



Energy Efficiency Board Monthly Meeting

Wednesday, December 9, 2015, 1:00 – 3:30 PM
10 Franklin Square, New Britain, CT (Hearing Room 2)

MINUTES¹

In Attendance

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

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

Board Members not in Attendance: Chris Ehlert

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

Others: Sharron Emmons, Elizabeth Murphy, Guy West (phone), Violette Radomski, Diane Del Rosso, Evan Seretan, Linda Foreman, Pam Penna, Walter McCree, Michael Townsley, Sam Milton (phone), Rick Olisky (phone), Joshua Gray (phone), Brian Buckley (phone)

Process

Minutes

The Board considered whether to approve the minutes from the November 12, 2015 Board meeting. Mr. Gibbs requested two changes, which were incorporated. Ms. Fargo-Johnson moved to approve. Ms. O'Connor 2nd. All voted in favor except Mr. Beup and Mr. Brown who both abstained. **November 12, 2015 minutes approved.**

Public Comments

None

Executive Secretary's Report

Mr. Diamond provided an overview and highlights of the proposed 2016 EEB and Committee meeting schedule. The Board did not suggest any changes to the schedule.

New Appointments to the Board

Ms. Duva announced that DEEP had appointed Jack Traver to the statewide manufacturing seat to the EEB. She noted that part of Mr. Traver's business (Traver IDC) is providing energy efficiency services under the CT Energy Efficiency Fund, so he would need to recuse himself on Board matters that could overlap with that capacity. Ms. Duva also said that the residential Board member likely would be identified by around February.

¹ Meeting materials are available in Box.com: <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/425912093>

Update on Board Technical Consultant Procurement Process

Mr. Dornbos said that the Board would be receiving RFP bids until December 11. He said that the Consultant Committee had answered questions submitted by potential bidders, and that those questions have been distributed to the potential bidders. He said the Consultant Committee intended to conduct interviews before Christmas. Mr. Dornbos also noted that the effective date for any changes to the Consultant team likely would be in place by February 1. It was noted that the Companies would need to extend current consultant work orders one month to January 31.

Program Updates/Highlights

Multifamily Initiatives, Current and Future

Mr. Araujo and Ms. Murphy provided a presentation on this topic. Some Board members asked clarifying questions. Mr. Gorthala suggested that pre- and post-savings data would be useful for projects. Mr. Araujo said that had been done with some projects. Mr. Tumidaj asked if the Customer Engagement Platform could be used to understand general energy use differences, before and after energy efficiency measures. Mr. Tumidaj also asked if tenant education would be part of the program. Mr. Araujo said that no behavioral change efforts had been planned yet for multi-family, but general information/education was included in the programs. Mr. Wertheimer asked if there were other funding sources for multi-family projects other than CEEF funds. Mr. Araujo said that generally non-CEEF funds are not available unless projects include non-energy efficiency renovations. Mr. Reed asked about the role of lighting in multi-family projects. Mr. Araujo said the programs wanted to focus on LED fixtures because they can deliver significant lifetime savings. Mr. Dornbos said he appreciated the information provided in the presentation.

Programs and Planning

Update on Process and Schedule for Review of 2016-2018 C&LM Plan

Ms. Duva said that DEEP would likely issue a public notice and draft determination by December 11 or 14. She said that a public meeting for stakeholder feedback would likely be held on December 18. She said that DEEP was considering holding a public comment period between the time of the public notice and December 21, and that anyone would be able to request an extension past December 21. She said that if there is no extension requested, DEEP would finalize the determination by December 31.

