

Portland Clean Energy Community Benefits Fund (PCEF) Grants Committee

November 11, 2021 MINUTES

Committee members present: Maria Sipin, Robin Wang, Ranfis Villatoro, Shanice Clark, Megan Horst, Michael Edden Hill, Jeffrey Moreland Jr.

Committee members excused: Amanda Squiemphen-Yazzie, Faith Graham.

PCEF staff: Sam Baraso, Jaimes Valdez, Cady Lister

Decisions made: Diversify Energy recommended for Equipment Purchasing Partner grant award.

Public comment:

David Burchfield – re: heat response equipment purchasing partner (EPP) memo. Expressed concern about the scoring results versus the staff recommendation to Committee.

Heat response program, equipment purchasing partner (EPP) proposal overview – by Jaimes Valdez and Sam Baraso

Staff provide overview of process, proposals received, scoring, and staff recommendation along with alternative recommendation.

Brief comments following staff presentation shared by

David Heslam – Executive Director of Earth Advantage, EPP applicant

- Noted that everyone was surprised by the heat event and appreciation for PCEF for responding
- Provided a review of their work history and role in the building energy use space
- Can provide support role in cost effective way

Linda Woodley – Executive Director of Diversifying Energy, EPP applicant

- We could have had an all-Black team. We have the ability and capability.
- The issue seems to be the pricing. There is an urgency to get the units out. Believe we can do it in three years.

Committee member discussion

- Robin - Questions about 3 year versus 5-year timelines.
- Ranfis - Expressed respect for the proposals and requested to take more time to get more detailed information.
- Megan - Feeling confused about getting two different recommendations. Feels like she doesn't have complete information to make decision. The scoring criteria and process is messy.
- Michael - Excited about both proposals. Spoke to community members after reading memo. This is our biggest request to date. Following guiding principles is a major concern. Community members also expressed concern.
- Robin - Acknowledges and appreciates Michael's comments. Goes back to the integrity of the process, if we deviate from the score now, it could impact integrity of scoring in future.
- Maria - Shares lots of the sentiments shared by others. The process is messy not the people. Not sure what additional information I could want that would help me to make this decision.
- Jeffrey - Appreciation to applicants. Agree with others about integrity and the optics of this. Scoring is not perfect, and we are a young committee, it is too early for our integrity to be questioned by deviating from scoring.

- Shanice – Adding this piece to our work to be responsive, talking about a few million dollars, illustrates a need to have more employee capacity dedicated to PCEF - in this context and just overall
- Ranfis - I won't be a barrier to where the Committee is leaning on this, but not comfortable voting. Concerns about integrity, willing to meet next week if that's needed. This is a messy process but that shouldn't stop us from asking questions about how they will perform. I don't feel like I am equipped to make a decision. It takes a lot for staff to say that there are major concerns here and that is why we are making this recommendation, despite the scoring.

Temperature checks:

- Comfortable making decision?
 - All said yes or deferred to the group.
- Which way are you leaning, staff proposal or alternative proposal?
 - All indicated alternative proposal.

Proposal and decision:

- Jeffrey made proposal to select Diversifying Energy, Robin seconded
- Ranfis abstained
- Passed with support from all other committee members present

8:00 pm - Meeting closed