

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

From: Beth Gehred <beth.gehred@gmail.com>

I'm working with the Glacial Heritage Solar Group Buy. This is a partnership between the Midwest Renewable Energy Association (MREA), Heart of the City, and Sustain Jefferson and has been so far endorsed by the city councils of Waterloo and Fort Atkinson. We are working on getting resolutions passed by other communities, and Frankie Fuller and I have approached Jim Schroeder/Ben Wehmeier about the County supporting a resolution, which is what makes most sense in many ways. Jim said we should find a different board supervisor as he as Chair cannot or will not do it. So we are turning to our friends in sustainability to see if you will help us shepherd this through the process.

Background:

A group buy uses the power of the volume discount to bring the best possible price for turnkey solar on PV installations to individuals and small commercial projects. Because there is an advisory board of solar-engaged people leading the effort, the power of education is at work, increasing buyers' confidence that the company they are working with is reputable and the components are vetted. Finally, a group buy capitalizes on solar's contagious qualities and modeling to make the case for why go solar and why now.

We are springing off of a successful template that has worked in 14 other Midwestern communities for how to organize the effort successfully. See this website for the kind of impact this can have to spur installations and stop the leaking of resource from our County to pay for electricity generation.

We respectfully ask that the Jefferson County Board pass a resolution in support of Glacial Heritage Solar's efforts here at an upcoming Board meeting. We are willing to work with Corp Counsel or a committee to revise this Resolution (attached) that passed in Fort.

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Resolution in Support of Glacial Heritage Solar's Group Buy
March, 2018

BACKGROUND

Midwest Renewable Energy Association, in partnership with Heart of the City and Sustain Jefferson, all 501(c)3 nonprofit, grassroots organizations, are organizing a Solar Group Buy called Glacial Heritage Solar in and around Jefferson County between January and August of 2018. A Solar Group Buy program entails enabling interested residential and commercial consumers in a designated geographic area to access volume discounts through choosing to purchase solar electric systems during the designated period of time.

The discount is generated through a competitive selection of a solar installer. The greater the number of property owners that choose to install solar electric systems, the lower the price of all solar electric systems through the program.

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the voluntary use of solar electricity by private citizens diversifies the electric supply for our [City, County], and

WHEREAS the voluntary use of solar electricity provides stability to the electric grid during peak power needs {e.g. Summer}, and

WHEREAS over time the use of solar electricity saves participating residents money on their electric bills, retaining that money within the County for further circulation, and

WHEREAS solar electricity generation requires no fossil fuels, and reduces pollutants, and

WHEREAS The [City, County] recognizes the promotional benefits of being a green-powered community,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City/County of [CITY,COUNTY] will support and endorse the Glacial Heritage Solar Group Buy organized by Midwest Renewable Energy Association in partnership with Heart of the City and Sustain Jefferson that will take place between January, 2018 and August, 2018 in the following ways:

1. Assigning a City of [CITY] representative, as able, to the Solar Group Buy Advisory Committee whose prime responsibility is to review RFP requirements for solar installer, review and select solar installer and be available to advise on Group Buy performance
2. Allowing the use of City of [CITY] logo on promotional materials
3. Promoting the project details through email, website, flyers, social media, public access TV and other means as able and appropriate,
4. Streamlining the solar installation permitting process for Group Buy participants
5. Allowing educational sessions (Power Hours) to be held at public facilities