Friday, May 13, 2022

Geothermal Energy Workgroup
Meeting #1

Minutes

In Attendance: Josh VanDyke, William Pino, Greg Davis, Diana Gutierrez, Joanna Freeman, Sean Straser, Josh Kurtz, Abigail Antonini, David Comis, Adam Santry, Cherie Brooks

Absent: Ryan Opsal

10:00am – Introductions

10:05am- Review of HB 1007 requirements
(https://legiscan.com/MD/text/HB1007/id/2400956)

10:15am- Introduction to the Geothermal Energy Study by Straughan Environmental (Diana Gutierrez)

Review of Geothermal Energy Tasks, in partnership with ICF and BithEnergy
   - Run through of all 15 tasks
   - Task 1: 25% complete, ICF beginning work on their tasks (2, 4-8, 10-15), Bith working on Task 3
   - Timeline (5 Months for study- September 2022 for final report)

Review of geothermal heat pumps in Maryland
   - Well permits per county with assumption all wells are still in use
   - 8 counties have been identified through county health department data
      o Plan to have all 23 maps (Baltimore City and all MD counties)
      o Not finding any wells in Cecil County
   - FOIA requests in progress

Adam Santry- it is all about how the geothermal wells were filed
   - Suggested looking into state rebate grant permits
   - State level is not computerized, MDE has a statewide list.

Diana- Permits pulled from publicly available data from county websites. Available in GIS format.
   - Not every county lists well permits by type

Most systems are closed loop based on local geography
   - A few horizontal units (Harford, Frederick counties) that aren’t permitted, may be missed in the study. Buy may apply for state tax rebate.
10:30am- Discussion about what the committee wants to see result from the study and the workgroup

This is to be a collaborative group, workgroup was set up as a diverse background of members
- Please provide feedback and comments at any time via email, calls or on meetings

Suggested that a monthly update is sent to Workgroup from MES/Straughan with our current findings and basic assumptions

10:35am- Questions and Adjournment

Joanna will follow up in a few weeks with an update from Straughan and will ask for further feedback from the group.

Next meeting will be in July, to allow for further progress from Straughan on the report.

Attachments: Straughan Flow Chart