



**EEB Residential Committee Meeting**  
Wednesday, November 9, 2022 | 9:30AM - 12PM (Webinar Only)

[Meeting Materials](#) | [Meeting Recording](#)

## Minutes

1. Welcome – Melissa Kops
  - a. Roll Call of Committee Members

Board members: Vicki Hackett (DEEP), Melissa Kops, Larry Rush  
Note that Ron Araujo and Kathy Fay joined after roll call and the vote on item 2.  
Board Consultants: Stacy Sherwood, Glenn Reed, Emily Rice, Allison Carson, Richard Faesy  
Other attendees: Diane Del Rosso, Alycia Jenkins, Anne Hulick, Devan Willemsen, Doug Presley, Guilia Bambara, Joe Roy, Joyce Chai, Kate Donatelli, Kenyetta Risser-Lovings, Leticia Colon de Mejias, Madeline Priest, Michelle Long, Mike Uhl, Natalia Sudyka, Patrice Gillespie, Ralph Mesite, Rebecca Dube, Seema Alim, Sherri Borelli, Shubhuda Kambli, Tammy Wilson, Andres Isaacs, Edgardo Mejias, Violette Radomski, Rebecca BaezCastro, Andrew Isaacs
  - b. Meeting procedures and process update

Ms. Melissa Kops reviewed the [process and procedures](#) with attendees.
  - c. Reminder of no December meeting

The Residential Committee, as well as the EEB and C&I Committee, meetings for December have been cancelled. Meetings will resume in January.
  - d. Reminder of mailing lists sign-up – Emily Rice

The Executive Secretary reminded attendees that the EEB distribution lists will be updated at the end of the year. Everyone wishing to receive EEB-related correspondence in 2023 and forward needs to [subscribe to the new lists](#) by December 31.
2. Approve October Residential Committee Meeting Minutes

Ms. Melissa Kops motioned to approve the minutes; Ms. Kathy Fay seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0.
3. Public Comments

There were no public comments offered at this time.
4. Companies Updates
  - a. Q3 Reporting

4a1 – Q3 Program Results  
Ms. Diane Del Rosso, Eversource, and Mr. Larry Rush, Avangrid, provided a combined [Residential EE Programs Q3 Results Report](#). This is the first time the companies have combined the Q3 report-out in one presentation. The report includes spending and savings progress through Q3 of 2023.

Regarding the high-level summary on slide 2, Ms. Kops asked for further information on UI's disproportionate savings (121%) to spending (93%) and Mr. Rush explained that a large heat pump water heater project drove further savings in that territory. Ms. Kops noted SCG's overspending (102% of goal) that has achieved 76% of savings and asked if the spending includes additional RGGI funding provided by DEEP. Mr. Rush noted the reflected spending in the table is only C&LM Plan dollars and does not include additional funding.

Mr. Mike Uhl asked how is the SCG budget impacting HES and HES-IE project approvals right now? Mr. Larry Rush said projects are being approved as they usually are. Mr. Rush said vendors are spacing out work based on the purchase orders they were given for the year. Mr. Uhl asked whether, given the additional RGGI funding allocated, vendor purchase orders have been increased. Mr. Rush noted that the additional funds are not being distributed through vendor POs, so those POs are set for the rest of the year.

Regarding slide 5, Ms. Kops asked why Residential New Construction is lagging in meeting goals. Mr. Rush noted that an uptick electric heat with gas water heater projects has caused less spending in SCG territory. Ms. Hackett asked what the plan is for dollars not spent, and Mr. Rush noted that funding has been spent in other programs, specifically HES and HES-IE, which have a higher demand.

Regarding slide 6, Ms. Hackett asked whether the companies will be fully spent on all the funding, both C&LM Plan and additional RGGI funding. Mr. Rush predicted that Avangrid companies will be close, but on the SCG side may fall slightly short of spending. Ms. Del Rosso noted that HES-IE will be overspent, but overall Ms. Del Rosso is unsure where Eversource will end up in terms of spending by end of year. Ms. Hackett shared that DEEP provided additional funding to reach customers before they enter the heating season and wants to ensure those funds will be spent. Ms. Del Rosso will need to follow up regarding spending of additional funds. Ms. Del Rosso added that Eversource will be sharing more information regarding spending of additional funding at the EEB meeting this afternoon. Ms. Hackett indicated that the companies are expected to spend the (Conservation Adjustment Mechanism) funding and the full amount of CAM dollars are requested for the following year.

