



EEB Residential Committee Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, September 9, 2020, 10:00 am – 12:00 pm (Webinar Only)

Meeting Materials: <https://app.box.com/s/zrj5w7lbymrthukmysz793qfuy8k8a7p>

1. **Welcome**
2. **Meeting procedures and process update - Amy McLean**
3. **Public Input/Comments (limit to 3 min/person) (none)**

4. **Approve 8/12/20 Residential Committee Meeting Minutes**

Amy McLean and Brenda Watson (via email) moved and seconded the minutes.

5. **Companies' updates**

a. **Q2 Program Update -Eversource**

Ms. Del Rosso presented data from Eversource through June 30, 2020 with forecasts for electric usage in multi-family with 75% of the electric budget spent achieving 80% of lifetime savings. As of June 30th activity from 2019 - 2020 show higher numbers in 2020 due to incentives for DHW. Current central air conditioning data is lower than 2019 due to COVID-19.

i. Residential New Construction, Multifamily, HVAC

Ms. Del Rosso said a HERS rating of 50 or less was the goal of single-family properties established in 2018. In 2020 the goal is 21.1% and 36.2% of units have a HERS rating of 50 or less; 710 projects have been paid through June 30th. Fifteen percent of those projects were single family and 85% for multi-family. New residential projects show no heating oil projects and 15 projects are propane. Mr. Faesy and Mr. Reed asked for further information on these breakdowns that will be provided at the next meeting.

Mr. Rush reported Q2 results for new construction, multifamily and HVAC. UI market rate multifamily was about one-third of planned of savings and spending. UI income-eligible spending was at less than half of planned spending but closer to the savings goal. SCG market-rate multifamily had almost no activity resulting in very low spending and savings. SCG income-eligible multifamily was at about one-third spending and savings. CNG market-rate multifamily was close to spending and savings goals, whereas GCN income-eligible multifamily had no activity and therefore no spending or savings reported.

CNG and SCG HVAC and water heater programs were at about one-third of their spending and savings goals. UI reported activity at about just 20% of the planned spending and savings.

There was also very little UI, SCG and CNG residential new construction activity in terms of spending and savings. These were all natural gas fueled units, split evenly between Tier 1

and 2 for single family detached and attached units, and 71% Tier 2 for the multifamily projects.

b. Program Activity Update

Residential – Ms. Del Rosso stated many vendors are looking into November with projects due to zero co-pay and increased rebates. Electric expenses are forecasted at about 89% with a lifetime savings slightly higher at 93%. NG sector is forecasted to be 98% and a lifetime savings at ~95%. Residential new construction (electric) is over 90% spent. NG is forecasted at 75% spent. Core services are forecasted as electric to be 75% and lifetime savings achieved at 70%; and, gas services are at 120% spent and 120% lifetime savings. HES (electric) forecast of 90% savings with NG at 90% spent savings. Residential retail is forecast at 100% spent with the lifetime savings a bit higher.

Mr. Rush announced programs are seeing an uptick with additional numbers to report at the end of August. Several multi-family projects are coming through with spending goals for UI to be 23 and 20% with the budget in 27%. The goal is to have fully spent funds by the end of the year with savings over 100% for the program. P&G is hoping to be at 75% of the goal or above. Multi-family has several projects in progress and will be for increased activity at the end of the year.

c. Heat Pump Pilot Promotion Plans

Mr. Rush stated they want to move forward with the pilot; working with distributors and vendors promoting the program. Ms. Del Rosso indicated with increased 2020 incentives as of July, vendors are expecting a 20% increase in volume. Ms. McLean noted the presentation on heat pumps from Mr. Rush was very good. Mr. Reed asked if the systems included central air and ductless heat pumps in the pilot. Mr. Rush responded all systems are included pending they make sense economically for the customer. Mr. Faesy asked when the Customer Economics Tool will be available. Ms. Del Rosso will investigate and report back.

d. 2021 Plan Update

Ms. Del Rosso noted HES virtual pre-assessments will continue with the hope that screening tools will be used by the vendors. Increased incentive levels are proposed through June 30th, 2021 and will then decrease to 2021 levels. Insulation, heat pump and window incentives will maintain post COVID levels through 2021. The Companies will be raising the co-pay from \$0 to \$50 on July 1, 2021. They plan to include air purifiers and natural gas dryers. Mr. Li asked if more information could be provided about how higher incentives and fewer customers impact on overall program savings. Would we be better off with lower incentives and more customers? Ms. McLean and Mr. Reed agreed with this request. Ms. Del Rosso will provide answers to that information for the future Res Committee meeting.

