

Environmental Focus Group
Platte-Clay Electric Cooperative
August 2, 2017
6:30 p.m.

Present:

Platte-Clay Members: Terry Banks, Alberto Briseno, Lee Brown, Muriel Daniels, Catherine Dunn, J. Brent Gerling, Richard Hartnett, Jerry Hearne, John Huddart, Bryan Ivlow, Sarah McKinley, Steven Robinson, Jeff Saxton, Bill Shelley, James Shrimpton, Tom Smith, Duke Snider, Marie Steiner, Leona Vest, and Steve Williams.

Platte-Clay Employees: Dave Deihl, Cheryl Barnes, Jennifer Grossl, and Rebecca Pendleton-Meek

Associated Electric Cooperative Employees: Joe Wilkinson and Dave Ramsey

1. Jennifer Grossl welcomed the Focus Group and introduced Joe Wilkinson and Dave Ramsey from Associated Electric Cooperative. Associated Electric Cooperative is Platte Clay Electric's power supplier in the three tiered system. They presented:
 - A. The history of the three tiered system
 - B. Information about AECl today
 - C. Their environmental stewardship
 - D. An overview of their membership
 - E. The importance of diversification
 - F. Energy efficiency
 - G. Solar/Distributed generation
2. The history of the three tiered system
 - A. 1930s – Distribution cooperatives were formed
 - B. 1938 – Platte Clay Electric Cooperative was formed
 - C. 1940s – G&Ts were formed
 - D. 1961 – AECl was formed
 1. Was built to serve
 2. Used Hydro contracts on dams ran by the Federal Government
 3. Thomas Hill power plant came online in 1966 and they immediately began building a second power plant
 - E. 1972 – New Madrid power plant came online
 - F. AECl operated a coal plant in Moberly, MO for 15 years
 1. Plant shut down in the 90s
 2. Began purchasing coal from Wyoming
 - a. Cleaner coal
 - b. Decreased rates

3. AECI today
 - A. Supplies clean, affordable, reliable electricity for
 1. 6 G&Ts who serve
 2. 51 distribution cooperatives (such as Platte Clay Electric) who serve
 3. 875,000 consumers
 - B. Mission: Provide an economical, reliable power supply and support services to its members
 - C. AECI supplies electricity in three states (Missouri, Iowa, and Oklahoma)
 - D. Diverse resources provide reliable power
 1. Coal – 2 coal plants - 63% in 2016
 2. Gas – 6 natural gas plants - 16% in 2016
 3. Wind – 6 contracted wind farms - 14% in 2016
 4. Hyrdo – 7% in 2016
 - E. Natural gas prices have a large impact
 1. 2016 we used 16% natural gas vs 3% for far in 2017 due due to the fact that the price of natural gas has increased
 - G. No need for additional capacity until 2035
4. AECI Members
 - A. Age and income demographics were discussed
 - B. 44% are employed, while an additional 40% are retired
 - C. Platte Clay Electric's American Consumer Satisfaction Index score was 86; AECI overall average was 83
 - D. 66% of AECIs membership is not willing to pay more for the President's Clean Power Plan
5. Environmental Stewardship
 - A. AECI has invested \$1.1 billion to reduce emissions and improve air quality
 1. Reduced SO² emissions 90%
 2. Reduced NO_x emissions up to 90%
 3. Reduced mercury emissions up to 90%, years ahead of regulations
 - B. Thomas Hill Power Plant
 1. Clean water is a vital, critical resource for power plants
 - a. AECI is committed to ensuring quality through their water purification facility
 2. Mine reclamation
 - a. Thomas Hill includes more than 19,000 acres of unmined and once-mined land now restored to productive pasture, forests and wetlands.
 3. Beneficial use of coal ash
 - a. Used for construction of things like roads and shingles
 4. Peregrine Falcon restoration program

5. Protecting endangered species
 - a. Such as Indiana Bats and the Monarch Butterflies
6. Diversification
 1. Diversification in our energy mix helps to keep cost low
 2. Production of renewables does not match peak capacity requirements
7. Take Control and Save \$54.4 million spent in rebates – 1.53 billion kWh saved over lifetime of Take Control and Save
 1. Residential Rebates
 - a. AECI offers rebates to help members be more efficient
 1. Home energy audits – 50% match up to \$150
 2. Home weatherization incentives – 50% match up to \$500
 3. Room air conditioner rebates - \$50 – Limit 1 per meter
 4. Electric water heater (DOE) rebates - \$50 – Limit 2 per meter
 5. Geothermal heat pump rebates – Energy Star + 2 (19.1 EER; sized to heating load or house)
 6. Dual Fuel/Mini Split heat pump rebates – Energy Star +2 (16.5 SEER)
 2. Commercial/Business Rebates
 - a. Commercial energy audits
 - b. Business lighting rebates
 3. Community action agencies/Series 500 low income Wx Program
 - a. AECI provides 50% reimbursement (max \$500) for post energy audit weatherization measures for low-income co-op members

The next Focus Group meeting is set for Wednesday, September 27, 2017.

Terry Banks motioned to approve the minutes from the June 27, 2017 meeting and Marie Steiner seconded the motion.

The meeting concluded at 8:21 p.m.