

Energy Efficiency Board Monthly Meeting

Wednesday, December 14, 2016, 1:00 – 3:30 PM 10 Franklin Square, New Britain, CT (Hearing Room 1)

MINUTES¹

In Attendance

<u>Voting Board Members</u>: Taren O'Connor (Chair), Bill Dornbos (Vice-Chair), Mike Wertheimer, Amanda Fargo-Johnson, Diane Duva, Ravi Gorthala (phone), Eric Brown (phone)

Utility Board Members: Ron Araujo, Chris Plecs, Pat McDonnell

<u>Board Members not in Attendance</u>: Jack Traver, Neil Beup, Adrienne Houel, Chris Ehlert, Will Redden

Board Consultants: Jeff Schlegel, Glenn Reed, Craig Diamond, Jennifer Chiodo (phone),

George Lawrence (phone), Ellen Zuckerman (phone), Chris Kramer (phone)

Others: Steve Bruno, Vinay Ananthachar, Julia Dumaine, Pam Penna Verrillo, Walter

McCree

Process

Minutes

The Board considered whether to approve the minutes from the November 9, 2016 Board meeting. Ms. Fargo-Johnson moved to approve. Mr. Dornbos 2nd. All present voted to approve. **November 9, 2016 minutes approved.**

Public Comments - none

Executive Secretary's Report

Mr. Diamond noted that the February EEB meeting was going to be on February 22 instead of February 8. Mr. Diamond also asked Board members for suggestions on educational/information topics for future Board meetings. Ms. Fargo-Johnson suggested that case studies would be beneficial.

EEB Committee Updates

Residential

Mr. Reed provided an overview. No Board discussion followed.

¹ Meeting materials are available in Box.com: https://app.box.com/s/qjr79u6j59adv05686fet8hittrtzics

C&I

Mr. Lawrence provided an overview. No Board discussion followed.

Evaluation

Ms. Chiodo provided a presentation. Mr. Schlegel asked about how the Evaluation Committee treats ISO criteria in prioritizing the evaluation studies. Ms. Chiodo said that many of the projects that were ranked high for ISO criteria were also ranked high for additional reasons. She also noted that there are many important studies that are not related to ISO requirements.

Marketing

Ms. Zuckerman provided an overview. No Board discussion followed.

Joint Committee

Mr. Kramer provided an overview. Ms. Duva noted that financing at the CT Department of Corrections financing was being coordinated by many state organizations, including the Green Bank. Ms. Duva also noted that the first state-wide energy savings performance contract was moving forward with CT Valley Hospital. She said it was a \$33 million project, with a 35% reduction in energy use over the life-time of the project. She said the groundbreaking ceremony would be on December 16.

Programs and Planning

Financial and program monthly report

Mr. Plecs provided an overview for Eversource. He said that overall performance for the electric programs would significantly exceed targets for 2016. He noted that performance this year was unusually strong, and that the Board should not necessarily expect the same level of performance every year for the electric programs. Mr. McDonnell provided an overview for UIL. He said that most of the electric programs would reach target for 2016. He said that most gas programs would also reach target, with the exception of SCG's C&I programs, which would be significantly below target.

Project Awards under RFP for Clean Energy

Ms. Duva said that the small-scale energy RFP focused on Class I renewables, energy efficiency, and storage projects. She said that 25 projects had been selected, including 34 megawatts of energy efficiency (from Eversource) incremental to the C&LM Plan. She noted that the EEB would be interested in understanding the difference between the incremental projects and the C&LM projects. She said the energy efficiency projects would focus on hard-to-reach customers, including lower income residential customers and small businesses. She noted that Eversource's energy efficiency proposal was on DEEP's website. She said that all of the projects needed to be negotiated, and then submitted to PURA for approval. She suggested that the March EEB meeting would likely be the right time for the Board to discuss the energy efficiency project in detail. At that time, negotiations would likely be concluded, but the project likely would not yet be approved by PURA. Ms. Duva noted that there had been a natural gas RFP that had been cancelled, and a regional RFP

(three states). Mr. Brown asked if there were EM&V requirements for the 34 MW project. Mr. Araujo said yes, as indicated in Eversource's proposal. He noted that the EM&V plan would be part of contract negotiations. It was noted that there will be PURA proceedings where public comments will able to be submitted. Ms. Duva requested that Mr. Diamond forward the announcement of the PURA proceedings to the Board. It was also agreed that the EEB Consultants would review the proposal and make any comments or suggestions, including potential feedback/discussion with Eversource.

2017 Plan Update Goals and Savings

Mr. Schlegel provided some initial comments on the draft savings targets proposed by the Companies: 1) the draft 2017 proposed savings targets should be increased (he noted that electric and gas savings were lower than expected 2016 actuals); 2) changes/shifts in budgets contributed to some of the changes in savings; 3) savings decreased more than proportional to decreases in budgets; 4) changes in impact factors and market activity contributed to some lower savings. Mr. Brown asked what some of the factors are in causing the lower proposed savings targets. Mr. Schlegel said that one reason was more focus on LEDs, which are more expensive. He said, however, that, some of the reductions in savings were not explained by program or other changes. Mr. Plecs noted that sales of LEDs were very high in 2016, but could start to slow down, maybe in 2017. Ms. O'Connor clarified that the Board will review revised savings goals at the January meeting. Mr. Dornbos asked the Companies for a quantified explanation of savings changes. He also asked the Companies to provide the Board with options for getting savings up, Residential in particular. He said that he would prefer that the savings numbers not be lower than in the 2016-2018 Plan. Ms. Duva asked if, moving into the future, the metric of savings as a percent of sales should continue to be the main metric on how the energy efficiency programs are measured. She said that should be discussed in the context of the 2019-2021 Plan. Mr. Schlegel suggested that this be a topic for discussion at a future Board meeting.

Update on small business loan approach

Mr. Kramer noted that Board would discuss and likely vote on a new SBEA financing model at the January EEB meeting.

<u>Update on Comprehensive Energy Strategy (CES) and Governor's Council on Climate</u> Change (GC3)

Ms. Duva said that the CES was still being updated, and that DEEP was working with stakeholders on various topics. She said that Technical Meetings would be held on grid modernization, the RPS, electric vehicles, siting of renewables, and shared clean energy. She said these meetings would take place over the next few months. She said the CES draft probably would be available around end of first quarter, perhaps a little later. Ms. Duva provided a presentation on the GC3. Mr. Brown expressed concern about the potential economic impacts of plans/targets that could come from the GC3.

The meeting adjourned at 3:30 pm.