



Regional Energy Working Group

Working Group Charter

Purpose

The Regional Energy Working Group (EWG) provides input to the Regional Planning Committee (RPC) and the SANDAG Board of Directors on issues related to the coordination and implementation of the Regional Energy Strategy (RES), including measures to reduce energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions related to electricity, natural gas, and transportation fuels. The EWG serves as a forum to discuss regional energy issues in order to build consensus among diverse stakeholders.

Background

The EWG was formed based on the recommendations of the Energy Task Force, which had been established to advise the Board of Directors on the best way to implement the RES. The Energy Task Force recommended SANDAG as the most appropriate agency to implement the RES and recommended that an Energy Working Group, comprised of a diverse group of stakeholders, be formed to provide input and comments to the RPC and Board of Directors on energy issues.

Line of Reporting

The EWG reports to the RPC, which in turn reports to the SANDAG Board of Directors. The RPC approves changes to the EWG Charter.

Responsibilities

The EWG provides input and comments to the RPC related to the development and implementation of the RES and regional energy planning as prioritized by the Board of Directors in the Overall Work Program (OWP). The EWG may be asked to provide input on a variety of energy issues to the RPC and the Board of Directors.

The EWG will ensure that regional energy planning activities align with the objectives of San Diego Forward: The Regional Plan (which merges the Regional Comprehensive Plan, Regional Transportation Plan, and Sustainable Communities Strategy), and the Regional Economic Prosperity Strategy (REPS).

The EWG will bring stakeholders together to develop ideas on state and federal energy matters and bring them forward through the RPC and the Board. The EWG also will work with various stakeholders at the local level to discuss the best ways to provide energy-saving programs and services as they relate to the implementation of the Regional Energy Strategy, and then provide feedback to the RPC.

Membership

The EWG will have a maximum of 20 voting members. Membership is voluntary and will include a diverse group of regional stakeholders. Members are selected by the bodies they represent and serve at the discretion of the RPC. Members are allowed to have alternates which, like members, are selected by the bodies they represent.

Elected officials serving on the EWG are appointed by the six subregions they represent: North County Coastal, North County Inland, East County, South Bay, the City of San Diego, and the County of San Diego. In the event that an elected official cannot serve, a subregion may appoint a non-elected government employee to serve as either a primary or alternate member.

Meeting Time and Location

The EWG generally meets from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. on the fourth Thursday of the month. Meetings are normally held in the 7th Floor Conference Room at SANDAG offices.

Selection of the Chair

The EWG chair is selected by the RPC and should be rotated on a periodic basis unless otherwise determined by the Chair of the Board of Directors. The vice-chair is elected by the members of the EWG.

Duration of Existence

EWG status is that of a standing working group. An evaluation of the group's work will be conducted annually as part of the SANDAG Executive Committee's annual committee/ working group review process.