

**Attachment A**  
**Meeting Summary**  
**Regional Building Decarbonization Technical Committee**  
**Tuesday, September 2, 2025**  
**Virtual Meeting Only – Hosted on Zoom**

**Members (or Voting Alternates) Present:**

Martin Postma (Alternate)	Adams County
Melody Mascarenaz	Adams County
Melissa Englund (Alternate)	Arapahoe County
Garrett McDaniel	City and County of Broomfield
Susie Strife (Chair)	Boulder County
Jonathan Koehn	City of Boulder
Elizabeth Babcock (Vice Chair)	City and County of Denver
Bridger Tomlin	Jefferson County
Jeff Wong	Jefferson County
Gabrielle Rink	Center for Energy and Environment
Eric Wilson	National Renewable Energy Labs
Peter Johns	Xcel Energy
Lukas Hagan	Affordable Housing LIDAC
Adam Sanderson	Longmont Power and Communications
Steven Jackson	African American Trade Association
Shawn LeMons	Midwest HVAC/EEBC
Sergio Cordova	Denver Pipefitters Local 208
Flo Raitano	DRCOG
Eryka Thorley	Southwest Weld County

**Additional Alternates Present:**

Brook Svoboda (Alternate)	Adams County
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**Public:** Steven Salg, DJ Beckwith, Max Klein, Kelsey Engelking

**DRCOG staff:** Chris Selk, Cam Kennedy, Devon Reifsneider, Clay McCombe, Fernando Briones, Greg Miao, Andy Birkey, Mac Prather, Robert Spotts, Emily Loker

**Call to Order**

Chair Susie Strife called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

**Public Comment**

Chair Strife announced that Flo Raitano has taken the DRCOG membership seat due to Ron Papsdorf's departure to Houston. Additionally, Chair Strife announced a change to the schedule, in-person meetings for this committee will now only happen twice a year, with the next scheduled on November 4, rather than the originally scheduled quarterly

format. Martin Postma and Eryka Thorley suggested the meetings be hybrid rather than strictly in-person.

## **July 1, 2025 Regional Building Decarbonization Technical Committee Meeting Summary**

The summary was accepted.

### **Discussion Items**

#### *Innovation Pilot Grant Program Introduction*

Mac Prather, Incentives, Advising and Low-Income Communities Program Manager, discussed that the program takes inspiration from the TECH Clean California initiative, which awarded \$3.85 million to 19 projects between 2021–2024 to accelerate the adoption of clean heating technologies. DRCOG's \$6 million Innovation Pilot Grant Program will award average subgrants of \$200,000 to support community-driven innovations and small business-led projects. The program's goals are to:

- Demonstrate scalable solutions to persistent market barriers.
- Inform decarbonization decision-making with public data, analysis, and case studies.
- Support entrepreneurial approaches and underserved communities in adopting clean technologies.

Shawn LeMons inquired how best to increase engagement and referenced Xcel Energy's Passive House Incentive, which offers \$40,000 per house. Mac responded that the messaging should include that it helps tackle carbon pollution, increases better indoor air quality, and other metrics that people hold dear.

Martin Postma asked about how other programs have increased heat pump installations since most people don't preemptively replace their water heater until it dies on them. Mac agreed that it would be good to find out more about that, since one of the challenges is that most people only replace a heat pump when it dies, and in that emergency response mindset, the average person is not going to try adopting something brand new when they need a new heat pump immediately.

Brook Svoboda stated that Adams County has a minor home repair program through their CDBG funds, but it's limited to \$25,000, and plumbing and heating systems are a major focus of it since they are systems that people need to exist here in Colorado. Mac stated his support for the program and discussed potentially funding a way to partner with that initiative.

Melody Mascarenaz mentioned the organization Sustainable Neighborhoods and its partnership with Go Electric Colorado and recommended that these sorts of grassroots efforts could help bring greater awareness and spread the word of DRCOG's program. If we talk about how these sorts of initiatives will lead to cost savings and great

efficiency, that is something everyone will want to get on board with. Mac agreed with that sentiment and said he'll be in touch.

#### *Decarbonize DRCOG Program Update*

Robert Spotts, Manager Building Decarbonization, provided a detailed update on the overall program, including budget, timeline, and progress across the four core initiatives: Communications and Marketing; Workforce and Industry Development; Incentives, Innovation, and Low-Income Communities; and the Building Policy Collaborative.

Chair Strife stated her support regarding Chris Selk's announcement of new name for this program, Power Ahead Colorado. Affirming that it provides a much easier-to-understand message than the previous name.

Martin Postma inquired about the research component and asked about the timing of the completion of the scope. Greg Miao responded the scope should be completed by the end of the week, and it can be sent out for review. That way local partners can be informed about the jurisdictional subaward design.

#### **Administrative Items**

##### *Member Comment/Other Matters*

There was no additional comment.

Next Meeting – October 7, 2025

#### **Adjournment**

There were no additional comments, and the meeting adjourned at 11:31 a.m.