

Candia Recycling & Energy Committee
Public Meeting Minutes
March 28, 2019

Attendance: Clay Caddy, Gail Thomas, Freda Paris, Dick Snow, Al Couch, and Recycling Center BOS representative Russ Dann.

Invited guests: Bob Hayden and Ryan Polson of Standard Power of America, and Bob Mitchell, owner of Historic Motor Sports.

Dick Snow set up this meeting so that the committee could have a discussion on the possibility of integrating solar power from Historic Motor Sports with the town's energy broker, Standard Power. Historic Motor Sports has a new rooftop solar array, and they had suggested the town consider buying excess solar energy at a discounted rate. The town's energy broker is Standard Power, and they lower the town's energy cost through the hydro power that they have available. They issue the town rebate checks to lower the power cost. The purpose of the meeting is to gather information and to see if there are any conflicts if the town buys solar separate from Standard Power's energy supply.

Bob Haley, VP of Standard Power, stated that he wanted to make it clear that they have no problem with the town looking at other power sources, such as solar. Bob also made it clear that the goal of Standard Power is to help the community of Candia. He said that they could back off their energy supply to the town to allow for solar energy coming from Historic Motor Sports. Bob also said that the State of NH recently changed the regulations, so that net metering group host customers no longer need to be default service customers of the same electrical distribution utility as the host. (SB 321)

Bob Mitchell, owner of Historic Motor Sports, had contacted the committee several months ago to suggest that the town could benefit from his new solar array with an arrangement to purchase any excess solar power at a low-cost rate. He said his initial goal is to establish whether this type of arrangement is feasible. He also said that it is of key importance that if this arrangement happens, that it would clearly benefit everyone involved. He would also hope that this could be a model used for other communities in NH. Bob said to help in this process he could bring in Clayton Mitchell (no relation to Bob) of UNH Natural Resources, to give us ideas on how to set this up and to help with the process. Bob said this will probably take a few months to set up, but he would rather that we take our time to set everything up properly.

Ryan Polson of Standard Power spoke about the new Constellation energy contract that was sent to the town last week. He said they have reviewed several energy suppliers, and this was the one they choose to be part of the Southern NH Planning Commission consortium plan. He said it should be sent in as soon as possible to lock in the rate of 7.8 cent per kwh. Dick said he carefully looked over the contract and the only thing he wanted to know about is the winter reliability fuel pass-through cost. Ryan said this is in most energy contracts and is rarely used. It is also a very small amount that accounts for rare winter conditions that might cause power to come from outside of the normal channels. Ryan answered additional questions from Russ and others. Russ said he will bring the new contract to the next BOS meeting to review it and to ask for approval of the contract.

The next meeting will be Thursday, April 25.

Respectfully Submitted, Al Couch, Recycling and Energy Committee member