



**EEB Evaluation Committee
Monthly Meeting**

Monday March 10, 2014 – 10:00 - 11:30 am

Department of Energy and Environmental Protection – Public Utilities Regulatory Authority
OCC Conference Room / 10 Franklin Square, New Britain, Connecticut

MINUTES¹

Present: Amy Thompson (Chair – Phone), Kate Boucher (Diane Duva proxy), Taren O’Connor [EEB]; Geoff Embree, Joe Swift (Phone) [Utilities]; Scott Dimetrosky, Lori Lewis, Lisa Skumatz [Consultants]; Tim Cole (Scribe)

The meeting began at 10 am with SERA team lead consultant Lisa Skumatz facilitating.

1. Public Comment – There were no public comments.
2. Approval of January and February Evaluation Committee Meeting Minutes was deferred to an electronic vote due to lack of a quorum.²
3. Discussion of Projects / Status
 - a. Update on outstanding data elements –
 - Ms. Skumatz reported that on the Residential side, HES data has been supplied by the utilities and is now being used for the Whole House Building Analysis. There are some issues with the quality of the gas accounts data, but they are not impeding progress.
 - Lori Lewis reported that the bulk of the electric data sets for C&I have come in from UI but the gas data are still incomplete. There are some missing variables in UI data for the C11-SBEA Barriers to Participation study. She is in communication with Donna Wells. Ms. Skumatz suggested weekly troubleshooting calls with UI start up again.
 - Regarding the variables, Amy Thompson commented that if CL&P data shows sectors and UI data does not, it will not be possible to report out by sector type. She inquired whether it would make sense to use CLP data only. Ms. Lewis responded that the C17-Market Assessment project was planning to use estimations by business sectors, which could be done off CLP data. She noted however that sampling would be affected. The C11 study was not designed to report by sector, except for manufacturing. Ms. Thompson stated her preference that CL&P data be used if the sector data is available there.
 - Scott Dimetrosky reported that the R3-Regional Lighting Hours of Use Study is still waiting for some data from UI. Study contractor NMR is going to need a detailed tracking database. He plans to follow up with APT, the lighting vendor that administers the program, about the data status.
 - b. Early feedback on projects on hold / deferred, etc. –
 - Ms. Skumatz reported that the planned RFP for the R38-Field Test of Wireless Thermostats is being deferred until a later date.
 - The R61/C60-Loadshape Research will be deferred until next year because of NEEP budget issues.

¹ Meeting Materials Available at Box.net folder <https://app.box.com/s/1y6dmczcvv4pkxym19ux>

² The electronic vote was conducted between March 10-12, 2014. Both sets of minutes were approved as amended in accord with a request from Ms. Duva. The amended versions have been recorded and posted.

