



At 11:00am on Thursday October 22, 2009, Secretary John Swope brought the general meeting of the NCAEP to order. John Swope introduced Ivan Urlaub, from The North Carolina Sustainable Energy Association (NCSEA), as the keynote speaker for the general meeting.

Ivan Urlaub began with some background of the NCSEA by announcing the mission statement as, "Founded in 1978, NCSEA works to ensure a sustainable future by promoting renewable energy and energy efficiency in North Carolina through education, public policy and economic development."

Mr. Urlaub reported that the NCSEA presently has two offices, the headquarters in Raleigh and another in Charlotte. They currently have over 800 individuals and businesses that make up their membership.

Ivan Urlaub described how they handle the energy challenges that affect North Carolinians today. First, NCSEA identifies the problem or challenge from their membership, then the policy team will analyze the problem, after identified they work with the government to find a solution, this in turn drives the green economy, and finally, the government programs can begin to adapt.

Mr. Urlaub and his team at the NCSEA had researched the green industry in North Carolina, through voluntary questionnaires. His research demonstrated that between 1990 and 2005 there were less than 1,000 green jobs in North Carolina. From 2005 to 2009 there were less than 6,400; a sizable jump in green jobs! And his estimates show that between 2010 to 2012 North Carolina will graduate to 10,000+ green jobs. The green industry is a major industry and will continue to grow. As their research shows job growth and a healthy green industry, Mr. Urlaub reminded the NCAEP that with the projected growth come more investment dollars that will benefit North Carolina and help recover jobs.

To bring us up to date Ivan Urlaub reported that right now ordinances are being enacted to facilitate large wind farms in North Carolina. He also gave an example of how a local Greensboro, North Carolina company is trying to commercialize next generation solar

technology. Looking to hog waste as energy, capital becomes a problem. There are several companies that are trying to address the issues but their projects are expensive. Even the biomass field, two years ago a large investment would have been around \$2 million. Today, the investment exceeds the billion dollar mark. Mr. Urlaub then asked support from the biomass industry. He mentioned that the biomass industry does not have even a good representation of research for the NCSEA and asked support from our group to help become a participant. Doug Duncan with the North Carolina Professional Loggers Association was the first to volunteer to fill the void with the NCSEA.

Mr. Urlaub was asked about policy initiatives for the upcoming year. He responded by saying that next year the Legislation has a short session but, there are some issues being decided. The two most important that Ivan mentioned are a Senate Bill 567 and a wind power and smart grid bill. He added that the laws and the Legislature will have to become more specific as our green industry grows.

Ivan Urlaub closed his presentation by thanking the NCAEP for their time and then gave the web address for the North Carolina Sustainable Energy Association. It is as follows  
<http://www.ncsustainableenergy.org>.

John Swope thanked Ivan Urlaub for his presentation and then introduced Carl Strickler to the general meeting and asked him to give a Fibrowatt update for the NCAEP.

Mr. Strickler was introduced and began to update the board on the current situation with the Public Utilities Commission (PUC), the Utilities (Duke & Progress Energy), and Fibrowatt. As Mr. Strickler reminded everyone that the utilities motion to delay and decrease the amount of electricity they have to purchase has prompted the PUC to call an evidentiary hearing on December 8<sup>th</sup>. Every indication is that the PUC simply wants clarification due to the contrary filings and testimony they have recently heard from SB3 supporters and the utilities. Carl went through the dates for the upcoming hearing so that the NCAEP as well as Sampson, Surry, and Montgomery Counties can prepare to file a request to intervene as soon as possible. Then, the next deadline is November 23, 2009, to file the testimony but, everyone who plans to participate should immediately file a request to intervene. Mr. Strickler suggested that the Fibrowatt lawyers will send a template to each county to aid them in their filings. The utilities will file direct testimony by the end on the month. Mr. Strickler went on to explain that there is something key to remember; everyone will be under oath. Testimony needs to be specific. Carl Strickler, Kasia Wieronski, or Paul Kelso will send each county an example of testimony that has been given in a similar situation of a different corporation. Carl also, gave us some other

North Carolina Agricultural Energy Partnership  
October 22, 2009  
General Committee NCAEP Minutes  
Greensboro, North Carolina

organizations that are or have already filed to intervene: the Poultry Federation, NCSEA, Orbit Renewable Energy, Farm Bureau Insurance, as well as BREDL. Rebuttal testimony will be

available. Then by January 8<sup>th</sup> all other transcripts will be filed and we should know something soon thereafter.

Kasia Wieronski was introduced to remind and update the group of the different of the levels of donating to the NCAEP. Then Ms. Wieronski reported that our internet web site now has PayPal to handle the transactions over the web. She mentioned that it will be an easier way to donate and it is safe and secure.

John Swope thanked everyone for attending and adjourned the meeting for lunch.