

**COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO
BOULEVARD PLANNING GROUP
*** FINAL MINUTES/SUMMARY FOR JUNE 7, 2018*****

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM at the Backcountry Resource Center, 39919 Ribbonwood Rd, Boulevard CA 91905.

A. MEMBERS PRESENT: 1) Robert Maupin (Vice-Chair); 2) Earl Goodnight 3) Kevin Keane; 4) Donna Tisdale (Chair); 6) Michael Coyne; 7) Ronald Hynum. **EXCUSED ABSENCE:** 4) Michele Strand (Secretary)

B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: (please silence cell phones)

C. ACT ON MINUTES/SUMMARY FOR MAY 3RD MEETING:

- **M/S: Maupin/Goodnight: Approve May 3rd minutes as submitted: Passed: 6 yes; 0 no; Seat 5 absent**

D. PUBLIC COMMUNICATION: There were no public comments

E. ACTION ITEMS (Agenda items may be taken out of order upon request):

1. **TERRA-GEN DEVELOPMENT COMPANY LLC, MET TESTING FACILITIES; PDS2018-AD-18-007:**
 - The Chair reported that today, 5 days after the final agenda was posted, she had received the County's decision to approve Terra-Gen's MET facilities application.
 - She also reported that her home internet was down and when she tried to forward the document to group members with her phone it would not send.
 - A set of new plot plans, dated May 10th was also received.
 - The County's approval counters the comment letter that the Group sent, recommending denial and states that everything is in compliance, bulk harmony and scale, CEQA, etc. NO surprise there.
 - The Planning Group has the option to let the decision go unopposed or to appeal it.
 - However, because the decision was issued after the final agenda was posted, and it was not included as an action item, any action taken to appeal the decision may be considered invalid.
 - Discussion that the issue is time sensitive, with a 10-day appeal window, and should be acted on.
 - Chances of overturning the decision on appeal are slim to none, based on the previous MET facilities approval by the County for Enel's Jewel Valley Wind, at the same Ribbonwood Road project location and in Jewel Valley, and another site near La Posta Road on Old 80 proposed by another property owner.
 - Should we just wait and spend our time and efforts on commenting on the Major Use Permit for San Diego Wind when that time comes.
 - The Chair stated that if the Group does decide to appeal the MET facilities approval, she does not want to be the only local that shows up to speak at the hearing.
 - Michael Coyne, a professional planner with another jurisdiction, listed the numerous reasons why the approval should be appealed, including CEQA exemptions and the need for a Negative Declaration. He also agreed to help draft the appeal.
 - **M/S: Coyne/Maupin: Appeal the Terra-Gen MET Facilities approval based on the Environmental Determination: Passed: 6 yes; 0 no; Seat 5 absent.**
2. **SHOULD THE JULY 5TH MEETING BE MOVED TO THURSDAY, JULY 12TH?**
 - **M/S: Coyne/Goodnight: Approve moving the July meeting from July 5th to Thursday, July 12th: Passed: 6 yes; 0 no; Seat 5 absent.**

E. GROUP BUSINESS & PROJECT UPDATES – DISCUSSION ONLY

1. **ANNOUNCEMENTS & CORRESPONDENCE:**

- SDG&E representatives, Joe Gabaldon (Public Affairs Manager), Briana Marchand, and Steve Vanderburg (meteorologist) provided an update on the de-energization episodes (power curtailment) and new time of use rates for electricity.
- **Ms. Marchand** provided brochures and discussed the new time of use rates (TOU).
- SDG&E has two try-before-you-buy options to help customers get used to the rates for peak time of day 4-9 PM.
- There will be a bigger rollout in 2019 when all residents will be subject to the new higher flat rate.
- Commercial customers are already subject to TOU rates.
- In response to questions from the Chair, Ms. Marchand stated that Direct Access customers and those with analog meters will not be subject to TOU.
- She confirmed that customers can still opt out of smart meters and related TOU but they must pay a \$75 opt out charge and another related \$10 charge (per month?).
- She also confirmed that the increase in wind and solar energy has contributed to recent rate changes.
- **Mr. Vanderburg** discussed weather related de-energization events.
- He worked for National Weather Service for 10 years and has been with SDG& E for 7 years. He lives in Julian and he and his family are also subject to de-energization events and related impacts.
- SDG&E has installed 170 weather stations with local stations at Crestwood, Tierra del Sol, and Boulevard the Substation.
- All data is available to the public at sdgeweather.com
- The stations provide situational information for each distribution circuit.
- New taller metal poles do help by allowing wires to be spaced further apart for safety.
- Cutting edge weather models are fine tuned for Santa Ana winds in San Diego County.
- This helps with placing resources in the most critical areas of concern.
- They also monitor moisture levels in dead and living vegetation and use satellite data.
- SDG&E created the San Diego Wildfire Threat Index with categories 1-4, using the help of PhDs and scientists, and going back to 1984 to quantify data.
- When asked why Tule Wind and Kumeyaay Wind turbines are allowed to run during Red Flag shut-off events, even though they do represent a fire threat, Vanderburg was unsure.
- **Joe Gabaldon** said he would look into that issue and get back to us but confirmed that Sunrise Powerlink remains energized during Red Flag events because the lattice towers are less vulnerable to collapse during high winds.
- Mr. Gabaldon, in response to Kevin Keane's comment about underground lines being safer, said that due to increased costs and sensitive areas it is not feasible to bury all backcountry lines.
- Weather de-energization events are distinct from other planned outages.
- Switches can be radio controlled, but after certain events, lines are not automatically re-energized before an actual physical patrol takes place for the entire line to ensure safety.
- PG&E and Southern California Edison are both looking at how SDG&E handles Red Flag events.
- In response to Ron Hynum's question about any requirement to provide emergency services (water, food) to communities during de-energization events, Mr. Gabaldon said he was not aware of any, but they have provided services in the Campo/Lake Morena area and elsewhere.
- SDG&E has an app to keep informed on planned and unplanned outages.

