

School Energy NewsWire

A Newsletter for Efficient & Climate Friendly Schools

SEC PARTICIPATES IN A WHITE HOUSE ROUNDTABLE ON EFFICIENCY AND SCHOOLS

On July 9, 2012, SEC was invited by the Governor's Office to participate in a White House Roundtable on Schools and Energy Efficiency with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) at the Cal EPA in Sacramento.

The roundtable was attended by selected representatives from school and energy organizations and consultants in this area. Representatives from state government, namely the California Department of Education (CDE), the State Allocation Board, the Office of Public School Construction, California Energy Commission and the Legislature were also in attendance.

Matthew Bogoshian of the U.S. EPA led the discussion which he said was part of a series of federally-sponsored roundtables on priority issues for the Administration. Bogoshian wanted feedback, but also wanted to assist the State in developing a strategy or pathway for schools in this area.

Although it was billed as a discussion on energy efficiency and schools, the discussion quickly incorporated renewable generation as something schools should be moving toward at a time when budgets are constrained. Still, others wanted to see a broader discussion of climate change and

meeting AB 32 goals related to lowering the state's carbon footprint, included as part of the agenda for schools.

School representatives quickly pointed out that, at this time of severe budget constraints, schools are not receiving the funding necessary to maintain the facilities they have now and are receiving inadequate funding to build or modernize classrooms appropriate for a world-class workforce. There is also no state school bond on the horizon so funding is a huge challenge.

Others asked that if dollars were made available for school energy projects that it should be independent of any government funding process for schools. Revolving loan programs that would be paid back through savings would provide a continued source of funding for schools were also discussed.

The California Energy Commission reported that the Bright Schools Program which has provided tech-

GENERATING OPERATIONAL SAVINGS THROUGH ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND CONSERVATION

Workshop Co-Sponsored by Coalition for Adequate School Housing

July 24: 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Sacramento Double Tree Hotel

July 27: 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Ontario Airport Radisson

This C.A.S.H./SEC workshop will provide a new look at energy efficiency and conservation for K-12 schools. Our presenters will outline low- and no-cost steps to generate savings on electricity bills that can add dollars to your general funds.

While budgets throughout the State are experiencing increasing pressure, these techniques are ideal and their application should be considered for every district and county office of education in California. Hear also about the latest information regarding lighting technologies and applications, HVAC systems, and appliances. And finally, the importance of educating faculty and students, and training for M&O staff to ensure maximum efficiencies. (See registration information on page 4.)

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SEC LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Supported Legislation:

- AB 1186 (Skinner) - This bill was heard on July 2, 2012 in the Senate Environmental Quality Committee. As previously written, the bill would have provided 10% of the IOU revenue from cap-and-trade for cost effective K-12 school energy efficiency grants. Due to heavy opposition from utilities and large energy customers that do not want the funding to be used for any purpose other than to be returned directly back to ratepayers - the author has agreed to amend the bill so that the source of funding (cap-and-trade revenue) is no longer defined. New language will simply direct the CPUC to provide grant funding for this purpose from undefined funding sources.

AB 1186 is sponsored by SEC, the Coalition for Adequate School Housing (C.A.S.H.) and the Building Trades. AB 1186 (Skinner) passed out of the Senate Environmental Quality Committee on a 5-2 vote. It will next be heard in the Senate Appropriations Committee.

- AB 2249 (Buchanan) - This bill changes the Solar Water Heating and Efficiency Act of 2007 to allow the incentive to apply to public school pools under the California Solar Initiative (CSI). This bill enjoys strong support from a number of supporters including SEC. It passed out of Senate Energy, Utilities and Communications Committee on July 3, 2012 on a vote of 10-0. It will now move to Senate Appropriations.

- SB 594 (Wolk): Aggregation of meters. Allows K-12 schools and other multi-meter customers such as farms and wineries to aggregate their usage on more than one meter and apply that to their renewable generation system. Prohibits a customer-generator that chooses to aggregate from receiving net surplus electricity compensation. Passed out of Committee 13-0. To Assembly Appropriations.

- SB 843 (Wolk) - Community self-generating renewable pilot projects. This bill would allow these projects to go forward on a state-

wide basis. This bill would allow schools to participate in renewable cooperatives to purchase clean Renewable Power.

After being in danger of failing to receive enough votes for passage due to concerns raised by utilities and others, SB 843 was passed out of the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee on a vote of 10-2 after accepting a lower cap of 250 Mega Watts (MW) for these projects statewide. The bill now moves to the Assembly Appropriations Committee where its costs will be evaluated.

- SB 1130 (DeLeon) - Establishes the Nonresidential Building Energy Retrofit Financing Act of 2012 (Act) and requires the California Energy Commission (CEC) to establish the Nonresidential Building Energy Retrofit Financing Program (Program) by July 1, 2013 to provide financial assistance through revenue bonds for owners of eligible buildings to implement energy efficiency improvements and renewable energy generation.



SEC FEATURED IN GREEN TECHNOLOGY MAGAZINE!

“Legislators in Sacramento are considering an array of bills that seek to clear the way for schools and colleges to install renewable energy systems, addressing a thicket of complicated rules and regulations governing the relationship between utilities and their customers that can stand in the way of solar projects. Revising these rules now, while renewables represent only a tiny fraction of total electricity generation in California, is crucial.”

