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February 7, 2008

**REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE
ON ENVIRONMENT AND ENERGY**

The Committee on Environment and Energy met on February 7, 2008, with Chairman Robert Trane, presiding and Committee Member Alderman Rebekah Gewirtz also present and voting. Also present were Aldermen Thomas Taylor and William White, Environmental Programs Coordinator Peter Mills and Andrea Ranger and Vanessa Rule from the Somerville Climate Action Commission, (SCAC).

Mr. Mills updated the committee on the Honeywell Energy Project and reported on the status of the following items, noting that all work should be completed by late summer, 2008:

Item	% Complete
Building controls	0
Boiler controls	10
Combined heat and power	20
HVAC	30
Lighting	35
Desktop computer controls	95
Boiler replacements	100
Solar hot water (Kenedy School)	100
Steam traps	100
Transformers	100
Water conservation	100
Weather Stripping	100

Mr. Mills also told the members that the city is applying for grants to clean up various brownfields in the city, e.g., the Cambridge Health Alliance's lot on Central Street. He also said that another project being undertaken involves reducing the idling time of city owned motor vehicles.

Ms. Ranger and Ms. Rule told the members that the SCAC would be meeting with the business community in an effort to have businesses reduce their carbon emissions. The SCAC is also working with residents to reduce household energy costs, noting that the most energy efficient method is insulation, and would like to get property owners to consider solar energy for buildings. The SCAC asked if the city could explore providing loans to home owners to insulate their homes.

The city is making a one-time donation of \$20,000 to the New England Wind Fund and is participating in its Community Solar Challenge, whereby the city would earn a 2 kilowatt solar system when 150 households make qualifying contributions to the New England Wind Fund.

Alderman Gewirtz suggested that the city inform the public of the progress made with these green projects and she asked the members of the SCAC to submit, to the committee and to the Mayor, a list of 3 issues to be worked on, along with their 3 top energy efficient recommendation, so that the Board of Aldermen might advocate on their behalf.

The committee discussed matters before it and took action on the following item:

183641: Communication from Mayor - Requesting approval of a 20-year Energy Performance Contract with Honeywell.

RECOMMENDATION: Should be placed on file

VOTE: Unanimous, 2 - 0 in favor

Alderman Robert Trane, Chairman
Committee on Environment and Energy

COMMITTEE REPORT

Report of the Committee on Environment
and Energy, February 7, 2008

In Board of Aldermen

Clerk