

EESE Board O&E Meeting 9-1-16 at the PUC

The meeting started at 11:15 due to the previous meeting running over time. Mary Downes was the minute taker.

Present: Scott Albert (GDS Associates, committee chairperson), Mary Downes (Unitil), Kate Peters (Eversource), Don Kreis (Office of Consumer Advocate), Laura Richardson (The Jordan Institute), Carol Woods (NH Electric Coop), Ben Frost (NH Housing Finance Authority), Rep. Bob Backus (House STE Committee), Joe Fontaine (DES), Dennis Labbe (New Hampshire Legal Assistance), Karen Cramton (PUC Sustainability Division), Tanya Wayland (PUC Sustainability Division).

Not present but expressed interest in being on the committee: Bob Eldredge and Andy Duncan. In addition, Cindy Schweitzer had tried dialing into the call, but the phone bridge had been not been activated due to the late meeting start.

Laura does not intend to remain on committee but wanted to provide update on the Op Ed that has been drafted. Don Kreis may stay on if his presence is needed.

Agenda review

- Messaging on EERS
- Report back to EESE Board at next meeting
- If time talk about longer term goals

Discussion

Ben Frost notes that a different sub-committee of EESE was appointed and met this week, the EERS sub-committee. It is discussing the Board's role with regard to EERS and developing recommendations to give to the PUC Electric Division on the RFP for a planning consultant for the three year EERS plan (2018-2020).

Discussion of outreach on the EERS done to date revealed that the PUC issued a press release on August 2 when Order on EERS came out. NHSEA issued a notice on their website, New Hampshire Legal Assistance has written a letter which it is has not released yet, and other stakeholders and EESE Board members have or are in the process of issuing statements. Laura reports on the status of an Op ED that has been drafted by EERS settling parties. Signatures are being collected through tomorrow, and Eversource will distribute it to the media after the Labor Day weekend.

Ben says a motion will be presented at next EESE Board on a resolution being drafted by the other sub-committee affirming the EESE Board role as described in the EERS Order. Group discusses recommending to the full EESE Board that it issue a public statement regarding same. Possible points for such a statement include:

- Acknowledge EESE Board's role in guiding the EERS (referencing the Order)
 - Act as the forum to ensure the state's ratepayer funded energy efficiency programs are transparent, well-run, effective and that a diversity of interests are welcomed and engaged
- Summarize key components of the EERS and focus of the EESE Board to achieve them

- Provide an invitation to parties that are interested in participating in the development of the 2018-2020 Energy Efficiency plan
- Express EESE Board's commitment to energy efficiency

Further discussion followed regarding ongoing outreach, the option of designating an individual of the EESE Board to be a spokesperson on energy efficiency issues related to the Board's work, the development of talking points approved by the EESE Board, and the extent to which that should and would be coordinated with the PUC's electric division.

Discussion followed on how to better engage the business community in the work of the EESE Board and in support of the EERS. The Business and Industry Association (BIA) has a seat on the EESE Board, with Brian Ramsey of Velcro its appointed representative. There was discussion of the O&E committee reaching out to the BIA to make a presentation about the EESE Board and the EERS, which the group agreed should be done.

The meeting adjourned after agreeing to meet again next month with a focus on outreach around the EESE Board resolution, if passed, as well as greater outreach about the EESE Board's charge.