

UNC Energy Challenge

Finance and Regulatory Working Group

Status Report on 2013/14 Initiatives and Plan for 2014/15

(This document is a work in progress and a starting point for further progress at the 2014 Annual Summit.)

J. Colby 7/25/14

Topic	Group Leader(s)	Goal Statement	Description	Current Status	Actions by 2015 Mid-year Meeting
Revolving Fund for ECM Projects	Phil Jones	Create a financial mechanism to fund smaller <\$500k energy conservation measures that will be selected based on criteria and merits. Provide a framework for management and guidelines for its use. Provide all program parameters in the form of a proposal to be presented to GA/BOG for approval and financing.	Development of a financial mechanism to allow the funding of campus ECM's that will pay back the first cost and allow funding to be re-deployed. Establish guidelines for program administration, selection of projects, evaluation and award, reporting, and repayment from savings. Suggest and evaluate means of capitalizing the revolving fund. Provide examples where this is in place and working in state government. Create a proposal document to be vetted to the administration and stakeholders.	Work planned at mid-year meeting included: Determine best source of funding for Revolving Fund (2) Develop Action Plan to gain buy-in at General Administration/BOG/Legislature for Revolving Fund (3) Develop Action Plan to provide funding and earmark/fence funds (4) Develop guidelines for submission, selection, evaluation, award, administration, tracking/measurement, and reporting ECMs (this can be done after funding is identified)	
Utility Savings Investment Projects (USIP) (Renamed from Expand Self managed EPC's)	Len Hoey, Mike O'Connor	Modify the EPC Statute(s) GS 143.64.17 and/or related financing Statute GS 142-60 through 70 to allow self performance of EPC's by an expanded number of qualified institutions.	Create a draft bill to be included on the GA Legislative Agenda for the 2014 short session. Identify a sponsor for the bill. Create talking points to support the bill. Develop supporters in the BOG that can lobby for the bill.	Work planned at mid-year meeting included: Analyze/coordinate the draft USIP legislation with the draft revolving fund legislation and the draft retention of energy savings legislation. Modify drafts and necessary to ensure all proposed legislation is mutually supportive.	
Strengthen HB 1292/Retention of Energy Savings (Combined two separate groups)	Zack Abegunrin	Modify the existing statute to ease the access to funds, remove unwarranted restrictions, stabilize the annual level of funding, and increase the amount of funding available for reinvestment in energy conservation measures. Codify 100% of savings be utilized for future ECMs (60%) and PP operational costs.	Examine the components of the current statute and draft modifications that can be included in a bill. Draft the bill and provide documentation and talking points. Submit for inclusion in the UNC legislative agenda. In conjunction with SEO and OSBM, develop the processes to manage the annual cycle.	Work planned at mid-year meeting included: Lay groundwork with CFO's to commit 100% of funds to energy projects. The group feels that this has been achieved. Modify language of bill to remove requirement for a budget surplus.	
Template for 3rd Party PPA's/Renewables	John Pierce	Create and vet (investors, campuses, vendors), and market, a template agreement, including leases, that could be utilized by campuses, with minimal modifications, to promote renewable projects by third parties.	Complete the work that has been started and finalize the agreement template through negotiations with the AG's office and GA. Look for opportunities for solar PV template documents. Finalize property lease documents with State Property. Roll out the template. Provide training to campus personnel. Develop a method of reporting on progress and successes.	Work planned at mid-year meeting included: Analyze economic climate for small, medium and large scale solar PV PPA's on campus and off-campus to address renewable energy goals. Examine potential barriers to campus community investments in crowd-funded campaigns. Assess and describe tax credit opportunities and other incentives that could enable utility-scale PV developments to serve multiple institutions.	