Mr. Uhl asked if the additional RGGI funding was allocated to contribute for HES and HESIE projects, why are contractors reporting that they are limited from submitting projects in some areas of the state, as well as delaying projects until 2023? Mr. Rush said that there is still high demand, despite additional funds, and the Companies are doing the best they have with the workforce and funds available. Mr. Rush noted that additional funds needed to be allocated to single family and multifamily income-eligible projects.

Regarding slide 7, Mr. Richard Faesy asked about the high lifetime savings (520%) in UI territory and Mr. Rush pointed to a large heat pump water heater project, which was funded in 2021 but the savings were claimed in 2022.

Regarding the Residential New Construction metric (% of homes with HERS rating less than or equal to 50) on slide 9, neither company is expecting to achieve its respective goal. Ms. Del Rosso explained that recent changes to Home Energy Rating System (HERS) Index scoring are a significant barrier for this goal and added that for all-electric multifamily projects HERS does not meet the threshold of the goal. Mr. Faesy added that

the move to an all-electric program will necessitate an evaluation of this metric in 2023 to ensure the metric aligns with the state's goals. Mr. Faesy and Ms. Del Rosso further explained the changes to the HERS scoring and challenges to using HERS as an indicator of performance. Ms. Kops asked if ERI changed along with the HERS. **Mr. Faesy indicated he was not sure if the two were aligned.** Ms. Kops said she would like to be included in discussions regarding HERS. Mr. Uhl [shared a link](#) explaining how ERI and HERS are getting updated, and why they are "out of sync".

Regarding the metric for Participation in HES/HES-IE for single family customers coded "hardship" as of 11-9-2020 (slide 10), Ms. Kops asked what steps were being taken to reach targeted customers. Mr. Rush explained that frequent mailings and a new link tool on the website are used. Ms. Hackett explained there are RGGI dollars, Forward Capacity Market (FCM), CAM, and this year additional RGGI dollars that fund these programs. Ms. Hackett noted that Eversource was underspent overall in 2021 and asked for less funding from the CAM (less dollars) for 2022. **Ms. Hackett asked if Eversource would be requesting the full amount allowed from the CAM for 2023. Ms. Del Rosso said she would need to follow up with an answer.**

Regarding the multifamily (MF) initiative's low spending across the board (slide 11), Ms. Hackett asked if this was typical and whether the goal should be revisited. Ms. Del Rosso and Mr. Rush discussed the high demand for single family and noted that spending shifted from multifamily to single family in response to this demand in 2022. This applies to income eligible multifamily as well. Mr. Uhl asked how multifamily retrofit numbers compare to the actual rate of construction of MF projects in the state and the level of overall state saturation of projects. Mr. Rush said that he does not have information on the saturation of projects. Mr. Rush noted that projects are brought by a network of distributors, and the Companies try to make the most out of project applications that come through several rebate channels.

Regarding heat pump water heaters, Ms. Kops and Mr. Rush discussed the drivers for heat pump water heaters versus traditional water heating equipment. **Mr. Uhl asked if the HVAC/Water Heating graphs (slide 14) be set up to show the heating fuel (as a stacked bar graph) for the AC or Heat Pumps?** Mr. Uhl noted this would help understand the proportion of these sales within context of the market.

Ms. Kathy Fay asked if all the approved vendors of the Heat Pump Installer Network (HPIN) were on the [Energize CT website](#) now, noting that at least two had been missing. **Mr. Rush said he did not have the full answer and would follow up.**

At the conclusion of the presentation, Ms. Del Rosso asked the Committee if there were any changes to this format they would like to see. **Ms. Kops said this format was easier to absorb but noted she would need more time to consider whether further details were needed.**

In response to a Condition of Approval, the Companies provided Q3 Single Family and Multifamily Add-On Measure Reports for [Avangrid \(4a2\)](#) and [Eversource \(4a3\)](#) in the materials folder. The Companies also provided a Q3 report on the [Department of Energy Home Energy Score metric](#). Attendees were encouraged to review those materials and provide questions to the [Executive Secretary](#).

**In review of the HES and HESIE Add-On measures, Mr. Uhl asked if the graphs can be**

updated to clarify the quantity of percentages? Is the percentage in reference to total participants that completed a project? Are the percentages cumulative? How many did more than one rebated measure? What is the proportion related to single family vs multifamily (could it be separated or shown as a stacked bar chart)?

