

NEW HAMPSHIRE



ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND SUSTAINABLE ENERGY BOARD

RSA 125-0:5-a
21 South Fruit Street, Suite 10
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Public statement regarding EERS Resolution

The Energy Efficiency and Sustainable Energy Board (EESB Board) on September 16, 2016 passed a resolution affirming its role in the development and implementation of a comprehensive plan for an Energy Efficiency Resource Standard (EERS) in New Hampshire.

An EERS establishes specific, long-term targets for energy savings that utilities must meet through customer energy efficiency programs. The New Hampshire EERS calls for a cumulative reduction in energy use of 3.1% compared to 2014 statewide regulated electricity sales and 2.25% of 2014 statewide natural gas sales by the end of 2020. EERS standards are considered a key component of states' commitment to energy efficiency as defined by the American Council for an Energy Efficient Economy (ACEEE).

The EESB Board was established on October 1, 2008 by RSA 125-0:5-a "to promote and coordinate energy efficiency, demand response, and sustainable energy programs in the state." It is a coalition of diverse energy stakeholders including trade and non-profit organizations, state legislators from both the House and Senate, state agency representatives, and the gas and electric utilities.

The EESB Board's role as the stakeholder body that will support the successful implementation of the EERS by assuming the role of a stakeholder advisory council was first proposed in April 2016 as part of the EERS settlement agreement. The EESB Board's role as convening body was subsequently affirmed by Public Utilities Commission (PUC) in its EERS Order No. 25,932 issued on August 2, 2016. The Settlement Agreement was supported by parties participating in the EERS Docket and included the NH gas and electric utilities, which have been administering the state's energy efficiency programs; PUC staff; Office of the Consumer Advocate; Department of Environmental Services; Office of Energy and Planning (OEP); New Hampshire Community Action Association; The Way Home; Conservation Law Foundation; Jordan Institute; Acadia Center; New Hampshire Sustainable Energy Association; Northeast Clean Energy Council; NH Community Development Finance Authority; and TRC Energy Services.

A natural progression of the EESB Board's eight year charge, the responsibility of convening diverse stakeholders to support the development of the EERS' first three-year plan (2018-2020) was accepted unanimously by the EESB Board. The resolution adopted on September 16, 2016 reads:

The Energy Efficiency and Sustainable Energy (EESB) Board affirms that it is willing and able to support the successful implementation of the Energy Efficiency Resource Standard (EERS) by

assuming the role of the stakeholder advisory council framed by the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) in its Order No. 25,932.

To accomplish this task, the EESE Board formally establishes an EERS Committee to:

- help the EESE Board define its roles and responsibilities in the EERS process,
- work with the PUC's Electric Division to develop the scope of work for an RFP to retain expert consultant(s), as described in Order No. 25,932, who will support the EESE Board's work in the EERS process, and
- undertake the ongoing committee work necessary to ensure that the EESE Board fulfills its role in the EERS process, including recruitment of additional committee members not currently engaged with the EESE Board.

For more information about upcoming meetings and how to get involved in the EESE Board's work on the EERS, please see the EESE Board's webpage at <http://www.puc.nh.gov/EESE.htm>.

September 26, 2016