

Light Board Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

Minutes of Meeting held on June 27, 2018
Belmont Light Conference Room
7:00 pm

2018 SEP 14 AM 10:08

Attending LBAC members: Chair Steve Klionsky, Bob Forrester, Roy Epstein, Sarah Jackson, Travis Franck

Non-attending LBAC members: Mark McVay, Ralph Jones

Belmont Light (BL) attending: General Manager Christopher Roy, Aidan Leary

I. CALL TO ORDER

- Convened 7:02 pm

II. DISCUSSION PERTAINING TO ADJUSTING MAXIMUM CAPACITY RATING OF 250KW IN BL POLICY ON EMISSION-FREE RENEWABLE ENERGY FACILITIES, EFFECTIVE 12/1/15 (SECTION 1.01)

- TOPIC: Revision of Section 1.01 of the EFR Energy Facilities policy, specifically raising the kW limit of installations to allow for certainty for planning the potential solar installation on a high school.
- Chair Klionsky provided a background of the 2015 policy making process. There was no specific engineering reason for the 250 kW installation cap, but it was thought that 250kW would be high enough for most of the solar installations in Belmont.
- Epstein provided additional context about the 250kW. That level was above the current largest installation (Belmont Hill School) but low enough to be conservative with energy quality issues. In 2015, Belmont Light had limited experience with large amounts of solar on the distribution system.
- Franck said that the Light Board asked BL and town residents to look into the issues (LB meeting of June 18th) and come up with a recommendation to allow for a successful high school project.
- Roy discussed his experience with solar installations in other communities. He stated that most installations have interconnection. He concluded that 1.5MW as a new limit should be low risk with respect to energy quality and distribution stability. Also, all applications for interconnection would still be reviewed for grid problems.
- The committee discussed that there aren't that many locations for medium or large solar installations.
- Jackson inquired about the definition "behind the meter".
- Vote: Moved to recommend to the Light Board that Section 1.01 of change from 250kW to 1.5MW. Passed unanimously.

III. DISCUSSION OF FUTURE MEETINGS

- July 19 and August 23 are the next two meetings.
- Aug 27th is a joint meeting with the Light Board to discuss LBAC's charge.
- Cost of Service Study is expected to be completed on July 17th. Klionsky offered to meet with BL after the study is completed to review it. Roy expects to present the COSS to the Light Board in September.
- New LBAC meeting dates: Sept 13th, Oct 11th

IV. ADJOURNMENT

- Adjourned at 7:46pm