

Energy Efficiency & Sustainable Energy Board
Municipal Energy Working Group Committee

Discussion Draft
March, 2012 (revised 3/5/12)

Purpose of the Committee

The purpose of the MEWG is to encourage municipalities and counties to increase investment in energy efficiency and renewable energy improvements. The MEWG shall support municipal energy action by collaborating with the Local Energy Working Group (LEWG) to avoid duplication and redundancy of joint goals. The MEWG shall also provide regular updates to the EESE board on municipal energy efforts, including information on barriers towards wider adoption of energy action. Additionally, MEWG shall recommend policy related to municipal energy reduction to the EESE board. As time and resources allow, the MEWG will collect data and track information on municipal energy efforts, and assist in communication between organizations that are implementing municipal energy programs.

Background

The Energy Efficiency and Sustainable Energy (EESE) board was created in 2008, by RSA 125-O:5-a. One of the duties of the board is to “Encourage municipalities and counties to increase investments in energy efficiency and sustainable energy through financing tools, and to create local energy committees.” In 2009 it formed the MEWG and the committee created a roadmap for municipal energy action and an energy audit guideline tool. The EESE Board has also adopted a *Statement of Governing Principles* in 2012, outlining the responsibilities that must be followed by the board and its subcommittees.

In 2007, the Local Energy Committee Working Group (LEC WG) first convened to support the development and efforts of the newly emerging Local Energy Committee (LEC) movement. In 2011, this group of nonprofits, businesses, citizen volunteers and government agencies expanded to form the Local Energy Working Group (LEWG) to support LECs and municipalities. The LEWG’s new broader mission is:

“To provide collaborative guidance and technical support to Local Energy Committees/Commissions (LEC’s), municipalities, schools, and other political subdivisions* seeking to reduce energy use, minimize energy costs, and/or reduce fossil-fuel consumption.

To accomplish this, the LEWG will foster collaboration among public, private and non-profit entities to identify and support the development of the necessary resources and tools; interconnect community leaders to establish a network of local energy planners; and provide a clearinghouse to facilitate the communication of information and ideas.”

Structure of Committee

The MEWG Committee shall be comprised of five (5) members and/or non-voting members of the EESE Board, or their designee and the committee shall meet as needed. The MEWG Committee shall comply with the adopted EESE board governing principles, including provisions of RSA 91-A, the states Open Meeting Law. A quorum of the committee shall be 3 or more members. The following individuals are hereby appointed to the MEWG and a chair shall be elected by the committee.

- David Borden- NHSEA Representative
- Chris Skoglund- DES Designee
- Tim Fortier- NHMA Representative
- Eric Steltzer- OEP Representative
- Ben Frost- NHHFA Representative