



EEB Residential Committee Meeting

Wednesday, February 10, 2021, 10:00 am – 12:00 pm (Webinar Only)

Meeting Materials: <https://app.box.com/s/wr7z7uoyddk498a6k3v2xdlahrjr5et5>

1. Welcome – Ms. McLean

a. Roll Call of Board Members: Amy McLean, Brenda Watson, Mike Li, Ron Araujo, Joel Kopylec
Attendees: Art St. Armand, Bernard Pelletier, Claire Sickinger, Donna Wells, Leticia Colon de Mejias, Glenn Reed, Guy West, Kate Donatelli, Lawrence Rush, Linda King, Richard Faesy, Rose Croog, Steve Cowell, Vivian Perez, Brendan Thomas, Damaris Velez, Dana D'Souza, Diane Del Rosso, EFA, Elizabeth Bourguet, Enrico Jones, Erin Cosgrove, Jerry Graham, John Karyczak, Joseph Roy, Madeline Priest, Michael Cresta, Michelle Long, Patrice Gillespie, Paul Gray, Pete Carlson, Sharon Guarino, Shubha Jaishankar, Stephanie Weiner, Tammy Wilson, Tanya Mulholland, Tasha Perreault, Tim Fabuien, Violette Radomski, William Wesson.

b. Meeting procedures and process update- Ms. McLean

2. Approve 1/13/2021 Residential Committee Meeting Minutes. Minutes were unavailable and will be voted upon at the March meeting.

3. Public Input/Comments (limit to 3 min./person).

Steve Cowell commented that the Federal WAP reauthorization legislation that passed solidifies funding and increases it going forward, including a special innovative competitive solicitation from states around multiple issues, including solar, health and safety barriers issues. He spoke with Ana Maria Garcia who heads up U.S. DOE WAP and provided a description of the fund and application with the solicitation slated for September. Ms. Garcia will have someone at the Building Performance Association's national meeting in April present on its progress.

4. 2020 Year End Results & Q4 Update Report (HVAC, MF, RNC, DR). Mr. Araujo reviewed Eversource's overall 2020 electric programs which are consistent with spending projections, despite issues with COVID. And the natural gas programs for the residential sector were over 100%. Multifamily housing has increased participation with heat pumps; a trend to continue for the three-year plan. The natural gas side did not reach goal because they couldn't get into many of the individual units, but just the central HVAC system located in these buildings. HVAC and DHW with heat pump activity was stronger in 2020 and increased mid-year incentives. The heat pump pilot has installed 2 out of their goal of 80 conversions, to date. Mail in rebates were also reviewed with an increase in 2020 for HVAC systems. The residential new construction overview was also provided.

Mr. Rush updated the group on UI's Residential Program with 70% spent for the year due to the pandemic and some large projects falling through. Ductless heat pumps are trending in use. SCG is 74% spent with 54% of savings with an uptick in ventilation rebates. Multifamily has seen projects dropping off. CNG's multi-family program did not hit projections. Home Energy Solutions was up compared to previous years to 82% despite program challenges due to the pandemic. John Kerry is a new program manager working on the heat pump pilot and Nico Jones, the multi-family energy specialist, will be pushing electric power conversion to heat pumps.

Mr. Li asked if servicing gas condensing hot water heaters with contractors was problematic. Mr. Araujo stated the low number is indicative of the market options.

5. 2021 Plan DEEP Conditions of Approval. Mr. Faesy reviewed General Approvals from DEEP included in the Plan update. Ms. Wells added that this is a tentative approval and DEEP is asking for comments from stakeholders by February 16, 2021. Compliance Conditions were reviewed by Ms. Wells. Mr. Pelletier asked if the heat pump pilot initiative was part of the DEEP decarbonization program. Ms. Wells responded they are not separate. Mr. Pelletier commented on his support of the heat pump program and requested loosening the request for number of air changes per hour as a requirement for participation in the heat pump pilot. Ms. Wells responded that DEEP does not govern the all the heat pump requirements, and it can be talked about with the utilities. Mr. Li commented the challenge is installing the heat pumps to ensure that customers are satisfied with their performance in tandem with weatherization. Mr. Araujo agreed and likened it to the early-stage CFL installations where there were technology failures to overcome. Mr. Araujo described the Home Energy Score as a service offered by the HES vendors only when the customer agreed to publish results through contractual documents through the HELIX database and then would only be included in the MLS with customer authorization.
6. Equity Metrics Discussion. Mr. Araujo reviewed the baseline for customers and the formula to calculate the annual percentage participation for Eversource Matching Payment Program (MPP) customers. Mr. Lawrence showed UI's calculation for participation. The target participation for HES/HES-IE participants is 2.1 % of the MPP customers enrolled. It was explained that customers who participate in the MPP program are removed from the denominator as the program succeeds.
7. Community Engagement Plan Update. – Mr. Araujo stated meetings are scheduled with entities that provided comments on the proposal. Monies earmarked for this effort have increased to \$500,000.
8. Weatherization Barriers Resources Coordination
 - a. January 20 Workshop Ms. Sickinger updated the group on the second workshop with 77 participants in attendance; including preliminary attendee survey results and next steps for a Spring workshop.
 - b. LIHEAP Follow up Mr. Faesy discussed next steps involving the Low-Income Energy Advisory Board, coordinating with the utilities, stakeholder, other state agencies to present at the April LIEAB meeting.
9. CTAC Update – DEEP. Ms. Donatelli provided an update on the Residential CTAC meetings focusing on topics as directed by the group to discuss topics as they occur. Topics for future meetings include workforce and modernization barriers from contractors. The next meeting is 2/24 at 1 pm.
10. Public Comments -- Ms. Colon de Mejias mentioned the urgency of increased efforts to improve health barriers for low-income customers and the importance of understanding challenges faced with the workforce component and hiring people to do this work. Ms. McLean and Mr. Pelletier concur with these comments.

Ms. McLean also commented about the Governor's budget and being vigilant about energy efficiency as a means to tackle climate goals. She also thanked DEEP for their leadership in addressing these topics and engaging other governmental entities. Ms. Watson concurred.

11. Agenda items for future Residential Committee meetings

- a. 2022-2024 Plan Focus areas
- b. Weatherization Barriers Resources Coordination
- c. Community Engagement
- d. Strategic Electrification/Next Generation Energy Efficiency Direction

12. Adjourn at 12:10 pm