



## Energy Efficiency Board Monthly Meeting

Thursday, November 12, 2015, 1:00 – 3:30 PM

Stepping Stones Museum, 303 West Ave., Norwalk, CT

### MINUTES<sup>1</sup>

#### In Attendance

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

Utility Board Members: Matt Gibbs, Pat McDonnell, Ron Araujo

Board Members not in Attendance: Eric Brown, Neil Beup, Michael Cassella, Chris Ehlert

Board Consultants: Glenn Reed, Les Tumidaj, Craig Diamond, Jeff Schlegel (phone)

Others: Guy West, Violette Radomski, Diane Del Rosso, Evan Seretan, Linda Foreman, Pam Penna, Walter McCree, Norma Elizondo, Rachel Dugan, Natalie Treat, Michael Townsley, Ricardo Jordan

#### Process

##### Minutes

The Board considered whether to approve the minutes from the October 14, 2015 Board meeting. Ms. O'Connor moved to approve. Ms. Fargo-Johnson 2nd. All Board members present voted to approve. **October 14, 2015 meeting minutes approved.**

Public Comments - none

##### Executive Secretary's Report

Mr. Diamond said that he would be developing a draft 2016 EEB and Committee meeting schedule for review at the December Board meeting. Ms. Fargo-Johnson and Ms. Duva suggested varying the location of the meeting. Mr. Gibbs reminded the Board that a suggestion had been made previously to have a meeting at the Legislative Office Building some time in early 2016. Mr. Wertheimer said that one criterion of the locations should be that the meetings are easily accessible by Board members.

#### Programs and Planning

##### Public Input document on 2016-2018 C&LM Plan

Mr. Schlegel provided an overview of the recent changes made to the draft public input document. Ms. Fargo-Johnson asked about the concern that had been raised by Leticia Colon of Green Eco Warriors regarding an RFP process not being carried out properly. Mr.

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<sup>1</sup> Meeting materials available in Box.net: <https://app.box.com/s/cdhy1qahj9ifp4kuio0ct20sigdbqz21>

Gibbs provided an update on the issue. He noted that Ms. Colon had said that she had not been notified of the RFP. Mr. Gibbs said that the RFP was sent to 11 firms, and that 7 responses were received. He said the Green Eco Warriors had been notified, but Green Eco Warriors was not selected. He said they were notified in August 12, 2014. Ms. Fargo-Johnson asked if it was a requirement to provide service to both Connecticut and Massachusetts. Mr. Gibbs said that it was a joint bid, but bidders could choose to bid on any part of the scope in either state. Ms. O'Connor asked if the Companies would respond to Ms. Colon formally. Mr. Gibbs said that they would. Vote: Ms. Fargo-Johnson moved for the Board to approve the public input document. Mr. Wertheimer 2nd. All Board members present voted to approve, except for Ms. Duva who abstained because the document will be submitted to DEEP. **Public input document for 2016-2018 C&LM Plan approved.** The Board will file the document with DEEP.

#### DEEP's Questions on 2016-2018 C&LM Plan

- *Debrief of 10/28/15 Technical Meeting.* Ms. Duva provided an overview of the public meeting held at DEEP on October 28 to discuss the Companies' responses to DEEP's questions on the 2016-2018 C&LM Plan.
- *Companies' Responses to DEEP's Questions, and Discussion.* Mr. Araujo provided a presentation on the price elasticity of the HES co-pay (the presentation was also provided at the Residential Committee earlier in the day). Mr. Wertheimer asked what the process is going to be on HES co-pay moving forward. Mr. Araujo said that Eversource does not favor establishing an automatic increase in co-pay. He said that setting/changing the co-pay is a dynamic exercise, and that the Companies already have a process for establishing co-pay level. He said that the Companies do have other tools to impact demand, such as marketing (increase or decrease) or geo-targeting, but if those other tools don't work to impact demand, Eversource and/or UIL would make a recommendation to the Board to make changes to the co-pay level. Mr. Wertheimer asked how customers would be informed about changes in co-pay. Mr. Araujo said the Companies don't usually advertise changes in price to customers, but will notify vendors and clean energy task forces (regarding community campaigns). Mr. McDonnell said the Companies are evaluating HES vendor RFQ responses, and they will know more about the likely number of HES vendors once they have finished review of the RFQ responses. Mr. McDonnell pointed out that the price elasticity presentation shows that we need to do a better job of communicating the value of HES before raising the co-pay.
- *DEEP's Three Questions to the EEB.* Mr. Schlegel provided an overview of the Board draft response on the HES co-pay question. Mr. Gibbs and Mr. Araujo said that the Companies would provide quarterly reports to the Board to show what the customer demand is in the HES program. Ms. Duva asked for clarification on who the "other parties" (bottom of page 2 of draft response) would be in terms of providing public comment on the HES co-pay. Mr. Schlegel then provided an overview of the draft Board response on the evaluation question. Ms. Duva suggested that Board members provide feedback to the Evaluation Administrators on prioritization of studies. Ms. O'Connor agreed. Ms. Duva and Ms. O'Connor also agreed that there should not be an assumption that all of the listed studies should necessarily move

