

ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND SUSTAINABLE ENERGY BOARD

RSA 125-O:5-a
21 South Fruit Street, Suite 10
Concord, N.H. 03301-2429

Draft Minutes for March 17, 2017

Attendees:

Board members: Ben Frost (NH Housing Finance Authority); Karen Rantamaki (NH DAS); Brianna Brand for Kate Epsen (NH SEA); Tom Palma for Cindy Carrol (Unitil); Carol Woods (NHEC); Becky Ohler (NH DES); Eric Stanley (Liberty Utilities); Kate Peters (Eversource); Rep. Herbert Richardson (NH House); D. Maurice Kreis (NH OCA); Karen Cramton (NH PUC); Rep. Robert Backus (NH House); Steve Tower for Dennis Labbe (NH Legal Assistance); Jeffrey Cyr (State Fire Marshal); Teresa Swanick (NH Municipal Association); Myles Matteson (NH OEP); Michael Behrmann (Revolution Energy).

Guests: Tanya Wayland (NH PUC); Liz Nixon (NH PUC); Autumn Curilla (GDS Associates); Bruce Clendenning (TNC); Christine Donovan (VEIC); Mary Downes (Unitil); Chris Skoglund (NH DES); Rick Minard; Chairman Richard Barry (NH House); Brian Buckley (NH OCA); Ned Reynolds (Johnson Controls).

1. Welcome and Introductions:

Meeting started at 9:08 am.

2. Approval of Meeting Minutes:

Meeting minutes from February 17, 2017 were approved. Final minutes will be posted on the EESE Board's website.

3. EESE Board Annual Report:

The draft annual report was accepted as amended. The final report will be posted on the EESE Board's website.

4. EESE Board Committee Updates:

- Outreach and Education (O & E) Committee Update:
 - The Outreach and Education Committee did not hold a meeting since the last EESE Board meeting. The committee is available to assist the Board should they wish to provide a specific objective to achieve.
- EERS Committee Update:
 - The EERS Committee held two meetings since the last EESE Board meeting. At the meeting held on March 3rd, the Committee discussed the potential inclusion of Non Energy Impacts (NEI) as applied in cost-benefit analysis and tests. The Committee agreed to recommend that the utilities consider an evidence-based approach to valuing NEI in their proposed EERS plan. The Committee proposed that the EESE Board accept this recommendation. The EESE Board moved to accept this recommendation and it was carried unanimously.

- The EERS Committee in collaboration with the utilities and Christine Donovan (VEIC) have completed a series of workshops held to gather information and ideas to help the utilities draft the first EERS three year plan. The workshops focused on the following topics: Residential, Municipal, and Commercial & Industrial programs; Non Energy Impacts; Financing and Program Marketing; and Evaluation, Measurement, and Verification. All materials from the workshops can be found on the PUC website <http://puc.nh.gov/EESE.htm>.
- The collective utilities have found the workshop conversations extremely helpful and informative as they go forward drafting their plan. They felt the workshops provided useful feedback and are appreciative for the input. Based on the volume of feedback received and the time required to sort and filter the information, the utilities requested an additional month to prepare the first draft of the plan, deferring submittal to the Board until the end of May, 2017. The EERS Committee recommended allowing this additional time to receive a comprehensive draft plan. The consensus of the Board was to accept this recommendation.

5. Board and Program Updates:

- Public Utilities Commission (PUC) Updates:
 - The final Grid Modernization meeting was held on Monday, March 13, 2017 to discuss the draft recommendation document. The final report is due in April.
 - DE 16-576, Develop a Net Metering Alternative Tariff – Two Settlement Agreements have been filed with the Commission. A Schedule is being developed for the hearings scheduled for the last week of March, 2017. Based on the Commission’s Order issued in December 2016, the target date to release an Order is June, 2017.
 - Biodiesel Rules (DRM 16-829) – the PUC with stakeholder input is working to develop rules for the manufacturing of Biodiesel to qualify for Renewable Energy Certificates. The first Technical Session was held in November. The next Technical Session will be held, Tuesday, March 21st at the PUC. The Commission has drafted an outline of preliminary rules to be discussed at the Technical Session.
- Office of Energy and Planning (OEP) Updates:
 - The OEP is in the process of hiring staff. Based on the proposal in HB2, OEP may be rebranded as the Office of Strategic Initiatives for the purpose of recognizing Planning, Energy, and other initiatives as part of a strategic structure.
 - The U.S. DOE budget could be significantly impacted based on the President’s budget proposal.
- Department of Environmental Services (DES) Updates:
 - Volkswagen settlement funding has been on hold waiting for a trustee to be named, which happened this week. DES has 60 days to file the paperwork and the Governor will need to sign to enable NH to become a beneficiary of approximately \$30 million in settlement funding. The draft mitigation plan would be filed within 90 days of the state becoming a beneficiary. The public comment period has closed. NH’s primary focus will be on publicly owned fleets; however, privately owned fleets may be considered.
 - DES is working on a Regional Climate Change Initiative with representatives from each New England state and the Eastern Canadian provinces to develop possible regional energy-related strategies in preparations for this summer’s meeting of the New England Governors and Eastern Canadian Premiers. The Governors and Premiers will need to approve any

such initiatives or strategies. DES is hosting a stakeholder gathering session webinar which has been rescheduled for Friday, March 24, 2017 from 1-2 pm EDT.

- Other Updates:
 - The utilities will be holding their quarterly CORE meeting at the PUC on Monday, March 20th to review 2016 program results.
 - There are a number of home shows being held across the state this month in Hanover, Concord and Manchester.
 - There are also a number of “Lighten Up” events taking place at NH schools. More information can be found on the NH Saves website.
 - Starting this month the four utilities will be introducing the appliance (refrigerators and AC units) recycling program. More information is available on the NH Saves website.
 - NH Housing offers a low income housing tax credit program to facilitate the building of low income housing units. The tax credits are offered on a competitive basis (i.e. point system) and this year the program will be providing additional points for passive house and net-zero standards.

6. Presentation by Karen Rantamaki, Energy Savings Performance Contracts

Karen Rantamaki, Department of Administrative Services, State Energy Manager presented an overview of Energy Savings Performance Contracts projects completed across the State.

The presentation will be available at the EESE Board website <http://puc.nh.gov/EESE.htm>.

7. Next Meeting – Friday, April 21, 2017 – at the Public Utilities Commission

- Preliminary Topics:
 - a. Committee Updates

8. Adjourned at 11:05 am