

Minutes
Energy Efficiency and Sustainable Energy Board
Hearing Room A – NH PUC, 9 AM – 12:00 PM
March 12, 2010 Meeting

*Items underlined and in color are hyperlinked to documents.

[Members in Attendance:](#) Richard Ober of NH Charitable Foundation, Jack Ruderman of NHPUC, Meredith Hatfield of the OCA, Eric Steltzer of NH OEP, Robert Scott of DES, Daniel Feltes of NHLA, Wes Golomb of NH SEA, Patti Carrier of NH Ball Bearings for the NH BIA, Dick Henry of the Jordan Institute, Karen Rantamaki, State Energy Manager, Ken Walsh of NH Fire Marshal's Office, Liam Cargill for Beth Fischer for HBRANH, Bob Reals, Jr. for Roy Duddy from NH DRED, Susan Olsen for the Municipal Association, Senator Martha Fuller Clark, and Rep. David Borden.

Non-Voting Members in Attendance: Gil Gelineau of PSNH, Katie O'Rourke of National Grid, Ray Gosney of the NH Electric Cooperative, Charlie Niebling of New England Wood Pellet, Janet Brewer of Ocean Bank, Eric Doberstein for Jim Grady of Lightec, Inc., and George Gantz from Unitil Energy Systems.

LINK TO MEETING AGENDA: **[MEETING AGENDA](#)**

1. WELCOME & INTRODUCTION, CHAIR'S REMARKS

Chairman Ober convened the meeting at 9:07 A.M.; he welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked everyone in the room to introduce themselves. {Introductions followed}.

2. APPROVAL OF [FEBRUARY 12, 2010 MEETING MINUTES](#)

Chairman Ober asked for a motion to approve the 2-12-10 minutes. **Rep. David Borden** moved to adopt the minutes. The motion was seconded by **Meredith Hatfield**. There were no edits to the minutes and they were unanimously approved.

3. SIZING THE CHALLENGE

Chairman Ober presented a [triangle](#) to illustrate the interdependence between demand, financing, and infrastructure when considering advances in energy efficient and sustainable energy. He suggested that virtually all the goals and work of the EESE Board fits into one of the three legs and the diagram might be useful as the board considers its tasks. .

Gil Gelineau and Chris Skoglund presented [slides](#) updating the board on the work of the Goals Work Group. They went through the slides in depth and answered questions from board members and guests. Some of the issues covered in the slides are:

Dick Henry noted that there needs to be 2 major discussions. One discussion in order to break down all of the figures and goals; and then another discussion to figure out exactly how to implement programs to be sure that we to get to these goals.

Eric Doberstein noted that the goals presented in these slides are very difficult goals to achieve and that we will need very radical changes in order to achieve them. We cannot assume that just because we chart the goals out that they will be met.

Katie O'Rourke noted that when you focus on emissions rather than efficiency, people will tend to focus on fuel sources more.

The question of *how to measure* was explored further at the meeting. Rep. Borden asked if there could be some kind of conversion calculator so that people who measure at Btu's can convert their savings to other sources. Meredith Hatfield noted that it should not fall on to the shoulders of the end user to figure out how they will change their energy consumption methods in order to meet the goals, but we should help them figure that out.

Ray Gosney asked if the end game was to reduce carbon emissions or is it to promote efficiency – since they will both create the same end result. He wondered if we are complicating the issue by not focusing on efficiency with the understanding that the result will be a reduction in carbon emission.

Meredith Hatfield agreed, and said that she believes that what we are trying to do is measure out our goals by showing people the ways that they can reduce their usage and their costs.

Mike Fitzgerald noted that he thinks that we need to do everything that we can conceivably do (in every sector) to change – we need to act, as soon as possible.

Commissioner Clifton Below noted that although our statutory charge does not specifically mention carbon reduction, one of the statutory duties of the board is to work on lowering net greenhouse gas emissions, energy use and costs.

Roy Duddy – The reason that businesses are doing anything related to efficiency right now is because of the return on their investment and lowering their costs. They don't want to hear about emissions and the environment; we need to also focus on the bottom line monetary savings to really get this message across.

Scott Albert asked how we know where we are and what progress we are making. He noted that when the EE Potential Report was done for the PUC, phone surveys were completed and can be used as a tool.

Charlie Niebling noted that all fuel sources can be tracked to monitor and evaluate their overall consumption. We need to take a more macro approach.

