

CENTRE REGION COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

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PUBLIC SERVICES & ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE SPECIAL MEETING

Ferguson Township Main Meeting Room
3147 Research Drive
Wednesday, May 29, 2014
9 - 11 AM

Note meeting location.

AGENDA

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Hameister will convene the meeting.

2. CITIZEN COMMENTS

Members of the public are invited to comment on any items not already on the agenda (five minutes per person time limit, please). Comments relating to specific items on the agenda should be deferred to that point in the meeting.

3. COMMUNITY SUBMISSION FOR \$5 MILLION ENERGY PRIZE

At its May 7, 2014 meeting, the Public Services & Environmental Committee determined it was necessary to have this special meeting devoted to discussing the details of the application for the Georgetown University Energy Prize (GUEP). *Enclosed* is a fact sheet providing more information about the GUEP. For additional details see: <http://www.guep.org/>

A Letter of Intent (LOI) from the Centre Region COG was submitted on March 28, 2014 to participate in the Georgetown University Energy Prize (GUEP). *Enclosed* is a map identifying the other communities that have submitted a LOI as of April 21, 2014.

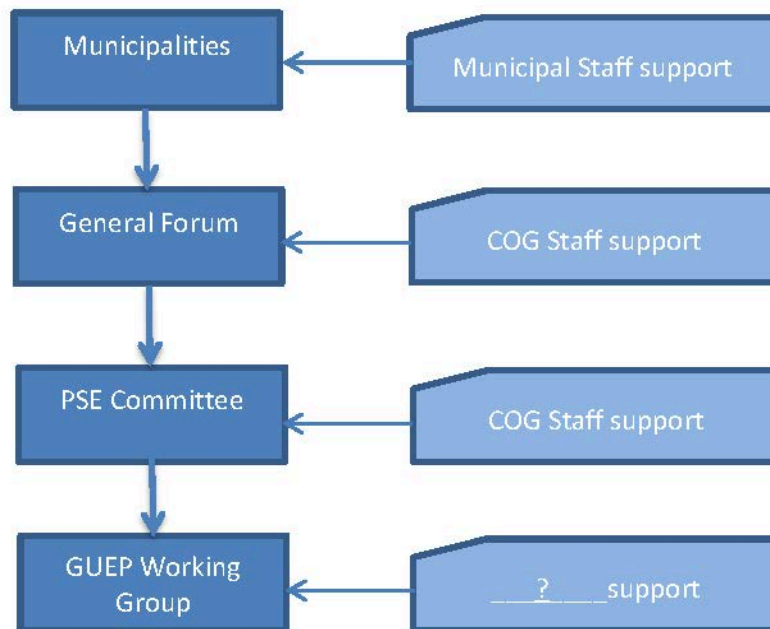
The next stage of the competition is to submit the *enclosed* application by June 30, 2014. After a review by the GUEP team, all credible applications from eligible communities will be accepted as Quarterfinalists and invited to compete in Stage 2 by submitting detailed energy-savings plans.

Two key items for submitting the application are defining who from the community will be involved in a GUEP working group and what the process will be for this working group to function effectively. The Committee should consider what organizations need to be represented in a working group and what level of commitment is needed to complete an energy-savings plan by November 2014. Developing relationships with relevant community

organizations, non-profits and commercial companies will ensure a more successful implementation of an energy-savings plan developed for our community. The application requires letters of commitment from municipal leaders, utility officials and other community organizations that will support the effort. COG Staff suggests the following organizations should be considered (this list is not conclusive):

- a) PSE Committee
- b) COG General Forum
- c) State College Borough and Townships of College, Ferguson, Halfmoon, Harris and Patton
- d) Penn State University
- e) CITY-GREEN
- f) Utilities
- g) State College Area School District
- h) Centre Regional Planning Agency

The second key item for Committee discussion is defining what the process will be for this working group. Based on previous meeting discussions, COG Staff suggests the Public Services & Environmental Committee provides oversight of the working group with a structure identified below:



Coordination of a working group involving many different organizations will require a significant amount of support considering that the energy-savings plan must be completed in 5 months. The Committee should discuss how this working group would be staffed.

COG Staff comments regarding this project are:

- It is a good idea for regional projects promoting energy conservation and environmental sustainability.
- The application depends on getting levels of commitment from the various groups by the end of June.
- Assuming that letters of commitment are provided, COG has the staff capacity to pull together an application.
- COG does not have the staff capacity to take a lead role in coordinating (preparing agendas, minutes, communications & reports) a working group, compiling information and preparing the energy-savings plan.

The Committee should decide how to proceed.

4. OTHER BUSINESS

The summer schedule of meetings for the PSE Committee is:

June 4, 2014 @ 8:30 am

July 9, 2014 @ 8:30 am

August 13, 2014 @ 8:30 am

5. ADJOURNMENT