WILTON ENERGY COMMISSION

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TOWN HALL 238 Danbury Road Wilton, CT 06897

WILTON ENERGY COMMISSION MEETING

Thursday, July 28, 2011 7:00 pm Wilton Library, Rimer Room MINUTES

Members Present: Bruce Hampson, Chair; Richard Creeth, Hal Clark, Karen Birck, Patrice

Gillespie, and Dona Pratt.

Members absent: Paula Byrdy, Mike Lindberg, Paul Mazzarulli

Associate present: Walter Kress

Guests: Gail Lavielle, State Representative; Chris Kearns, Alteris Renewables; Roger Smith &

Justin Haaheim, Clean Water Action: Ted Hofstadter, Selectman.

- 1. Call to Order: Chairman Hampson called the meeting to order at 7:08 pm
- 2. Approval of Minutes of meeting of June 30, 2011; The Minutes were approved unanimously.
- **3. Introductions**: Chairman Hampson introduced the guest speakers and new Energy Commission Associate, Walter Kress.

4. Public Act 11-80.

(It is not the intent of these minutes to provide a detailed account of the contents of PA 11-80, rather an overview of the key points presented by the guests. A detailed summary, focused on Municipal opportunities is being prepared and will be distributed to interested parties)

Chris Kearns, Alteris Renewables:

- This Act will put Connecticut in a US Leadership position for Solar and renewable energy.
- "ZREC" program to solicit contracts with owners of Class 1 generation projects.
 \$8M in 2012 and increasing each year.
 - Targeted at CT owners.

- Provide increased incentives for residential solar installations with options based on up-front grant or long-range generation performance.
 - o Will provide additional incentive for CT manufactured components.

Gail Lavielle, State Representative:

- This legislation is the product of a robust bipartisan effort. Unanimously approved in the Senate and nearly so in the House.
- A guiding mandate for all subsequent rule making and program development is to lower Connecticut electrical rates, plus
 - Energy efficiency and incentives
 - Promote clean energy
 - Consumer protection
 - Accountability of agencies and utilities.

Programs

- Authorizes PACE funding for municipal projects
- o Provides encouragement and support for Performance Contracting
- Virtual Net Metering
- "Time of Use" electrical protocol and rates to be made available by Utilities and discount suppliers.
- Utility generation procurement flexibility.

Justin Haaheim, Clean Water Action

- Justin described his role with Clean Water Action.
 - To provide assistance and resources to Municipal 'Energy Action' groups in the State.

Roger Smith, Clean Water Action

- (In his role as the New England Energy Program Director, Roger has been actively engaged with the State for the last four (4) years crafting portions of PA 11-80)
- PACE (Property Assessed Clean Energy). Roger gave details how this program will be administered and the help available for municipalities to implement efficiency up-grades
- Utilities must provide usage data to municipalities in Energy Star format.
- The Act authorizes municipalities to exempt residential clean energy installations from building permit fees.
- Performance Contracting: Roger has provided input to the State on this program. He described the support that CT will provide municipalities to implement such contracts.

5. Future Meeting Schedule:

• Chairman Hampson suggested that the next Commission meeting be in September, but that he would like to meet with individual Commission members during August to develop an action agenda going forward.

6. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:11 PM