- The C18-SBEA process evaluation will also be delayed until next year. In 2015 the C102-SBEA impact evaluation is scheduled. It makes sense to do them together. She noted that a first look at impact data shows positive realization indications.
- c. Walk-through of Projects / Monthly Status Report –
- C&I Projects:
 1. C19 New Construction Baseline and Code Compliance – Ms. Lewis reviewed the one-page project description and noted that the study’s two objectives – to determine the rate of code compliance and establish a baseline for new construction – will also inform the Energy Conscious Blueprint evaluation and Program Savings Document savings estimates. Ms. O’Connor moved approved approval of the project. Ms. Thompson seconded the motion. All voted in favor.
 2. C11: SBEA Barriers to Commercial and Industrial Program Participation with a Focus on Financing and Cancellations – Ms. Lewis reviewed a memo describing why a \$20,000 budget increase was needed for management of the datasets. Ms. Thompson commented that she assumed this extra money would be covered by savings on other C&I projects and would therefore not result in an overage on the overall budget. She moved approval of the authorization. Ms. O’Connor seconded the motion. All voted in favor.
 3. Other C&I Projects – Ms. Lewis reported the following:
 - The C9 Small Business Impact has been delayed. A second version has been received from the contractor and a review draft will be made available soon.
 - C10-Small Business Data Mining study aims to compare what is in the database with population of potential customers. The plan is to get data from utilities rather than Dun & Bradstreet data. There are some delays on getting the data at UIL.
 - C11-SBEA Barriers – the focus now is on understanding the variables in the database.
 - C12 SBEA Low-income and Limited English participation study - Comments have been received. It is expected that the results will prove to be useful. Phase 2 of the study asked community organizations to indicate how they might be able to help, including cost estimates. The study was not designed to evaluate what is already being done, rather to look at what more might be done more and whether it would be cost effective.
 - C14-Energy Opportunities Impact and Process evaluation – She is now going through comments and editing the report. Geoff Embree commented that the utilities had received the site reports and they are proving very helpful.
 - C18-SBEA Process evaluation – This is the one large project to be deferred as agreed when the 2014 workplan budget was approved.
 - C20-Energy Conscious Blueprint Process evaluation – Work on the sample design is going on now. The cost will depend on what comes out of this. Phase I has been approved. Phase II will show details of how it will work.
 - Residential Projects - Mr. Dimetrosky reported the following:
 1. R3-Regional Lighting Hours of Use study – NMR is working on comments received from all sponsors. A revised draft is expected by the end of this week. The Hours of Use were higher than expected and higher than in the database.
 2. R7-Ground Source Heat Pump – The contractor is working on a second draft. 150 comments were received. CEFIA has expressed interest in taking in another look.
 3. R8-Central Air Conditioning study – The process piece has been completed. The impact piece will be ready for review next week.
 4. R86-Residential LED Market Assessment and Lighting Net to Gross study is now ramping up. He is now going over data needs and developing a Scope of Work. The study will need a detailed tracking database with the highest level of granulation. He will set up a conference call to go over the project with committee members.

5. R51-Codes and Standards project is also ramping up. Data requests to the utilities will be made soon.
 - Other Projects – Ms. Skumatz reported on the following:
 1. R2-CL&P HER Behavior Pilot Year 2 study – A draft is in hand and a review draft will be released later this month.
 2. R4-HES Persistence and Process and R5 Weatherization baseline evaluations – They are in the next phase of Weatherization planning. The stakeholder process is done and they are finishing up re-scoping. A revised project description will be coming soon. They have just received a report and are working on setting a date for a technical presentation.
 3. R15-Fuel-Switching Potential study is coming up behind the weatherization study. A technical meeting needs to be scheduled. It might be done together with an R4 meeting.
 4. R16-HES Impact and EUL study – There are no problems now. Phase II report will be available in late May/early June. Ms. Thompson noted that the team should follow the roadmap process regarding the Phase I WHBA. A presentation should be scheduled for Phase I separate from Phase II. Ms. O'Connor agreed. In response to an inquiry about the comment period, Ms. Thompson indicated that it should be kept on the two week scheduled called for by the roadmap. Ms. Skumatz noted that eventually the team foresees on complete report that will incorporate both Phases.
2. SERA Budget / Invoice & tracking update –
 - January-February Status compared to budget – Ms. Skumatz reported that billings for the first two months are in line with the budget.
 3. Other items
 - a. Follow-up from issues raised in EEB, etc.
 - Mr. Embree indicated that questions had been raised in the C&I committee about the timeliness of evaluations such as the Energy Opportunities study, which relied on 2011 data. He inquired what might be done to improve the turnaround time. Ms. Lewis noted that impact evaluations require a full year of billing data after retrofit measures were installed. Energy Opportunities was a 2-year project, using lighting data from 2012 and non-lighting data from 2013. Minimally a year and a half after a program year is required by the study design. Mr. Embree expressed concern that the results are not so useful to program administrators because of such delays. Ms. Lewis proposed a conference call be scheduled to discuss with stakeholders how to make the process more effective. She also suggested bringing it up at the C&I committee meeting the following day.
 - b. Ms. Skumatz confirmed that the Legislative Report had been submitted on schedule and noted that she expects a smoother process next time around.
 - c. Other – Ms. O'Connor reported that she will not be at the next meeting due to a conflict. Ms. Duva agreed to host the meeting in another conference room.
 4. Adjourn – With no further business to conduct, the committee adjourned at 11:30 am.

Respectfully submitted, Tim Cole, Scribe