

NREDA Annual Conference November 5, 2007 Myrtle Beach, SC
Open Space Technology Session –
Energy Efficiency / Regional Energy Portfolio Standards

Topic of the Session:

Energy Efficiency / Regional Energy Portfolio Standards

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Major Points:

Some people will want to do energy efficiency because they are “green-driven.”

Promote:

- Geo-thermal systems
- Insulation P2000 (takes 3/8” to provide same insulation value of 10” of spray-in insulation)

Structure incentives as member discount for products (if they purchase through the cooperative).

Help farmers get technology on anaerobic digester (produces methane gas from animal waste) –also, can sell gas to the electric cooperative

Wind generation

Sierra Club Pressure is very strong!

Transmission issues

Questions Raised:

Why are you promoting wind power /turbines (public question)

Do we have to guide customers to energy efficiency or instead do larger projects, e.g., pig farmer who wants to put in methane production process?

Strategies Discussed:

- Perform energy audits for customers – will pay for energy efficient equipment customers have if it pays for itself --- by reduced electrical billing (HouseSmart); billing stays with meter –cost to company to perform audit =\$50.
- Perform energy audits and customers pay for audit (up to \$450 per audit).
- Website energy audit – customers can do online.
- Annual Meeting – gave members 3 pack of compact fluorescent light bulbs
- LED lights
- Iowa Legislation (possible) to take percentage of operating capital and send to state – the state would run the energy efficiency programs.

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- ☑ Water heater rebates for energy efficiency.
- ☑ Repackage marketing of energy efficiency programs.
- ☑ State legislatures / "Green Clubs" – reduce carbon – use energy efficiency and wind to support usage for customers (power needs)
- ☑ Coal fired plants under fire from the Sierra Club
- ☑ Wind Farms – those against say they impact tourism and land values negatively
- ☑ Some coops are forced to purchase wind power – and they have to pay more for wind – produced energy than coal-fired power plant production
- ☑ List-serve for coops is needed to share ideas on marketing, energy efficiency, educational literature, etc.
- ☑ Educate members/ customers on actual costs of energy efficiency, as well as energy costs. For example, it takes more power to run a plasma tv than a refrigerator, cell phone chargers still draw electricity when phone is not charging, etc.

Action Steps:

Create a list serve

Energy Efficiency Kits – A&M Conservation