

EEB Residential Committee Meeting
Wednesday, April 13, 2022 10AM - 12PM (Webinar Only)

Meeting Materials: <https://app.box.com/s/9xh50kc4yijefwpr7gbk3zdg7dy0jth>

[Meeting Recording](#)

Minutes

1. Welcome – Amy McLean

a. Roll Call of Committee Members

Board members: Amy McLean, Kate Donatelli (for Vicki Hackett), Kathy Fay, Melissa Kops, Ron Araujo, Donald Mauritz, Hammad Chaudhry

Other attendees: Bernard Pelletier, Ed Kranich, Emily Rice, Glenn Reed, Heather Deese, John Ruhnke, Nick Jones, Richard Faesy, Alycia Jenkins, Alysse Rodrigues, Ashley Marshall, Damaris Velez, Diane Del Rosso, Devan Willemsen, Giulia Bambara, Ingo Bensch, Jeff Howard, Jim Perras, John Figlewski, Joyce Chai, Larry Rush, Michelle Long, Mike Uhl, Patrice Gillespie, Rebecca Dube, Richard Olisky, Rose Croog, Shubha Jaishankar, Shubhada Kambli, Stacy Sherwood, Timothy Fabuien, Violette Radomski, Vivian Perez

b. Meeting procedures and process update

Ms. Amy McLean, Committee Chair, summarized the meeting rules and procedures. A copy can be found in the [materials folder](#).

2. Approve 3/9/2022 Residential Committee Meeting Minutes

Ms. Kathy Fay noted a correction in Section 3, Town Community and Energy Network should be changed to CT Energy Network. Ms. Fay motioned to approve the minutes with this correction, Ms. Melissa Kops seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0. Ms. Emily Rice, Executive Secretary, will make the correction and post the revised minutes.

3. Public Input/Comments

Mr. John Ruhnke communicated a problem with permission to install (PTI). Mr. Ruhnke posited that a large portion of Connecticut solar companies may soon go out of business, claiming a connection with the new tariff program and difficulties it creates around implementation. Mr. Ruhnke indicated that the disruption creates a gap in experienced installers and asked the Committee to consider speeding up the PTI process. Ms. McLean acknowledged the significance of raising this issue but noted that it is currently outside of the scope of the Committee and EEB.

Ms. Heather Deese, Dandelion Energy, shared concerns her company and other geothermal installers have regarding a proposed set of regulations released by the CT Department of Consumer Protection, DEEP and Department of Public Health. The proposed changes would regulate exterior work, including drilling and connecting to the home.

Referencing DEEP's Draft Determination and the geothermal incentives, Ms. Deese stated the calculated values for the equivalent full-load hour (EFLH) underlying savings calculations are inaccurate and resulting in lower incentives. Ms. Deese encouraged DEEP to investigate this now.

4. Residential New Construction Update – Companies

Mr. Nick Jones, Eversource, delivered a presentation that included a new construction market update and Program overview and overviews of the Passive House Program, All-Electric Initiative, and the Major Renovation Initiative. Mr. Jones' presentation included a summary of major building energy code changes coming at the end of the year. Mr. Jones also shared information on the Zero Energy Buildings Conference. A copy of Mr. Jones' presentation can be found in the [materials folder](#).

Regarding the virtual Passive House Lunch and Learn Trainings conducted (Slide 11), Ms. McLean and Mr. Jones discussed that the virtual approach has improved attendance. Mr. Bernie Pelletier asked if the

Passive House offerings were reaching all homebuilders and Mr. Jones indicated that outreach targets builders outside of the Passive House community.

5. CT Green Bank Energy Storage Solutions – CGB

Mr. Ed Kranich, CT Green Bank, provided an overview of CT Green Bank's [Energy Storage Program](#) for Residential and C&I, which was launched January 1. Mr. Kranich's presentation included details on incentives, eligibility criteria, program goals and design. Mr. Kranich also provided information on program results since the start of the year. More details can be found in the slide deck available in the [materials folder](#).

6. DEEP Legislative and Regulatory Updates:

A slide deck of the following updates can be found in the [materials folder](#).

a. Proposed Home Energy Labeling Legislation

Ms. Kate Donatelli, DEEP, provided updates on [H.B.5041](#) for renters and [S.B.14](#) for homeowners, H.B.5041 was voted out of Committee and S.B.14 did not make it out of Committee.

b. SB 292 – Heating Efficiency in New Construction Legislation

[S.B.292](#) was voted out of committee.

c. 2022-2024 Plan Determination & Conditions of Approval

Ms. Vicki Hackett, DEEP, provided an overview of DEEP's [Draft Determination](#) of the 2022-2024 C&LM Plan. The Draft Determination was released, and a public comment period was launched, on April 12. A public meeting will be held April 21st, and public comments are due on April 27th. DEEP will consider comments as it prepares a Final Determination of the C&LM Plan. Ms. Hackett's presentation includes an overview of the Draft Determination components and attachments, a list of seventeen proposed new conditions of approval, and highlighted findings and associated conditions of approval.