Mr. Rush noted he was moving to the C&I sector and this will be his last report out for the Residential sector.

b. Community Partnership Initiative

Ms. Devan Willemsen provided an update on the [Community Partnership Initiative](#) that included a summary of Round 1 experience. Ms. Willemsen shared highlights of feedback received from participants, DEI Consultants, and Program Evaluators. Ms. Willemsen noted input from stakeholders will inform the design of Round 2. On Slides 3-5, Ms. Willemsen shared collateral examples from Round 1 projects. Ms. Willemsen's presentation included focus areas for Round 2. Round 2 applications will be released soon, and it's anticipated it will close in Q1 2023.

Ms. Vicki Hackett asked if the Round 2 application has been shared with DEEP. The Companies have shared the draft application with the DEI Consultant and are waiting on internal steps before it is shared with DEEP and EEB.

Ms. Hackett expressed a desire that heat pump deployment be a focus and asked in what ways this program will encourage comprehensive building retrofits. Ms. Hackett requested that answers to this be shared with DEEP before the Round 2 application is finalized. [Ms. Willemsen will follow up on this.](#)

Ms. Kathy Fay asked if there were leftover funds from Round 1. Ms. Willemsen said the projects from Round 1 were fully funded. Ms. Fay asked how the budget for the CPI is set. Ms. Willemsen explained the budget was based on the sum of requested funds from approved applications in Round 1.

5. Efficiency for All Career ConneCT – Leticia Colon de Mejias

Ms. Leticia Colon de Mejias, Efficiency for All (EFA), presented on Efficiency for All's [Career ConneCT Program](#). The Career ConneCT program was partially funded by a federal award. Ms. Colon de Mejias' presentation included an overview of the program and the need for education to close the gap in workforce diversity. The presentation also includes details on the program, including participants, program qualifications and aspects, program impacts and benefits, best practices, and recommended needs for the future.

Ms. Kops asked how many positions across the state were open to participants of the Career ConneCT program. Ms. Colon de Mejias said she does not have access to this information. Ms. Colon de Mejias explained that uncertainty around the Inflation Reduction Act, iCAST, and C&LM Program funding makes it difficult for contractors to project workforce needs and adequately plan. Ms. Colon de Mejias suggested discussing this topic in the future to address this. Ms. Colon de Mejias noted that EFA has not yet received funding, adding that a kind donation enabled the program to launch.

Ms. Melissa Kops asked how the cohorts were targeted and the applications generated. Ms. Colon de Mejias explained that vulnerable communities were a focus and shared that a combination of research on EnergizeCT website, a partnership with the Veterans Association, and thoughtful citing for events in public spaces were tactics that helped find applicants.

Ms. Colon de Mejias shared the website for the [EFA CT Workforce Program](#) and [Outcomes](#). Ms. Colon de Mejias shared [the Outcomes report for the last cohort](#), [sign up for the programs](#) and a video from the last [program completion ceremony](#).

## 6. DEEP Updates

A [slide deck](#) highlighting the following topics was shared in the materials folder.

### a. EEB members

- Residential Committee member
- Environmental Organization member

DEEP released a [Notice of Vacancy and Request for Applications](#) for this seat. Ms. Hackett encouraged attendees to share it.

### b. Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP) RFP Results and Coordination Plans

Ms. Guilia Bambara shared an update on slide 3. The state will be receiving \$46 million in funding over three tranches. DEEP is in the process of reviewing three RFPs: program administrators of formula funding (single family), program administrators of BIL funding (multifamily), and technical consultants for both formula and BIL funding. DEEP submitted a WAP BIL application at the end of September and is waiting on Department of Energy (DOE) feedback. DEEP will modify the plan to incorporate both DOE and stakeholder feedback collected at Public Input Sessions.

### c. CTAC Meeting Preview

DEEP is looking to reschedule the November meeting due to the Thanksgiving Holiday. A [survey](#) was sent to CTAC members to find a new date that works. DEEP has also requested input on agenda items.

Ms. Kathy Fay asked whether CTAC has discussed the relationship of HES budgets and solar projects. Ms. Vicki Hackett said this topic is on the agenda for the next CTAC meeting. Ms. Kops said that prioritizing heat pumps under HES was important and would like to revisit the heat pump requirement for HES solar projects. Ms. Hackett shared that it's important to get input from the Consultants and Board on whether weatherization is a requirement or incentive.

### d. Weatherization Barriers Program Operator

DEEP and ICAST are working with WAP Program Administrators, Companies, and DSS to finalize the program process, metrics, customer prioritization, and marketing materials. The program is in the middle of the pilot phase and DEEP anticipates ramping up in the New Year.

