

# Energy and Air Quality Advisory Committee

## Annual Meeting

February 2, 2010

### I. Past Accomplishments

- Vehicle engine idle reduction: survey of county department policies and implementation; outreach and education; and enforcement.
- Off-road diesel: including emissions control technologies as part of any County construction project.
- HELP program and indoor air quality: recommended maximum "tightness", as well as a minimum, to avoid toxics exceeding safe levels. EAQAC suggested extending the time for this program to be established, in order to improve it.
- Reviewing legislative proposals and concepts such as the dark skies proposal
- Encouraging increased interest and awareness from students through the science fair.

### II. Future Priority Areas

- Education and outreach component for SWG recommendations: pathway to implementation at
- Environmental Justice: ensure that all County residence have access to, and information about, energy efficiency programs so they are empowered to have a positive impact on energy (usage/spend/sources) and air quality in their communities.
- Continue to support many of the efforts proposed in the Energy Efficiency & Conservation Block Grants after the funding is over, including developing clever ways to provide home owners and businesses financial support when needed (innovative financing for one), and perhaps exploring disclosure requirements related to EE during transactions, such as a home purchase.
- Request more effective and user-friendly administration (by the Department of Finance) of the Montgomery County "energy conservation" component of the "renewable energy credit" program.
- Providing ongoing support for the sustainability initiative through technical reviews and independent advice
- Supporting longer term but critical clean energy elements to the County's development process such as the BRT proposal.

### III. Process

- Effective communication: As opposed to writing letters to CE and Council members, EAQAC will request more direct face-to-face engagement with key Department Heads, the CE, and County Council to the voice the committees issues and recommendations”

### III. CE recommendations for EAQAC