- Mr. Gabaldon was made aware of the new Backcountry Resource Center and related community needs.
- **Tule Wind's curtailment April 11 - May 22, 2018 – update**
 - A Union Tribune article (included in agenda packet) reported that a Tule Wind vendor had to fabricate and install about 1,000 feet of completely new underground line to replace the section that had failed. The project was curtailed for over 5 weeks.
- **Boulevard Planning Group Seats 2, 4 & 6 are up for election in November.**
 - Incumbents and others wanting to be placed on the ballot for these seats in the November election need to pick up the forms in person from the Registrar of Voters office between July 16th and August 10 and get them filed by the deadline.

2. **REVITALIZATION REPORT by Tammy Daubach:**

- Reminder to join the Friends of the Jacumba Library! They have memberships for individuals, seniors, and businesses.
- Support the summer reading program and library events.
- The Mt. Empire Schools Foundation meets at 4:00 PM at the High School on June 14th.
- Backcountry Resource Center has been filling out grant applications. More volunteers are needed.
- Tammy has a wish list that community members can help with. It's posted on the wall with a suggestions sheet for anyone who wants to add to it.

3. **FIRE SAFE COUNCIL REPORT by Tammy Daubach:**

- If you know of any seniors that need any help with 100' clearance, have them contact the Fire Safe Council.
- Due to a lack of volunteers, Fire Safe will not be able to offer a chipping program through the summer.
- There will be a chipping event for Lake Morena at the Lake Morena Community Church this Saturday from 8AM to 4PM.
- The Recycle Fire was hit hard by CalFire. Red Cross was on standby. Everything went as planned.

4. **TULE WIND PHASE 1 – NOISE /COMMUNITY COMPLAINT CONTACTS:**

- Toll Free Project Hotline & Noise Complaints directly to Iberdrola /Avangrid: 855-369-9337; windcommunity@avangrid.com. Noise complaints can also be made to Lazaro Herrera, County Noise Control Officer & Code Compliance: 858-694-3741; lazaro.herrera@sdcounty.ca.gov; and to BLM: Tristan Riddell @ triddell@blm.gov, 760-337-4436; or Carrie Sahagun @ csahagun@blm.gov, 760-337-4437.

5. **TULE WIND PHASE II:**

- No news to report.

6. **74 MW RUGGED SOLAR: PDS2017-MUP-12-007W1 MAJOR USE PERMIT MODIFICATION-NEW PROJECT DESCRIPTION: SCOPING LETTER RELEASED ON 1-19-18:**

- Waiting on biology and other pending reports.

7. **60 MW 420 ACRE BOULEVARD SOLAR MUP12-010TE PDS2012-3300-12-00 @ 796 Tierra Del Sol Road; Scoping Letter released on 10-11-17:**

- Waiting on biology and other pending reports

8. **100MW BOULEVARD ENERGY STORAGE FACILITY; PDS 2017-ZAP-17-006; MINOR USE PERMIT FOR 2 ACRE PROJECT LOCATED ON APN'S# 612-09-059; 612-09-019; 612-09-017, NEAR BOULEVARD SUBSTATION:**

- Not sure how CPUC's approval of 88MW of other energy storage resources for SDG&E will impact this project.
- The Chair reported that SDG&E had been cleared by the CPUC for 88MW of battery storage capacity at a cost of \$235 million. Three third party projects totaling 13.5 MW, two utility owned projects totaling 70 MW and one demand response resource with 4.5MW of capacity.
- She asked Joe Gabaldon if he knew if SDG&E's approved 88MW at other locations would impact Invenenergy's proposed 100MW Boulevard Energy Storage project.
- Mr. Gabaldon said he did not know that answer but he would check for us.
- He also stated that AB2868 requires a total of 166 MW of energy storage for SDG&E.

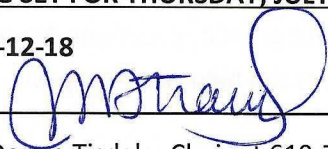
9. **LIVE OAK SPRINGS AG CLEARING; PDS2017-AD-17-028:**

- It was reported that lots of trees have been planted on the property west of Live Oak Springs Road, in the area that was recently cleared. It is unknown if those trees are part of the pending application.

G. ADJOURNMENT: NEXT MEETING SET FOR THURSDAY, JULY 12th @ THE BACKCOUNTRY RESOURCE CENTER.

Minutes approved by Group on 7-12-18

Michele Strand, Secretary: _____



For More information contact Donna Tisdale, Chair at 619-766-4170 or tisdale.donna@gmail.com ; current and past meeting agendas and approved minutes are posted on the County website @ <http://www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/sdc/pds/gpupdate/comm/blvd.html>

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