Dick Henry noted that Joe Broyles at OEP has been tracking this for years and his numbers are used for ballpark figures for many other organizations.

Eric Steltzer agreed but noted that those numbers come from the EIA and their latest figures came from 2006, so they are dated.

Mike Fitzgerald stated that the numbers are there and they may be a bit behind but that is not so much of an issue. The factors that need to be looked at are: How do you tease out energy efficiency factors in these figures as well as 'business as usual' growth.

Chairman Ober asked the Goals work group to schedule a meeting in the next few weeks to tackle some of the questions and to report back to the Board at the next meeting.

3. RGGI, GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS REDUCTION FUND AND RENEWABLE ENERGY FUND

Commissioner Clifton Below reported that the latest RGGI auction was held on March 10, 2010. The auction yielded \$87,956,944.56 for investment in the clean energy economy across the ten RGGI states. NH earned \$3.236 million in auction proceeds. Current CO2 Allowances were sold at \$2.07 and future allowances at \$1.86. 98% of allowances were sold. Information on the auction can be found [here](#) and NH specific info can be found [here](#).

Jack Ruderman discussed the GHGERF RFP. The Commission is working to get the next RFP out very soon. The PUC calculated funding through June 2011 projections and tried to get a sense of available funding through then. He noted that there could be an upper limit of roughly up to \$14 million available for this grant round.

He noted that this RFP would be different from the last, as it will be more narrowly focused to 3 major program target areas: Program continuations from last year, large energy user programs (large commercial or industrial scale), and programs for affordable housing (low-income). The PUC is also now looking for programs, not individual building or facility projects.

Senator Fuller Clark asked how quickly these funds can get out into the economy. Jack Ruderman noted that it was a priority. Dick Henry noted that he appreciated the PUC's diligence in making sure that the programs that are being rolled out are the ones that we really want. He noted that you cannot push a recipient so hard to get something out that they release a program that isn't as effective as it really could be.

Rick Minard asked if the program continuation piece of the RFP includes good programs funded temporarily by ARRA. Jack Ruderman noted that he was not sure at this time but that it was a good question for him to present to the Commission.

Jack Ruderman – REF and Solar Hot Water Program – many submitted comments in writing, a technical session was held, and a public comment hearing is scheduled for 3/18 at 10 AM. Staff will submit a recommendation on Monday March 15th that will be posted in the [docket](#) for review prior to the hearing.

Chairman Ober called a break at 11:07. The meeting reconvened at 11:24.

5. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Energy Efficiency and Sustainable Energy Delivery – Dick Henry

Last Monday, March 8th was the first meeting of this subcommittee at the Jordan Institute in Concord, NH. They are taking the work that the target work group has done and are beginning to parse it down to a more manageable size. They are following [SB323](#) with a great amount of interest and are aware of the CORE intervenors group's work to bring the gas and

electric sectors together in 2011. The next meeting will be within the next 3-4 weeks. All are welcome to attend.

B. Outreach and Education – Meredith Hatfield

A meeting was held on 3/8/10. 12 people attended, including attendants via phone conference. This group had been meeting last year and tried to pick up where it left off. The consensus is still that there is a need for a centralized, unified message and communications strategy (a communications “portal”). They are trying to keep the work plan and documents already produced in order so not to reinvent the wheel. Another consensus is that there needs to be one entity in charge of coordinating the creation of this portal – Clean Air- Cool Planet has agreed to take on this role. They are also looking at other models from other states and regions as well. The next meeting is March 22nd at 10:30 at the PUC. There will also be a conference call number.

C. Municipal Programs – Rep. David Borden

Rep. David Borden presented [slides](#) to update the board on the work of the Public Sector Work Group and the Local Energy Committee Work Group. These 2 groups will be working closely with one another. The slides covered topics such as:

- Where the municipalities and local energy committee are now?
- Current gaps in resources
- Barriers and desired outcomes

D. Beacon Communities – Dick Ober

This group last met 2 weeks ago. NH previously submitted an application to DOE for approx \$20 million in grant funding for a pilot beacon community program in Nashua, Plymouth and Berlin. This subcommittee discussed this grant proposal and what will happen within the first 90 days if NH does get the grant, and also what will happen if we do not. The next meeting of this subcommittee is scheduled for April 21st at the NH Charitable Foundation, Pleasant Street, Concord, NH.