d. 2022 Comprehensive Energy Strategy

DEEP is currently reviewing comments from the Public Input Session regarding the 2022 Comprehensive Energy Strategy. There was also a Public Technical Meeting last week on potential uses of hydrogen fueled energy in Connecticut that will inform the 2022 CES.

e. Weatherization/Health & Safety Barriers Remediation Plans

DEEP has selected a Program Operator through a competitive RFP process and is currently working through the contracting phase.

f. DEI Consultant

The EEB selected ILLUME to be the DEI Consultant following a competitive RFP process. ILLUME is working through the contracting process with the Companies.

g. CTAC Meeting Review and Future Agenda Items

Ms. Kate Donatelli provided an overview of the topics discussed at the March meeting, including COVID-19 requirements, HES-IE budget concerns, supply chain issues, and the Small Business Energy Advantage RFP. Ms. Donatelli also shared a list of ongoing priority topics, which can be found in her slide deck in the [materials folder](#). A tracking tool has been set up to track progress on these key priorities, though Ms. Donatelli did not have it ready to share. The next meeting is scheduled for May 25.

Regarding the HES-IE budget concerns, Mr. Ron Araujo indicated that Eversource was not seeing an issue and are fully accepting all projects for single-family income-eligible and multifamily income-eligible.

7. Upcoming EEB Focus Area: Program Benchmarking – Consultants

The Technical Consultants are developing a presentation that will compare CT programs to other states by examining key metrics. Mr. Richard Faesy shared an overview of the proposed outline for the presentation and solicited input from the Committee on details they would like to see on this topic. Mr. Faesy's overview can be found in the [materials folder](#).

An attendee suggested including a comparison of incentives in New York and other states.

8. Planning and Prioritizing Future Agenda Topics – Consultants & EEB Members

Committee member and attendees provided feedback on future Committee meeting topics, listed below. Mr. Faesy provided details in a slide deck located in the [materials folder](#) that included results from the survey. Mr. Richard Faesy led a discussion around the results of the survey and prioritizing these topics.

Ms. Amy McLean discussed the importance of staying abreast of regulatory changes, like those raised by Ms. Deese earlier in the meeting, which could impact or inform Program design and delivery. Mr. Faesy noted that Ms. Deese raised a good point and agreed to take a look at how the geothermal savings are calculated to ensure its being done right.

Mr. Bernie Pelletier suggested sizing and selecting heat pumps, and Mr. John Ruhnke suggested including air-to-water heat pumps in this. Mr. Faesy asked if the Companies had case studies that could speak to this. Mr. Ron Araujo indicated that Eversource has been considering air-to-water heat pumps, but noted it is predominantly a fuel switching approach. Mr. Araujo added that Eversource has an incentive for air-to-water heat pumps in Massachusetts. Ms. Melissa Kops and Mr. Araujo discussed air-to-water and water-to-water heat pumps for boiler replacement systems.

Mr. Faesy suggested item a. for May as well as a case study focusing on the heat pump experience in Maine.

- a. [DEEP's Conditions of Approval for 2022-2024 Plan \(May?\)](#)
 - b. [Evaluation Results - Heat Pump and Heat Pump Water Heaters \(HPWH\)](#)
 - c. [Heat Pump Pilot Report](#)
 - d. [HVAC Contractor Training and Certification Plans - Companies](#)
 - e. [Concierge Services Offering – Companies](#)
 - f. [Low Income Deep Dive \(WAP and HES-IE Coordination\) – DEEP](#)
 - g. [U.S. DOE Home Energy Score HES/HES-IE Contractor Experience](#)
 - h. [Water Utilities Coordination Efforts](#)
 - i. [DEI Consultant Engagement and Recommendations – DEI Consultant](#)
 - j. [Defining “Weatherization” for Connecticut](#)
 - k. [Case Studies and Technologies Topic Ideas](#)
9. [Public Comments](#)

Ms. Heather Deese discussed the rebate program’s geothermal incentive and noted that cold climate heat pump performance necessitates a change in the CT incentive calculation to be based on heating capacity rather than cooling capacity. Ms. Kathy Fay suggested the Committee investigate how well the calculators are working and investigating a hybrid calculation that is based on both heating and cooling.

Mr. Bernie Pelletier noted that Eversource and Avangrid took over administration of the solar programs January 1. Mr. Pelletier suggested that solar programs should be included under the EEB’s purview given that the utilities are administering the programs or be able to provide direction for people like Mr. Ruhnke that have concerns about solar programs. Mr. Ron Araujo needs to investigate whether including solar programs under EEB purview will require a legislative change. Mr. Araujo added that concerns can be directed to the utilities and stakeholders can also engage with PURA during public input sessions. The Committee discussed the inclusion of solar in both electrification and weatherization strategies.

10. [Adjourn](#)

Ms. Melissa Kops motioned to adjourn, and Ms. Kathy Fay seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0 and the meeting was adjourned.