

CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

1516 Ninth Street
Sacramento, California 95814

Main website: www.energy.ca.gov



Staff Workshop on Small Wind Permitting

The California Energy Commission staff will conduct a workshop to discuss permitting ordinances related to the installation of small wind energy systems in California counties in response to Assembly Bill 45 (Blakeslee, Chapter 404, Statutes of 2009).

August 16, 2010

9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

1516 Ninth Street

First Floor, Hearing Room B

Sacramento, California

(Wheelchair Accessible)

Remote Attendance

Internet Webcast - Presentations and audio from the meeting will be broadcast via our WebEx web meeting service. For details on how to participate via WebEx, please see the "Remote Attendance" section toward the end of this notice.

Purpose

The purpose of this workshop will be to discuss permitting ordinances related to the installation of small wind energy systems in California in the context of Assembly Bill 45. Energy Commission staff will give an overview of what AB 45 requires of both the counties and the Energy Commission.

Energy Commission staff has invited representatives of county planning and building departments to discuss and share best practices and experiences with permitting small wind energy systems. One of the common challenges to greater small wind adoption and installation in California is not cost, but rather inadequate or burdensome permitting processes. The Energy Commission seeks to discuss and find viable solutions to mitigate local small wind permitting regulatory obstacles in an effort to ease barriers towards wider adoption of small wind technology throughout the state.

The Emerging Renewables Program is overseen by the Energy Commission's Renewables Committee with Vice Chair James D. Boyd as its Presiding Member and Commissioner Robert Weisenmiller as its Associate Member.

Background

The Energy Commission's Emerging Renewables Program (ERP) provides incentives to encourage the purchase and installation of customer-scale renewable energy systems. From 1998 to 2007 the ERP Guidebook provided incentives to solar photovoltaic systems, small wind turbines, and fuel cells using renewable fuel. After the passage of Senate Bill 1 (Murray, Chapter 132, Statutes of 2006) and its effective date of January 1, 2007, solar photovoltaic was removed from the ERP Guidebook as an eligible technology leaving the ERP to focus on promoting small wind systems with a rated output of 50 kilowatts or less, and fuel cell technologies using renewable fuel.

Small wind turbines are an excellent and cost effective customer-scale renewable energy technology that can reduce greenhouse gas and reduce peak electricity demand while saving system owners money on their monthly utility bills. As California continues to advance its renewable energy goals, it is important that state policies not only support the market penetration and viability of promising renewable technologies through rebate programs, but that they also educate and encourage local agencies to have friendly permitting processes to spur the installation of renewable energy systems. In October 2009, the California Legislature passed AB 45 which requires counties to establish ordinances allowing for the permitting of small wind systems by January 1, 2011, if they do not already have an ordinance in place. AB 45 also requires the Energy Commission to submit a report to the Legislature regarding the status of small wind deployment in California by 2016.

Public Participation

The Energy Commission's Public Adviser's Office provides the public assistance in participating in Energy Commission activities. If you want information on how to participate in this forum, please contact the Public Adviser's Office at (916) 654-4489 or toll free at (800) 822-6228, by FAX at (916) 654-4493, or by e-mail at [PublicAdviser@energy.state.ca.us]. If you have a disability and require assistance to participate, please contact Lou Quiroz at (916) 654-5146 at least five days in advance.

Please direct all news media inquiries to the Media and Public Communications Office at (916) 654-4989, or by e-mail at [mediaoffice@energy.state.ca.us].

If you have questions on the technical subject matter of this meeting, please call Anthony Ng at (916) 654-4544 or by email at [ang@energy.state.ca.us].

Remote Attendance

You can participate in this meeting through WebEx, the Energy Commission's online meeting service. Presentations will appear on your computer screen, and you listen to

the audio via your telephone. Please be aware that the meeting's WebEx audio and on-screen activity may be recorded.

Computer Log-on with Telephone Audio:

1. Please go to <https://energy.webex.com> and enter the unique meeting number:
927 631 540
2. When prompted, enter your name other information as directed and the meeting password: **smallwind@9**
3. After you log-in, a prompt will ask for your phone number. If you wish to have WebEx call you back, enter your phone number. This will put add your name on the WebEx log so that we know who is connected and have a record of your participating by WebEx.

If you do not wish to do that, click cancel, and go to step 4. Or, if your company uses an older switchboard-type of phone system where your line is an extension, click cancel and go to step 4.

4. If you didn't want WebEx to call you back, then call 1-866-469-3239 (toll-free in the U.S. and Canada). When prompted, enter the meeting number above and your unique Attendee ID number, which is listed in the top left area of your screen after you login via computer. International callers can dial in using the "Show all global call-in numbers" link (also in the top left area).

Telephone Only (No Computer Access):

1. Call 1-866-469-3239 (toll-free in the U.S. and Canada) and when prompted enter the unique meeting number above. International callers can select their number from <https://energy.webex.com/energy/globalcallin.php>

If you have difficulty joining the meeting, please call the WebEx Technical Support number at 1-866-229-3239.

Date: [August 3, 2010](#)

Electronic Mail Lists: Renewables