Please visit the Green Technology website at: <http://www.green-technology.org> to read Racquel Palmese’s interview with Aaron Jobson, a founding member of SEC.

SEC Legislative Update (Cont.)

SB 1130 was passed by a vote of 6-3 in Assembly Natural Resources and now moves to Assembly Appropriations.

- SB 1537 (Kehoe): One year moratorium on any rate changes to Net Energy Metering (NEM) customers, including schools. Prohibits the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) from adopting any new charge, standby charge, customer charge, minimum monthly charge, interconnection charge, or other fixed charge on NEM customers for one year. SB 1537 passed out of Committee 10-2. To Assembly Appropriations.

- SB 1572 (Pavley) - Provides school funding for energy projects through a mix of grants and loans through existing programs. SEC supports and has been involved in the development and continuing discussions regarding this bill.

The bill was passed out of Assembly Natural Resources Committee on a vote of 6-3 on July 2, 2012. It

is scheduled for hearing in the Assembly Appropriations Committee in August.

Opposed Legislation:

- AB 2514 (Bradford) - SEC has been part of a coalition of renewable generation stakeholders monitoring this legislation intended to study NEM and its costs and benefits. A recent amendment added to AB 2514 would have overridden a recent CPUC decision that provided more room under the current cap on NEM. SEC and others successfully argued against this language and it was stripped out of the bill before it was voted on. The result of this amendment, if the bill passes and is signed by the Governor, is to reduce the capacity allowed under the 5% cap by more than 50% from the levels of participation allowed.

Despite a large showing of opposition to this amendment on July 3, 2012, the bill passed out of the Senate Energy, Utilities and Com-

munications Committee by a vote of 7-2. SEC remains opposed to this bill, however, as there are still issues with the NEM study proposed in this bill.

To view legislation in its entirety, visit www.leginfo.ca.gov.

State Budget Trailer Bill Language on Cap-and-Trade

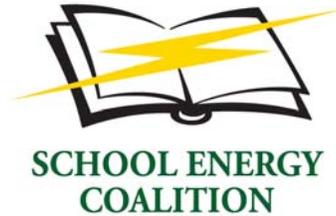
Interesting budget trailer bill language signed by the Governor provides up to 15% for Clean Energy Programs from Independently Owned Utilities' cap-and-trade revenues. However, it does not appear to include commercial entities, including schools, to receive ratepayer reimbursement. This language was passed along with the State Budget and we are currently analyzing this language and its impact.

(Roundtable Update Continued from Page 1)

nical assistance to schools and low interest loans was being revived in the near future. About \$25 million would be available in loans to schools.

Mr. Bogoshian was also asked to carry the message back to the White House that the President's support for an extension of federal bonding authority for schools through the Qualified School Construction Bond (QSCB) and Qualified Zone Academy Bond (QZAB) programs, currently being considered by Congress, would be very important.

In wrapping up the discussion, which lasted almost two hours, the Governor's staff invited a smaller group, including SEC, to continue the discussion with the Governor's Office in the weeks to come. The goal is to advise the Governor's office on what tools would be most helpful to schools that will assist them in implementing energy efficiency systems.



Presents

Generating Operational Savings Through Energy Efficiency and Conservation

SACRAMENTO

Tuesday, July 24, 2012

9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Doubletree Hotel

Daily parking is \$4 for self-parking
and \$9 for valet

ONTARIO

Friday, July 27, 2012

9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Ontario Airport Radisson

Daily parking is \$6.00/car

Topics will include, but are not limited to:

- No-cost changes that schools can make today
- The importance of involving all staff in the process
- The latest on lighting, HVAC and other appliances
- How daylighting saves dollars over the long run
- Commissioning and retro-commissioning

AIA/CES and ACIA CREDITS: These workshops are registered with the American Institute of Architects (AIA) Continuing Education System (CES).

Registration

[Click here for the July 24 - Sacramento Online Registration](#)

[Click here for the July 27 - Ontario Online Registration](#)

[Click here for a Printable Registration Form](#)

REGISTRATION FEES (includes lunch, refreshments, and handouts)

For July 24 Workshop

On or Before

July 23

On-Site

Members:

\$238

\$314

Non Members:

\$287

\$366

For July 27 Workshop

On or Before

July 26

On-Site

Members:

\$238

\$314

Non Members:

\$287

\$366

CANCELLATION POLICY:

For Cancellations received:

On or Prior to July 16, 2012:

Full Refund

Between July 16 - July 20, 2012:

\$75 Charge

After July 20, 2012:

No Refund

SCHOOL ENERGY COALITION

Membership Application

Yes! I wish to become a member of the School Energy Coalition (SEC). Please enter my yearly membership at the following fee:

FEES:

- Local Education Agencies (includes Districts, COEs, Community Colleges) \$250 per year
- Small School Districts (Less than 2,500 ADA & Charter Schools \$100 per year
- Businesses/Associates \$750 per year

Contact Name _____ Date _____

Title _____

Organization _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Fax _____

E-mail _____

Payment Method:

Check # _____ P.O. # _____

Please mail or fax to:
School Energy Coalition
1130 K Street, Suite 210, Sacramento, CA 95814
(916) 441-3300 phone • (916) 441-3893 fax

