

**JOHN A. KOWALKO**  
STATE REPRESENTATIVE  
Twenty - Fifth District



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
STATE OF DELAWARE  
LEGISLATIVE HALL  
DOVER, DELAWARE 19901

COMMITTEES  
Policy Analysis & Government  
Accountability, Chair  
Energy, Chair  
Joint Sunset,  
Vice Chair  
Education  
Health & Human Development  
Manufactured Housing  
Natural Resources

**Energy Committee**  
Meeting Minutes  
June 23, 2010

Chairman Kowalko called the meeting to order at 12:09 p.m. Members present included Representatives Barbieri, Briggs-King, Carson, Kovach, B. Short, Thornburg, and Outten. Rep. D. E. Williams was also present.

Chairman Kowalko first addressed **SB 266, AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 29 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO THE GREEN ENERGY FUND**. Chairman Kowalko explained that the bill gives greater discretion to the Secretary of Natural Resources and Environmental Control (DNREC) to allocate the funds in the Green Energy Fund. David Small of DNREC stated that this bill would allow the Secretary to effectively and creatively allocate funds. He stated that the fund suffers from an \$8 million backlog, which included projects that have been completed and are in-progress.

Rep. B. Short stated that he was an outspoken supporter of the Green Energy Fund; however he has become concerned about the slow turnaround of repayments. He asked what the time frame is for completion of a project. Scott Lynch of the DNREC Energy Office stated that from start to finish a residential application could take more than two years, and possibly four or more. Rep. B. Short asked if the department saw a drop in applications due to funding constraints. Mr. Lynch stated that drops were seen only when the subsidy amount dropped from 50% to 25%.

Mr. Scott explained that this bill is not a solution to the funding issues associated with the Green Energy Fund, but only a temporary but needed patch. He also explained that the fund is subject to the statutes that govern it, and this type of discretion is needed to operate the fund more smoothly.

Rep. Thornburg motioned to release the bill from committee; Rep. Barbieri seconded the motion. The bill was released from committee on a 3-8-0 vote.

Chairman Kowalko then addressed **SB 267, AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 26 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO NET ENERGY METERING**, and recognized Rep. D. E. Williams, the bill's sponsor. This bill strengthens net energy metering provisions by providing customers the opportunity to aggregate individual meters for the purpose of allocating net metering credits to electricity accounts other than the account that hosts an energy generating facility.

Rep. Thornburg motioned to release the bill from committee, Rep. Barbieri seconded the motion. The bill was released from committee on a 3-8-0 vote.

Finally, Chairman Kowalko addressed **SS 1 for SB 119, AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 26 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO THE RENEWABLE ENERGY PORTFOLIO STANDARDS**. Rep. D.E. Williams explained that the bill strengthens Delaware's Renewable Energy Portfolio Standards. It increases and extends the required minimum percentage of renewable energy supply. Rep. D. E. Williams also explained that the bill increases the minimum percentage of renewable resources to be from solar energy. He also explained that the bill includes consumer protections by limiting rate impacts.

The committee and the public were pleased that the proposed changes would increase green jobs in the state of Delaware.

Chairman Kowalko adjourned the meeting at 12:21 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Katie Anderson