6. Weatherization Barriers Coordination Workshop Plans

Slides detailing below items were discussed with the group lead by Mr. Faesy. Volunteers from the group to help organize are: Diane Del Rosso, Larry Rush, Brenda Watson, Mike Li, Donna Wells.

a. Workshop goals

Ms. Del Rosso suggested defining health and safety barriers in conjunction with the Connecticut Green Bank. Mr. Buonannata suggested Madeline Priest could contribute to those efforts.

b. Invitees

LIHEAP, WAP, Housing Agencies, and someone to speak on Zonolite funding.

c. Logistics, date, next steps

A virtual platform could be offered this Fall.

7. Serving Disadvantaged Communities

a. DEEP Equitable Energy Efficiency Proceeding

Mr. Li stated that the equitable distribution report is defined in Connecticut statute with a narrow definition of equity. DEEP is interested in stakeholder and customer feedback to expand the definition of equity. A notice was posted on the DEEP filing page to solicit initial feedback by October 5th. These comments may direct the Companies and the 2021 Plan Update.

b. Energy and Equity Workgroup concept

Ms. McLean asked the workgroup to meet by the end of September.

i. Definitions

Definitions will be considered as part of this workgroup.

ii. Development of Equity Performance Baselines Metrics Incentive (PMI)

Metrics related to equity will be developed and discussed in future Res Committee meetings.

c. Update on Companies' customer income participation study

Ms. Del Rosso stated Meghan O'Conner, who has done previous presentations, is updating the presentation now to include the definition of renters v owners. Also, definitions of distressed/disadvantaged communities need to be defined properly. This presentation will be delivered in October. Ms. McLean asked for a definition of a customer. Ms. Del Rosso stated this is a report the Residential Committee had requested in 2018. It will be forwarded to Ms. McLean and a discussion about it will occur off-line.

8. Savings Attribution for Policy Advocacy Support introduction – Consultants

Mr. Faesy explained that the C&LM 2020 Plan included plans for a review of residential code attribution models currently in place and in other states. The Connecticut Codes and Standards Committee (C&SC) voted recently to delay adoption of any code updates until June 2021. C&SC will opt of reviewing the 2021 codes and move from a three-year to a six-year code adaption cycle. This would be inconsistent with the state energy policy.

Mr. Faesy reviewed the concept of claiming savings for codes support activities. Two publications are available in the Residential Committee box.com folder for background and review. The challenge that occurs is; the baseline energy use of new building construction decreases as the codes go into effect. This means the DSM programs need to stay ahead of the code in order to make the utility programs more cost-effective with a shrinking baseline, thus making the savings more difficult to achieve. Two ways to extract savings from new construction is compliance enhancement and adoption and promulgation of new codes and standards. Examples were provided for California, Massachusetts, Arizona and Rhode Island. Ms. McLean asked about timing and who would set up the initiatives to move it forward. Mr. Li responded it lies within DEEP's authority. How can we attribute utilities' actions to passing a policy? And how much do the utilities think it's going to cost to move forward? Ms. McLean suggested someone from Eversource in Massachusetts provide a presentation with regard to this matter to the EEB. Mr. Reed suggested having the consultants discuss this and coming back to Board leadership about next steps. Ms. McLean agreed.

9. **Agenda items for future Residential Committee meetings**
 - a. **Weatherization Barriers Coordination Workshop Plans**
 - b. **Serving Disadvantaged Communities**
 - c. **Savings Attribution for Policy Advocacy Support**
 - d. **CT Green Bank Updates**

Ms. McLean suggested having CT Green Bank Updates quarterly from Madeline Priest.

10. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 12:02 pm.