

District Energy and The Cogswell Interchange - The Next Steps

The following insights were shared by roundtable participants on April 22nd, 2015 and have been summarized below for reference moving forward.

Ownership Structure

- Consensus - Halifax Water Commission Owns and Operates System
 - Chance to be established as a progressive water utility
- Job Creation
 - Apprenticeship Programs

Funding and Policy

- Enabling Legislation to Compel Use of District Energy
 - ex. minimum attachment by-law or agreements of purchase and sale
- Regulated or Unregulated?
 - Utilities and Review Board - oversight of price
 - Follow the price of alternatives? or One time low price?
- Funding Sources
 - Natural Resources Canada
 - Efficiency One
 - Federation of Canadian Municipalities - The Green Municipal Fund
 - brownfield sites, energy, transport, waste, and water

System Design

- View project through Innovation Opportunity Lens
 - Adaptive System - Load Shifting based on Seasonal Demand
- System Design Feasibility Study - Specifics of District Energy System
 - energy supply is a full order of magnitude greater than what is demanded
 - Diversification - Space Heating, Domestic Hot Water, Thermal Capacity Sidewalks, Combined Heat and Power
 - Is a backup system necessary?
 - Utilization of heat pumps can suffice to upgrade energy to high grade
 - System Scalability - Phased development
 - District Cooling - 75% residential property causing hot water demand to increase seasonally

Project Implementation

- Commitment from Regional Council and Halifax Water Commission
 - Complete Business Case
 - Establish District Energy Marketing and Implementation Team
 - positive opportunity, stakeholder engagement efforts, explore funding, innovation research