Update on HES Program

Mr. Seretan and Ms. Del Rosso provided a presentation (the same presentation was provided in the Residential Committee meeting that morning). The Board engaged in a discussion regarding a proposed vendor budget cap. Ms. Del Rosso said that Eversource would cap electric measures at 8% of the total budget per vendor, but would not impose a cap for gas measures. Mr. Seretan said that United Illuminating would cap electric measures at 7%, cap gas measures at 5% for SCG, and not impose any cap for gas measures

for CNG. Mr. Reed suggested that the Companies consider six-month budget caps for 2016, in case there are some vendors that "race" to use up their cap before others use up their caps. Mr. Seretan said he was concerned about that approach because it could risk significant under spending in first six-month period. Ms. Del Rosso noted that Eversource had analyzed past vendor spending; they found that only one vendor had very high spending, and the other vendors were around 8% or lower. Mr. Gibbs said that the Companies would analyze HES demand on a quarterly basis and report back to the Board. He said that 2016 would be challenging year because oil prices are very low. He also said that the Companies planned to keep the HES co-pay at \$99.

Priorities in the 2016-2018 Plan for Early Implementation in 2016

Mr. Gibbs provided a presentation that covered HES/HES-IE programs, non-HES programs, C&I programs, demand response, and other programs. Mr. Dornbos asked about the extent to which vendor ratings should be made public. Mr. Gibbs suggested that the results could be shared openly with vendors, but perhaps not published publicly. Mr. Schlegel said it was important to make sure the new HES vendors are delivering high quality work, especially at the beginning. Mr. Araujo said that new vendors would be inspected for 100% of their customer jobs in the beginning, until the Companies are confident they are delivering high quality work consistently. In regard to demand response, Mr. Schlegel suggested that the Companies engage in planning to prepare for any potential significant needs for demand response that could arise. Mr. Gibbs noted that the Companies were proposing this as a priority action for first quarter. Mr. Dornbos suggested that the Companies consider whether demand response capable devices should be eligible for incentives (for example, advanced lighting controls in C&I applications).

Review of Plans and Coordination with CMEEC and Wallingford Electric District

Mr. Schlegel noted that the Board has a statutory responsibility to coordinate/collaborate with the municipal cooperatives. He said that the Board consultants will meet with the CMEEC and Wallingford Electric District, and would report back to the Board at its January meeting.

Committee Reports

Residential Committee Report

Mr. Araujo provided an overview of the HES co-pay issue with the Wallingford Electric District (WED). He said that currently gas customers in Wallingford need to pay a \$99 co-pay (for services from Eversource gas), but electric customers have a \$0 co-pay (for services from WED). He said this difference was confusing some customers. He said that Eversource's proposal was to reduce the co-pay for Eversource gas customers to \$0 so that both electric and gas customers in Wallingford would both pay a \$0 co-pay. He said part of the proposal would be that Eversource monitor the result of the \$0 co-pay for gas customers and make changes if the results were not desirable. He noted that the gas vendors would be absorbing the \$99 waived co-pay. Ms. Emmons said she was in favor of Eversource's recommendation. Ms. O'Connor said the OCC does not prefer a \$0 co-pay for gas customers, because the OCC generally believes that customers should pay for a share

of services provided to them. Ms. Emmons said that the Wallingford public utility commission had approved a \$0 co-pay for WED's electric HES services, and therefore WED did not want to change the \$0 co-pay for electric services. The Board agreed to conduct an electronic vote on whether to approve Eversource's proposal to change the gas co-pay to \$0 for WED customers. It was noted that the motion provided for the vote would include a description of the Board's position on the matter. It was agreed that the Board would communicate the result of the electronic vote to Ms. Emmons. **The EEB's position on this issue was voted on electronically Dec. 23-28, and the Board voted to allow Eversource to reduce the co-pay to \$0 for gas customers only for WED electric customers, if the WED public utility commission chooses not to increase the electric co-pay to \$99.**

Note: there were no reports from the C&I, Marketing, Evaluation, and EEB/Green Bank Board Committees.

Other

Process and schedule for procurement proposal under P.A. 15-107

Ms. Duva said that in late December or early January, DEEP would issue a draft RFP for public comment.

Closing Public Comments

None

The meeting adjourned at 3:35 pm.