

RECOMMENDATIONS from “NO.4 REPORT” dated 12-08-16

Our continued Arkansan civic duty to serve as an asset for the 91st General Assembly, to help navigate the renewable portfolios, resources, technologies, emerging trends and research economic energy efficient alternative fuel sources. Arkansas Alternative Energy Commission would like to thank all those that donated their time, money and efforts to continuing to help inform our state of these ever-changing innovative alternatives. The AAEC has strived to making Arkansas a regional leader in alternative fuels and a Renewable Energy State leader. Since 2009, the ACEEE score for Arkansas was 48; today our 2016 score is 27. We feel a great sense of pride to know we have helped play an informative commitment to extend our energy efficiency goals in accomplishing this landmark growth performance. All recommendations from the last 7 years have been included to reflect the importance of our efforts. Refer to Study Presentations/Summaries for full accounts of presentations. The following are AAEC recommendation findings:

The Commission wishes to again recommend bringing our Hydroelectric Power systems into the 21st century as one of the best opportunities to increase infrastructure, economic growth, job creation and our supply of Clean & Renewable Energy for generations to come. Arkansas has the 3rd Largest waterway system in America, has generated clean, affordable electricity for more than 100 years, but has yet to be tapped for its full potential. (See AAEC Study Summaries on 05.23.13, 08.09.13, 03.20.14, 06.19.14 and 12.10.2015)

The Commission recommends compliance with the EPA Clean Power Plan timeline requirement of September 6, 2016 initial state plan submission. With the final state plan by September 6, 2018. The AAEC would like to be an asset in the stakeholder process. (See AAEC Study Summaries on 03.27.09, 04.14.11, 06.16.16)

The Commission recommends the support & suggest a Survey of the Speaker of the House, Senate Pro tempore, Governor, Attorney General, Mayoral and County associations, as well as the public to gain input on creating community driven renewable energy plans. A focus on strategic planning to determine the impediments to alternative energy, polices that may be in the way of innovation and what proposed legislation or changes are needed to remove those impediments. Making sure policy does what it needs to do, not slow it down. A focus on attention to transportation components, such as reinvigorating the gaseous fuels program and focusing on removing the impediments to electric vehicles, and any assistance necessary to make energy efficiency more affordable by liberating money in the economy that could be used for other purposes or tax cuts. Ultimately bridging the gap by connection of commissions, committees, agencies and policies to create our State Plan submission for the CPP.

The Commission recommends the AAEC be considered for appropriations for

website maintenance, mileage for Commissioner expenses, specialized speaker's presentations, and Alternative Energy conference attendance.

The Commission recommends the AAEC continue to be an asset to the Administration and General Assembly for future years to come with the amendment of the Sunset Clause. We ask that the 91st General Assembly reconsider the expiration date of September 30, 2017. (See AAEC Study Summaries on 06.16.16)

The Commission recommends Solar as an Arkansas Clean Energy Economy resource. Arkansas is an ideal state to investigate policies and incentives for solar generation that has the potential to be 50% more energy than other states making Arkansas within the top 10 solar energy producers. Job creation and empowerment of private sector would keep overhead low for utility companies with negotiated rate in net metering implementation (See AAEC Study Summaries on 11.19.15, 07.28.16, 08.25.16)

The Commission does not recommend the conversion of the Arkansas state fleet of 9,000+ vehicles to CNG because they do not have a centralized fleet maintenance system, only 6 CNG fueling stations across Arkansas at this time and no benefit for mass conversions at this time nor supporting evidence. The Commission does recommend better efficiency in the state fleet might be achieved by setting reimbursement rates for vehicle maintenance and through more reporting. (See AAEC Study Summaries on 08.16.12, 02.18.16, 07.28.16)

The Commission recommends educational awareness of recycling programs available in every Arkansas county's and communities.

The Commission recommends exploring more on the following issues

- **Distributed Generation**
- **Possibility of new transportation innovations such as electric cars and rail for public transportation**
- **Look at other states' alternative energy plan and what their future holds**
- **Look into when CNG vehicles can be ordered from USA manufacturers**
- **AAEC needs of expert economist for research on realistic definitive outcomes for feasibility studies and implementations.**
- **Comparison of Solar and Wind location specific implementation**
- **Nuclear Energy and its future for Arkansas**
- **Carbon Footprint Reductions**
- **Biomass**
- **CNG Conversion update**
- **Combined Heat & Power**

