

September 13, 2013

TO: Members of the MAG Executive Committee

FROM: Mayor Scott Smith, City of Mesa, Chair

SUBJECT: ADDENDUM #2 TO THE SEPTEMBER 16, 2013, MAG EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
AGENDA

An additional addendum to the September 16, 2013, MAG Executive Committee agenda has been prepared to provide an agenda item for the U.S. Department of Energy's Rooftop Solar Challenge II Grant. Please contact the MAG office if you have questions about the addendum to the agenda.

ITEMS PROPOSED TO BE HEARD
BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

5. Approval to Amend the FY 2014 MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget to Participate in the U.S. Department of Energy's Rooftop Solar Challenge II Grant

The National Association of Regional Councils (NARC) is partnering with the Central New York RPDB, Delaware Valley RPC, Metropolitan Washington COG (DC), North Central Texas COG, Northwestern Indiana RPC; Ohio Kentucky Indiana RCOG; Southwest Florida RPC; and Tampa Bay RPC for the U. S. Department of Energy's Rooftop Solar Challenge II Grant. NARC has asked MAG if they would also like to be a partner. Funding for MAG for 18 months should be \$75,000 with a required \$27,500 match. There may be an option for a longer project with an extension. This strategy will rapidly deploy the proven engagement techniques of Solar Ready KC by facilitating national scale implementation of tested best management practices, training curricula and adoption strategies. This will achieve widespread process standardization and have positive impact in the continual reduction of market barriers and soft costs across the county. Areas of the country with a population of ten million and where solar markets are yet to be developed will benefit from project activities.

5. Information, discussion and approval to amend the FY 2014 MAG Unified Planning Work Program and Annual Budget to provide for an additional \$75,000 from the U. S. Department of Energy and \$27,500 in matching funds to participate in the U.S. Department of Energy's Rooftop Solar Challenge II Grant.

September 13, 2013

TO: Members of the MAG Executive Committee

FROM: Mayor Scott Smith, City of Mesa, Chair

SUBJECT: APPROVAL TO AMEND THE FY 2014 MAG UNIFIED PLANNING WORK PROGRAM AND ANNUAL BUDGET TO PARTICIPATE IN THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY'S ROOFTOP SOLAR CHALLENGE II GRANT

On September 12, 2013, MAG was contacted by the National Association of Regional Councils (NARC) regarding MAG's possible participation in a U.S. Department of Energy's Rooftop Solar Challenge II Grant. This grant is being implemented by the Mid-America Regional Council (MARC) and NARC with several regional councils of governments. MAG staff is inquiring with the Arizona Energy Office regarding its interest in this project. It is MAG's understanding the Arizona Energy Office was not successful in receiving a Challenge II Grant. To participate in this project would require \$27,500 of match and MAG would receive approximately \$75,000 for 18 months. There may be an option for a longer project with an extension.

The other agencies involved in the project are the Central New York Regional Planning and Development Board; Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission; Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (DC); North Central Texas Council of Governments; Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission; Ohio Kentucky Indiana Regional Council of Governments; Southwest Florida Regional Planning Commission; and Tampa Bay Regional Planning Commission.

The grant is currently in negotiations and awaiting to be awarded. Through this grant, MARC, NARC and nine regional councils will expand the proven collaborative approach of the 2012 Solar Ready KC Initiative to a national scale, using established relationships among regional planning councils and their member governments. This strategy will rapidly deploy the proven engagement techniques of Solar Ready KC by facilitating national scale implementation of tested best management practices, training curricula and adoption strategies. This will achieve widespread process standardization and have positive impact in the continual reduction of market barriers and soft costs across the county. Areas of the country with a population of ten million and where solar markets are yet to be developed will benefit from project activities.

The expected outcomes of this project include:

- Demonstration of the efficacy of regional planning councils to effect positive change.
- Identification of key criteria underlying widespread process standardization associated with proactive local government policy advancements.
- Facilitation of national discussions among key state government representatives on topics of net metering and interconnection standards.
- Determination of the public's willingness to consider solar technology, views on market barriers and other consumer research obtained through ongoing online citizen engagement.

In order to reach this goal, regional councils will be required to establish a stakeholder working group; offer training programs or discussion forums to the region's working group and stakeholders to provide information about solar best management practices, dissemination and implementation; and secure commitment from 10-30 local governments to adopt solar friendly best management practices.

If you have any questions regarding this amendment, please contact me at the MAG office at (602) 254-6300.