

Minutes

Energy Efficiency and Sustainable Energy Board
21 S. Fruit Street, Suite 10 (Hearing Room A) Concord, NH
August 14, 2009 Meeting

*Items underlined and in color are hyperlinked to documents.

Members in Attendance: Richard Ober of NH Charitable Foundation, Meredith Hatfield of the OCA, Laura Richardson for Eric Steltzer of NH OEP, Robert Scott of DES, Alan Linder for Daniel Feltes of NHLA, Roy Duddy of DRED, Patti Carrier of NH BIA, Ben Frost for Dean Christon of NH Housing, Karen Rantamaki of NH DAS (State Energy Manager), Susan Olsen of NH Municipal Association, Wes Golomb of NH SEA, Kendall Buck for Brian Wujcik of Home Builders and Remodelers Association of NH, Ken Walsh of NH Fire Marshal's Office, Rep. David Borden, and Rep. Jim Garrity.

Non-Voting Members in Attendance: Gil Gelineau of PSNH, James Grady of LighTec, Inc., Ray Gosney of NH Electric Cooperative, Janet Brewer of Ocean Bank, and Charlie Niebling of New England Wood Pellet.

Link to Meeting Agenda: [Meeting Agenda](#)

1. Welcome & Introduction, Chair's Remarks

Chairman Ober convened the meeting at 9:05 A.M.; he welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked everyone in the room to introduce themselves.

{Introductions followed}.

2. Approval of July 10, 2009 Meeting [Minutes](#)

Chairman Ober asked for a motion to approve the 7-10-09 minutes. Susan Olsen moved to adopt the minutes. The motion was seconded by Ken Walsh. No edits were made and the motion for adoption was unanimously approved.

3. Updates

Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Fund (GHGERF) - Commissioner Clifton Below

- [Phase II of the GHGERF grant proposals](#) have been selected. 21 proposals were selected and the first group of Phase II proposals will be reviewed at the August Governor & Council meeting. This group consists of Crotched Mountain, Merrimack Valley School, Clean Air - Cool Planet, Lightec, Inc. and the NH Utilities. The remaining proposals will be reviewed over the next 2 G & C meetings.

- The mandatory 10% low income allocation in the GHGERF was met by \$1.2 million for low income weatherization and \$1.1 million given to the utilities for the Home Energy Assistance program which is exclusively low income.
- Approximately \$1.0 million will be going to the utilities for a fuel neutral energy efficiency program.
- Clifton also noted that before the next RFP process begins, the Commission would be working on finalizing the Initial Proposal of the GHGERF Rules, Puc 2600.
- Renewable Portfolio Standard: There was approximately \$4.5 million deposited into the Renewable Energy Fund in July for Alternative Compliance Payments.
- The PUC is looking into statewide solar hot water incentives for larger/industrial systems.
- Barbara Bernstein, previously from DES, was hired as a Utility Analyst for the PUC in the Sustainable Energy Division.

ARRA - Laura Richardson & Dari Sassan

- The new Director of the Office of Energy & Planning has been appointed; it is Joanne Morin, formerly of the Dept. of Environmental Services.
- A compliance officer has also been hired; she is Wendy Gilman, formerly of CDFA.
- Weatherization Program: \$23.2 million. CAP agencies have RFP's out for contractors and have been given all necessary authorities to move forward. OEP will be running a 'Davis Bacon' training shortly.
- Energy Efficiency Conservation Block Grant Program: \$12.5 million. \$2.9 million was sent directly to the 10 largest towns/cities in New Hampshire. \$9.6 million will be sent to OEP to manage, of which \$6.6 million will be in the form of sub-grants. There will also be \$2 million allotted for a [Technical Assistance Proposal](#).
- State Energy Program: \$10.7 million to the Department of Administrative Services for State Building upgrades. These have been approved by G & C and the cooperative DRED and DES programs will go to G & C soon. The University system of NH will also get \$1.3 million and that will go to G & C in September.
- 2 Additional ARRA funded programs: \$1.262 million for an appliance rebate program. The application is due 10/15/2009. This will not be for home electronics but could include solar hot water, biomass boilers, and water heaters. If you have any additional ideas for this program - see [Laura](#)

Richardson. Also, there will be an additional \$320,000 for Energy Assurance Program to build capacity for smart grid and emergency situations.

4. Strategic Plan

Chairman Ober began the discussion by handing out a work plan memo. This was described as an attempt to capture the information collected at the July 10th EESE Board meeting in a comprehensive but concise manner. He noted that the goal of this memo was to present a straw proposal for a strategic work plan for the EESE Board. The goal would be to complete the plan by the end of October.

Discussion regarding the memo and the EESE board work plan ensued for much of the first part of the meeting.

The board and guests discussed major overarching principles to be focused on. They are:

- Energy independence
- Fuel and technology neutrality
- Equal access
- Market transformation
- Off set regressive nature of climate change and policies
- Maximization of reductions for level of effort
- Quality assurance monitoring and data collection
- Evaluation and measurement
- Overcoming market barriers
- Transparency and sharing of benchmarking data
- Synergy throughout programs and ensured collaborations
- A portal for a "one-stop shop" experience
- Keeping energy efficiency and sustainable energy linked at all times
- Short term goals v. long term goals
- Financing
- Role-modeling
- Overcoming behavioral issues
- Embedding the mission of the EESE board throughout the entire State

Procedural expectation for next 2 meetings - In Regard to the EESE Board Report

September: Finalize the Findings, Visions/Goals, and Principles sections of the report.

October: Finalize the Coordinating Activities, Policy Recommendations and EESE Board Support sections of the report. Legislative recommendations will need to be relatively unanimous amongst voting members in order to ensure better chances of legislature approval.

BREAK - The meeting recessed at 10:15 a.m. for a short break and resumed at 10:31 a.m.

5. Next Meeting(s)

Due to scheduling conflicts, the September meeting will be held on 4th Friday of September, on September 25, 2009 from 9 A.M. to 2 P.M. in Hearing Room A at the PUC. The October meeting will be held on the 3rd Friday of the month, on October 16, 2009 from 9 A.M. - 12 P.M. in Hearing Room A at the PUC. All subsequent meetings will continue to be held on the 2nd Friday of the month.

6. Other/Announcements

Wes Golomb invited everyone to the NH SEA's [annual meeting](#) to be held on September 12, 2009, from 6:30 - 9:00 PM, at the Merrimack Valley High School in Penacook, NH.

Kendall Buck noted that there was a '[Build Green NH](#)' fall education conference on October 20, 2009 - October 22, 2009 regarding national green building codes, etc.

Ray Gosney noted that the NH Electric Cooperative is applying for a grant from the Dept. of Energy (in partnership with other cooperatives) for approximately \$26 million (total), to be used for smart metering technology.

Rep. Robin Read noted that there was a newly formed [State Board of Home Inspectors](#) who have just released their formal [rules](#) on July 7, 2009.

Roger Stephenson noted that Clean Air Cool Planet was in the process of hiring up to 10 part time energy related positions.

The next meeting of the ESSE board is scheduled for Friday, September 25, 2009 from 9 A.M - 2 P.M in Hearing Room A - NH PUC and Friday October 16, 2009 from 9 A.M. - 12 P.M. in Hearing Room A - NH PUC.

Subsequent meetings of the EESE Board are scheduled for on the second Friday of every month.

There being no other business to come before the board, Chairman Ober adjourned the meeting at 11:58 p.m.