

Julian Boyle

Biography

Julian Boyle obtained a science degree from Saint Mary's University in 1992 and is also a 1994 graduate of mechanical engineering from the Technical University of Nova Scotia. He has spent the past 18 years in the building industry focused on energy issues. After a decade in the private sector with several large international energy services contractors, Julian has worked the past 8 years within the Halifax Regional Municipality as the city's Energy Manager. In that capacity he is responsible for incubating new ideas, securing funding, working with regional council members and overseeing the execution of projects. Julian has led exceptional cross departmental teams on several ground breaking initiatives, including; the city's Alderney 5 project (a world's first geothermal cold energy storage system), over \$12M in energy efficiency projects (that are demonstrating a ROI of over 18.5%), a green power procurement exercise in 2007 to buy 40% of the city's electricity from wind generation, consulting and implementing best energy practices on over \$300M of capital projects, and leading the city's current "solar city" initiative - an innovative program to provide turn-key financing (via property tax installments) and supply and installation of over 1000 solar systems per year to the municipality's residents.

Julian is also involved in energy regulatory and policy matters for the municipality, regularly participating and having testified at numerous hearings on electricity and gas matters. He has also been heavily engaged within the HRM community on district energy developments. Julian attended COP15 in Copenhagen representing the municipality as part of the Nova Scotia/Canadian delegation. He speaks frequently at conferences and media on energy matters. As a former Atlantic Open squash champion, he has decided he is over the hill, and has taken up the more passive sport of tennis (in between shuttling his two children to swim practices).

Presentation Abstract: Solar City – Innovative Financing Tools in Action

The Solar City initiative (being launched Spring of 2012) is an ambitious and innovative program to provide turnkey supply, installation and financing (through a supplement on property tax) for more than 1,000 solar hot water systems to HRM residents per year.

The ability to have residents participate in energy or environmental community scale projects which are funded and secured through a funding mechanism similar to a Local Improvement Charge is extremely novel. The municipality was granted this authority by legislation passed by the Province of Nova Scotia in December of 2010. HRM is the first jurisdiction in Canada to have this enabling legislation.

The funding mechanism reduces the significant challenge of community participation in environmental projects that have upfront capital barriers or long term paybacks. With the ability to attach the loan to a property and transfer to future homeowners it is also addressing the reluctance of the public to make long term investments without being around to reap the financial rewards. The talk will focus on some of the interesting lessons learned during the development of this initiative.