air sealing; and (6) energy conservation information to help owners keep comfort levels high and energy consumption low.

The program is administered by the City's Office of Environmental Affairs, in partnership with Long's Peak Energy Conservation (LPEC). To qualify, household income must be within certain limits. For more information or an application, call Carlene at LPEC at 303-441-1716.

<http://www.ci.boulder.co.us/environmentalaffairs/energy/weatherization.html>

From Josh Radoff.

Boulder County Clean Air Challenge and Contest

2005 Clean Air Challenge. July 22nd- August 31st

Help Clear the Air. Participate in the Summer Clean Air Challenge and Win! Hundreds of prizes will be available including a \$500 Grand Prize and rebates on electric lawn mowers and weed trimmers for those who use alternative transportation. Start on Walk and Bike-to-Work Day, June 22. The contest runs through August 31. Leave your car at home and win!

<http://www.co.boulder.co.us/health/enviro/airquality/bccac/index.htm>

From Pam Milmoie.

CU Solar Decathlon House Plans

The second Solar Decathlon competition will be in Washington, D.C. in October with 18 teams from the U.S., Canada, and Spain,

<http://www.coloradodaily.com/articles/2005/06/12/news/news05.txt>

From Morey Wolfson.

Boulder Shelter Gets Solar (PV) Grant

\$50,000 grant from the Renewable Energy Trust funded by us (ratepayers) and administered by Xcel.

"That could save the shelter \$5,000 a year in annual operating costs, said executive director Greg Harms. 'It's like getting a grant in perpetuity,' he said. 'Once you get the equipment in place, it's like getting money in your pocket every year, and guaranteed funds in this business are a rare thing indeed.'"

http://dailycamera.com/bdc/county_news/article/0,1713,BDC_2423_3851166,00.html

From Morey Wolfson.

Letters

Denver Post:
Oil Prices and the Future

http://www.denverpost.com/letters/ci_2793507

Daily Camera:
To Xcel, Saving Means a Rate Hike

http://dailycamera.com/bdc/letters_to_editor/article/0,1713,BDC_2491_3864032,00.html---

Xcel Considers New Coal Plant Outside of Limon

I believe this is part of the all-source bid Xcel is working on. It will be interesting to see if this coal plant ends up on the short list. (Ken)

http://www.bizjournals.com/industries/energy/electric_utilities/2005/06/13/denver_story5.html?f=et158

From John Anderson.

Tour Xcel Power Plants

Ponnequinn Wind Farm. Cherokee Station (NE Denver). Denver District Cooling Plant. Several dates and times each plant.

Contact call Barbara Hamblin at(303) 294-2788 or Barbara.Hamblin@xcelenergy.com

From Susan Innis.

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Calendar.

CESC: Affordable Cooling Workshop

6/25. 9 AM - noon

Denver. Small fee.

http://www.energyscience.org/homeowners/workshops/affordable_cooling.htm

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From Elsewhere:

US PV Market to Reach 240 MW by 2010

51 MW installed in 2004, up from 37 MW in 2003.

<http://www.solarbuzz.com/News/NewsNACO330.htm>

Web Infotainment on Organic and Industrial Farming

Fun ways to look at serious topics. I keep thinking that there are vast and largely untapped opportunities for using web based video and flash animations (like the below) for spreading the messages of sustainability, renewables, and efficiency to larger groups of people. - Ken

<http://www.storewars.org>

<http://www.thematrix.com/>

Wall Street Journal and New York Times on Solar

It's Getting Cheaper to Tap the Sun

<http://nytimes.com/2005/06/18/business/18solar.html>

Solar Power Heats Up

<http://www.realestatejournal.com/housegarden/toolsgadgets/20050603-pereira.html>

From Rob Hall.

NYT: Thomas Friedman on Plug-in Hybrid Cars

As Toyota goes...

"Toyota's hybrid cars, like the Prius, run on both gasoline and electricity that is generated by braking and then stored in a small battery...if you had a hybrid that you could plug in at night, the battery could store up 20 miles of driving per day. So your first 20 miles would be covered by the battery. The gasoline would only kick in after that. Since 50 percent of Americans do not drive more than 20 miles a day, the battery power would cover all their driving. Even if they drove more than that, combining the battery power and the gasoline could give them 100 miles per gallon of gasoline used."

<http://www.nytimes.com/2005/06/17/opinion/17friedman.html?n=Top%2fOpinion%2fEditorials%20and%20Op%2dEd%2fOp%2dEd%2fColumnists>

From Michael Banks.

CO2 Contribution From Plug-In Hybrid Cars

All of the following are for 12,000 miles (average annual mileage in US).

Average non-hybrid car: 11 - 12,000 pounds CO2.

Regular Prius: 6000 pounds

Plug-in Prius on average US grid: 3900 pounds

Plug-in Prius on all coal: 7800 pounds.

<http://autos.groups.yahoo.com/group/calcars-news/message/65>

(and, of course, my favorite... a plug-in Prius charged from solar: very little CO2 - Ken)

Plug-in hybrids are not available yet. For more info see

<http://www.calcars.org/>

Time: Plug-Ins Again: Breaking That Dirty Oil Habit

"An unlikely alliance of hawks, doves, and greens has a plan to help America guzzle less gas. Could it work?"

<http://www.time.com/time/insidebiz/article/0,9171,1069470,00.html>

From Mike Bowman.

Yale Poll: Overwhelming Public Desire for a New Energy Policy

92% of Americans say that they are worried about dependence on foreign oil

93% of Americans want government to require better gas mileage.

Building more solar power facilities is considered a "good idea" by 90 percent of the public; 87 percent support expanded wind farms; and 86 percent want increased funding for renewable energy research.

http://www.eurekalert.org/pub_releases/2005-06/yu-ypr060905.php

Joint Science Academies' Statement: Climate Change is Real

Signed by 11 nation's Science Academies. Possibly the clearest statement yet.

<http://nationalacademies.org/onpi/06072005.pdf>

From Mike Bowman.

Pete Domenici "convinced that the science now indicates..."

"...that climate change is occurring and we need to do something about it."

Domenici (R - New Mexico) is the chair of the Senate Energy Committee.

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2005/06/17/AR2005061701073.html>

Portland Trims CO2 to 15 Year Low

"City and county officials were elated Wednesday after a 30-page report indicated that carbon dioxide emissions last year nudged 0.1 percent below 1990 figures. On a per capita basis, the drop marks a 13.2 percent decline. Relative to trends elsewhere nationally, that's dramatic.

Portland and Multnomah County's figures contrast sharply with carbon dioxide emissions levels nationwide, which have increased more than 17 percent since 1990 -- about a 0.6 percent per capita rise."

<http://www.freerepublic.com/focus/f-news/1419764/posts>

Report at:

http://www.sustainableportland.org/osd_pubs_global_warming_report_6-2005.pdf

One-liners

Youth climate change and renewable energy cross-country happening:

<http://www.roadtodetroit.org/>

BP Statistical review of World Energy 2005

<http://www.bp.com/genericsection.do?categoryId=92&contentId=7005893>

All about energy subsidies

http://earthtrack.net/earthtrack/index.asp?page_id=177&catid=66

Ethanol Works in Brazil

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2005/06/17/AR2005061701440.html>

(This is the end of BREEE News)

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