forward. Regarding the Board's response to the question on education, Mr. Schlegel said that the response was not ready to review at the time of this meeting. Mr. Schlegel said that he would complete a draft response on the education response that day, and provide it to the Board. The Board agreed to conduct an electronic vote on all three questions within the next few days, in time for the DEEP filing deadline of Monday, November 16. An electronic vote was subsequently conducted on Nov. 13. All Board members who were present at the Nov. 12 meeting voted to approve the EEB responses, except for Ms. Duva who abstained because the responses will be submitted to DEEP. **EEB responses to DEEP questions on 2016-2018 C&LM Plan approved, and were filed with DEEP on November 16, 2015.**

#### October Financial and Performance Report

Mr. Gibbs provided an overview. He said that Eversource will be under budget on some C&I programs at year-end, and therefore will shift some funds to residential programs. Mr. Gibbs said that Eversource will be making many changes to the C&I program in 2016. He introduced Riccardo Jordan, who will be the new C&I Supervisor for SW Connecticut Region, for Eversource. Mr. Gibbs said that Eversource is ramping up its Business Sustainability Program, and so he expects that program activity will increase in that program. He reminded the Board that Eversource had shifted funds from HES to HES-IE for gas earlier in the year. Mr. McDonnell gave an overview for UIL. He said that SCG remains the biggest challenge. He said that SCG had shut down its C&I programs earlier in the year, and that SCG had now also fully expended its HES budget. However, overall UIL will achieve its targets for 2015. Mr. McDonnell said that SCG's HES-IE program likely would run through the end of this year. United Illuminating's HES-IE program is lagging, but they are looking to close that gap by year-end.

#### Committee Reports

##### Residential

Mr. Reed provided an overview of the topics discussed at the morning's Residential Committee meeting. He highlighted the Committee's discussion on the price elasticity study on the HES co-pay.

##### C&I

Mr. Tumidaj provided an overview of the topics discussed at the previous day's C&I Committee meeting. He commented that Companies had made significant positive changes to the C&I programs. Mr. McDonnell announced that Donna Wells would be the new C&I lead at UIL.

##### Marketing

Mr. Schlegel provided an update on key marketing issues. He said that the new website was still being finalized. He also mentioned that the Winterize with Energize campaign was currently in the field.

##### Evaluation

Ms. O'Connor said the Evaluation Committee had discussed the draft EEB response to DEEP's question on evaluation. She said that eleven studies would be completed over the next few months, and that several technical meetings would also be scheduled.

EEB/Green Bank Joint Board Committee

No update was provided.

**Other**

Energy resource procurement under P.A. 15-107

- *DEEP update on process and schedule.* Ms. Duva noted that an RFP on demand response was being written now, and was scheduled to be released in the next few weeks.
- *Companies' consideration of proposal and consultation with EEB.* It was noted that the Board would need to consult on the Companies' bids probably at the January or February Board meeting. Mr. Gibbs noted that the bid is confidential, so Eversource might need to seek input in non-public forum.

Ms. Fargo-Johnson asked about the status of Board appointments. Ms. Duva said she believes it is likely that appointments will be completed by the next meeting, or that DEEP will be close to finalizing appointments by the next meeting. Ms. Duva noted that Board appointments are for 5 years, so the Board will need to discuss what appointments need to be revisited. She suggested that could be discussed at the January or February Board meeting. She asked that Mr. Diamond assemble a status of Board member appointments.

**5. Closing Public Comments - none.**

**The meeting adjourned at 3:15 pm.**