

Energy Efficiency Board Monthly Meeting

Wednesday, September 14, 2016, 1:00 – 3:30 PM

10 Franklin Square, New Britain, CT (Hearing Room 2)

MINUTES¹

In Attendance

Voting Board Members: Taren O'Connor (Chair), Bill Dornbos (Vice-Chair), Neil Beup, Diane Duva, Amanda Fargo-Johnson, Adrienne Houel, Jack Traver, Eric Brown (phone) <u>Utility Board Members</u>: Ron Araujo, Pat McDonnell, Chris Plecs <u>Board Members Not in Attendance</u>: Mike Wertheimer, Ravi Gorthala, Chris Ehlert, Scott Whittier <u>Board Consultants</u>: Jeff Schlegel, Glenn Reed, George Lawrence, Craig Diamond <u>Others</u>: Steve Bruno, Eric Winkler, Diana McCarthy-Bercury, Julia Dumaine, David Mcintosh, Lynn Stoddard, Guy West (phone), Don Bursier (phone), Mark Thompson (phone), Chris McKinny (phone)

Process

<u>Minutes</u>

The Board considered whether to approve the minutes from the August 10, 2016 Board meeting. Ms. Houel moved to approve, Mr. Dornbos 2nd. All present voted to approve. **August 10, 2016 minutes approved**.

<u>Public Comments</u> None

<u>Executive Secretary's Report</u> Mr. Diamond reviewed the upcoming Board meeting schedule and agenda topics. He said that the 2017 meeting schedule would be reviewed at the November Board meeting.

Board Approval of Evaluation Administrator

Ms. O'Connor provided an overview of the Evaluation Administrator procurement process, and said that the Evaluation Committee was recommending the proposed new SERA team as the Evaluation Administrator. She referred the Board to the memo in the Board packet from the Evaluation Committee. Ms. Duva noted that the high number of proposals received (six) indicated that there was a lot of interest in evaluation in Connecticut. Ms. Duva suggested that the Board should clarify the Evaluation Roadmap, including the role of

¹ Meeting materials available in Box.com: <u>https://app.box.com/s/yo3h3e05esextl0tgybzw49xe71n999g</u>

Evaluation Administrator. She noted that the Evaluation Committee would be updating the Roadmap this fall. She said that DEEP would be recommending changes to the Roadmap and would be proposing the changes to the Evaluation Committee. Ms. O'Connor moved to approve the new SERA team. Ms. Houel 2nd. All present voted in favor, including Mr. Gorthala (via a proxy provided by Mr. Dornbos) and Mr. Wertheimer (via a proxy provided by Ms. O'Connor). The **SERA team was approved as Evaluation Administrator through the end of 2017**. Ms. Duva noted that DEEP believes there had been difficulties with the previous SERA team in regard to interpreting the roles and responsibilities of the Evaluation Administrator. She said that those issues should be corrected with the update of the Evaluation Roadmap.

Program Updates/Highlights

Demand Resources and ISO Markets

Mr. Winkler, ISO New England, provided a presentation. The key topics he covered included: 1) an overview of demand resources; 2) the Installed Capacity Requirement (ICR) and the Forward Capacity Market (FCM); 3) the impact of forecasts on long-range planning; and 4) opportunities and challenges for peak demand reductions and on-going ISO efforts to integrate energy efficiency and demand resources into markets and planning. Ms. Duva said that DEEP is planning to hold a public information meeting on the issue of demand resources sometime this fall (the date for that meeting was subsequently set for October 27, 1:30 – 4:30, at 10 Franklin Square in New Britain).

Update on Demand Pilots

Mr. Schlegel said that an update on the demand resources pilots, including project schedules, would be discussed at the October Board meeting. He noted the importance of implementing the pilots in a timely manner.

Programs and Planning

2017 C&LM Plan Update: Text and Budget/Revenue

- *Revised schedule and approach*. Mr. Schlegel discussed the revised schedule for completing the 2017 Plan Update. He said that the text (including the public input summary), high level budget and revenue, and potentially the Program Savings Document (PSD) would be filed by the end of October. The reconciled budget tables, goals, full budget tables, and the Performance Management Incentive (PMI) would be filed on March 1, 2017.
- *Plan Text: presentation and Board discussion.* Mr. Bruno presented an overview of the draft Plan Update. He said the Companies will attempt to produce a revised draft of by Friday, Sept. 23. Mr. McDonnell said that Education/Outreach, Clean Energy Communities, and the demand resource pilots were covered in a high level of detail in Plan Update because they were responses to DEEP Conditions of Approval for the 2016-2018 C&LM Plan. He said the other sections of the 2017 Plan Update were, for the most part, modifications to the 2016-2018 Plan.
- *Budget/revenue: presentation and Board discussion.* Mr. Bruno provided a presentation. Mr. Schlegel asked Board members to review the proposed budget

and revenue numbers, particularly changes since the March 1, 2016 filing of 2016-2018 C&LM Plan.

Discussion: Mr. Schlegel provided comments on the demand resource pilots. He said it was important to get the pilots (particularly those which involve interaction with customers) into the field as quickly as possible, so that data could be generated as soon as possible. He said that if the Companies want to implement summer pilots, they would need to plan those pilots now. Ms. Houel asked how the Plan Update addresses outreach to multi-family property owners. Mr. Araujo said that Eversource had done a segmentation analysis to understand who the largest property owners are for multi-family housing. He said that, in regard to smaller owners, Eversource focuses on owners who own more than one property because it is cost-effective to take that approach. Ms. O'Connor said that the topic of multi-family market segmentation and outreach should be on the next Residential Committee agenda. Mr. McDonnell said he thinks the biggest challenge with multi-family is with 2-4 unit properties, which is technically not considered multi-family. The Board then engaged in a brief discussion about whether the Home Energy Score should be required prior to a customer installing solar.

Financial Update

The Companies provided a very brief financial update. Mr. McDonnell said that the SCG budget was very tight. Mr. Bruno and Mr. Plecs said that they expected gas program spending for Eversource to be close to target by the end of year, and that they likely would be on target for electric programs by the end of year.

Other

Ms. Duva noted that health and safety issues will be addressed through the federal weatherization program. She said that health and safety could potentially be integrated into the HES program if the federal weatherization approach to health and safety issues is successful.

Closing Public Comments

Ms. Stoddard provided comments regarding the education chapter of draft Plan Update. She noted that that the draft Plan includes a competitive bid for all education programs, including the Green LEAF program. She said it would not be a good idea to combine all education programs under one bid or one vendor, and that it would not be a good idea to bid out the Green LEAF program. Ms. Stoddard also said that the stakeholders who participated in the education outreach process had not yet been given an opportunity to comment on the education chapter of the Plan Update draft. She requested that the Plan draft be sent to the stakeholder group as soon as possible so that their comments could be considered by the Board prior to the Board's approval of the 2017 Plan Update. Ms. Stoddard also suggested that the Green LEAF program be integrated into the school sustainability programs, and that the Green LEAF program should not need to rely on ratepayer funding moving forward. The meeting adjourned 3:40 pm.