Ms. Kathy Fay asked what guardrails are in place to mitigate lags for customers. Ms. Fay wants to ensure timely responses to customers. Ms. Vicki Hackett said that the pilot is intended to identify process deficiencies or gaps, like timing, prior to the full rollout. Ms. Hackett shared that ICAST payment is commission based so they are motivated to complete projects efficiently. Ms. Bambara shared that delays in the pilot are much due to DEEP refining the process. Ms. Bambara mentioned that Stacked Efficiency and Electrification Program (SEEP) applications have caused delays for some customers and DEEP is working to find ways to remedy that.

Mr. Richard Faesy asked when ICAST can join a Residential Committee meeting to provide an update. Ms. Hackett said that a few more details need to be ironed out

before they are ready, but they can definitely speak here and at the CTAC meeting.

Ms. Kops asked if there would be an overall reporting of how all the programs are doing across the state. Ms. Hackett said she would need consider how this can be pulled together and would need to follow up on this. Ms. Kops said it could give a better indication of progress toward state goals. Ms. Hackett discussed the opportunity IRA funding offers for comprehensive retrofits in the affordable housing space.

Ms. Kops mentioned complimentary EPA grants for single family and weatherization barriers. Ms. Hackett shared that DEEP is working with Green Bank to provide feedback on the EPA grant program. Ms. Hackett offered to have Becca Tricia, who is coordinating Green that effort, come to a future Residential Committee meeting and talk about it.

e. Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) Plans

US Department of Energy released allocations for certain state-administered IRA programs: \$49,830,560 for Home Energy Performance-Based Whole House Rebate (HOMES) Connecticut and \$49,541,390 for the High Efficiency Electric Home Rebate Connecticut. DOE is planning to release Requests for Information for these opportunities in early 2023. DOE will be hosting listening sessions from November 2022-January 2023. Information has not been released on these sessions, but stakeholders can visit DOE's website for information. DEEP is hosting a Public Input Session on opportunities to coordinate IRA funds and DEEP will discuss the allocation for the above-mentioned programs as well.

Mr. Mike Uhl asked how are DEEP, CTAC, and the Utilities preparing for the IRA funding and the requirements to meet ANSI/BPI-2400 calibration with utility data and energy modeling to become compliant with funding sources for HOMES and low-income incentives?

f. 2023 Plan Update Request for Written Comments

The EEB approved with Conditions the 2023 Plan Update. The 2023 Plan Update and PSD was filed with DEEP on November 1, 2022. On November 2, DEEP issued a [Notice of Request for Written Comments](#). Comments are due November 15 and can be submitted to [DEEP](#). All comments written and verbal received through joint EEB/DEEP public input sessions held in July and September will be considered.

7. Green Bank Update

Mr. Ralph Mesite provided an update on the Green Bank [Smart-E Loan Program](#). The presentation includes an overview of the program, participating lenders, details on a limited-time special offer, and changes going-forward.

Mr. Faesy asked if loan offerings are being increased to account for higher costs of ground source heat pumps. Mr. Mesite said the Green Bank is further considering upper limits on loan amounts but added that coupling loans can help cover the cost of heat pump installation.

Regarding the Smart-E Loan, Mr. Mike Uhl asked what is the rationale for moving from on-bill financing? Does the shift also still allow customers to utilize bill-payment history instead of FICO score? Mr. Mesite said that Capitol for Change would need to provide a full explanation. Mr. Mesite said challenges in reporting back and forth led to lack of payment, further explaining charges were not getting reflected on customer bills so customers were not repaying loans in a timely manner. Mr. Mesite said that program requirements for the program have not changed.

The on-bill repayment option for Smart-E loans is no longer an option but customers can still pay Capitol for Change directly.

8. Future Agenda Topics – Consultants

Mr. Richard Faesy provided a list of [future agenda topics](#) and led a discussion prioritizing topics for the next few Residential Committee meetings. Ms. Kops suggested pushing the Weatherization Barriers Program topic after January. Ms. Kops suggested that the Workforce Development Progress and 80% Weatherization by 2030 Goal topics should be in the same meeting, so the Committee can understand what kind of workforce is needed. Ms. Kops would like to get feedback from DEEP and others on what needs to be accomplished and how new funding can be used.

Ms. Fay shared she has received feedback from stakeholders and asked where to share that information. Ms. Hackett said input can be sent to [DEEP](#) and Mr. Faesy said the [Consultants](#) are also collecting input.

9. Public Comments

There were no public comments offered.

10. Adjourn

Ms. Kops motioned to adjourn the meeting; Ms. Fay seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0 and the meeting was adjourned.