

National Energy Policy

The National Energy Policy Committee (NEPC) was established by the Cayman Islands Government to draft a National Energy Policy for the Cayman Islands. The Ministry of District Administration, Land, Works and Agriculture (DAWL&A) is responsible for overseeing this endeavor while the Electricity Regulatory Authority (ERA) has taken a strategic leadership role with the NEPC and the Electricity, Renewable Energy, Water and Wastewater (EREWW) Subcommittee.

In October 2010, the Chairman of the NEPC, the Hon. Cline Glidden, received a consensus from NEPC Members for a draft "Terms of Reference". The "Terms of Reference" were approved by Cabinet on November 19, 2010, and outlined a vision and goals for the National Energy Policy.

The vision for the National Energy Policy is defined as follows:

The vision of the Cayman Islands' energy sector to 2032 is to be an efficient, diversified energy sector, supported by informed public behaviour within the Cayman Islands, which provides secure, reliable and affordable energy in an environmentally sustainable manner.

The goals of the National Energy Policy are as follows:

- Goal #1 To ensure the security, reliability and affordability of energy supplies*
- Goal #2 To reduce the carbon footprint of the Cayman Islands in line with agreed national targets*
- Goal #3 To diversify energy supplies including the development of renewable resources*
- Goal #4 To develop comprehensive regulatory frameworks which support the vision and goals of the National Energy Policy*
- Goal #5 To encourage and promote energy conservation and efficiency throughout the public and private sectors*

The NEPC is responsible for investigating National Energy Policy development related to electricity consumption and production, renewable energy, water consumption and production, wastewater, gasoline and propane, residential and commercial construction, land use, public education and the environment.

A final document outlining a comprehensive approach to energy policy development is to be submitted by the NEPC to Cabinet in the first quarter of 2012. To ensure the submission deadline to Cabinet is met, and to efficiently and thoroughly investigate the areas of policy development outlined in the "Terms of Reference", the NEPC created the following four separate subcommittees:

- Construction, Building and Land Use (CB&LU)
- Electricity, Renewable Energy, Water and Wastewater (EREWW)
- Public Education (PE)
- Petroleum Products and Transportation (PP&T)

The Ministry appointed experts from the public and private sectors in the Cayman Islands to form each subcommittee. Each subcommittee was asked to identify sustainable policies within its area of responsibility and produce a report highlighting each policy recommendation to the NEPC. Subcommittee final reports were submitted to the NEPC on November 30, 2011.

Currently, Subcommittee final reports are being reviewed and evaluated by NEPC Members. In January 2012, an outside consultant will begin assisting the NEPC by conducting a peer review of subcommittee reports as well as high level macro and micro economic analyses of implications from each proposed policy. All policies that have the potential to meet the vision and goals of the National Energy Policy will be consolidated into the final report for Cabinet.

The Electricity Regulatory Authority (ERA) took strategic leadership of the Electricity, Renewable Energy, Water and Wastewater (EREWW) Subcommittee. The EREWW Subcommittee was responsible for investigating the following:

- Identifying more energy efficient technologies at point of usage
- Identifying alternative power generation options from renewable resources
- Identifying more efficient potable water technologies and practices
- Identifying more efficient wastewater treatment technologies and practices
- Analyzing existing power generation technology
- Promoting energy conservation
- Developing benchmarks and performance indicators for evaluating performance

Any public inquiries pertaining to the National Energy Policy should be made by email to the following email address: NEP@caymanera.ky