6. REPORTS/UPDATES

A. ARRA – Eric Steltzer and Joanne Morin

Technical Assistance Grant for EECBG – OEP brought the contact before G&C on Wednesday; it was tabled until the next meeting on March 24th. The main issue identified was with the contractor chosen. Joanne Moring explained that if the contract is rejected the RFP process would need to start over, and DOE would need to become involved again. OEP does not want to risk losing the funds.

The appliance rebate program MOU with OEP and the PUC was also approved at the last G&C meeting.

The award for the EECBG municipality awards were announced this week, and are on the [OEP website](#).

Weatherization Assistance Program update - 603 units complete and 225 in process for the ARRA portion of the program. 461 units have been completed on the base grant (non-ARRA) portion of the program funding.

Eric also reminded everyone of the importance of filling out your 2010 census forms.

B. Energy & Climate Collaborative – Stacy Doll, Dick Ober, and Chris Skoglund

Chairman Ober noted that the Collaborative met March 11, 2010. There was a roundtable discussion with members representing different sectors regarding what each sector is doing and how it relates to the Climate Action Plan. They are still working to put together the inventory based on the Plan's 67 recommendations discussed at the last meeting. More information can be found [here](#). The inventory will soon be online so that answers can be submitted electronically.

C. North Country Transmission Commission – Sen. Martha Fuller Clark

An RFP was put together to find a consultant to recommend cost allocation strategies for the upgrade of the Coos loop. Three consultants will be interviewed on March 12th. A winner will be chosen and presented to the Transmission Commission on March 26.th The winning firm will be required to submit its recommendations and options for transmission in the North Country by November 2010.

On the last Friday in April, Hydro Quebec will be presenting to the Transmission Commission on the project to build a new transmission line down from HQ.

7. LEGISLATIVE UPDATES – Rep. David Borden and Senator Martha Fuller Clark

The following bills were discussed at the meeting:

HB1626 – requiring licensing for energy auditor. This bill was deemed ‘inexpedient to legislate’. The legislature will now be looking at a certification process rather than licensing. The status of the bill can be found [here](#).

HB1554 – allowing municipalities to establish energy efficiency and clean energy districts (“PACE”). This bill was voted out of committee 11-5, ought to pass. This bill is very important and will enable municipalities to loan money to its residents for EE & SE. The status of the bill can be found [here](#).

HB1353 – relative to group net energy metering. This bill will raise the bar in terms of size of facilities in allowing up to 1 MW of generation to be net metered. It also allows small producers to be compensated for the power they put on the grid. With this bill, if you produce a surplus of energy, then your utility would buy that surplus of power from you. The status of the bill can be found [here](#).

HB1471 - requiring the governor’s office of energy and planning and the board of home inspectors to develop a document relative to home energy efficiency for home buyers. This bill passed the House and is now in House ED&A. The bill status can be found [here](#).

SB323 – requiring the public utilities commission, in close consultation with the EESE Board, to study certain energy policy issues. The version passed by the Senate can be found [here](#). The bill also looks at the role of the state in evaluating all funding sources currently available. The PUC would be working closely with the EESE board in this study and in developing recommendations. This is the most important current piece of legislation in relation to the EESE Board. The status of the bill can be found [here](#).

SB393 – establishing a New Hampshire sustainable energy loan fund (SELF) financing program. This bill was referred to interim study. The status of the bill can be found [here](#).

SB334 – establishing a committee to study methods of encouraging the installation and use of small scale renewable energy resources by homeowners and businesses and relative to

investments in photovoltaic renewable energy projects. An amendment has been introduced to take a limited amount of funds from Alternative Compliance Payments and allow a utility to use those funds up front for pilot projects to create green jobs in the near future. There were concerns about the amendment and whether it would undermine the RPS program. It also includes a program to create a solar PV program at the Manchester Landfill. The status of the bill can be found [here](#).

[SB409](#) – requiring buildings or structures constructed or renovated using state funding to adhere to certain energy efficiency and building standards. The status of this bill can be found [here](#).

[SB422](#) – relative to small power producer electric sales in brownfields and economically depressed locations. The status of this bill can be found [here](#).

[HB1688](#) – relative to the regulation of the installation and operation of boiler and pressure vessels – This bill has passed the House and is now in Senate Committee. The Status can be found [here](#). NH would be the first state to adopt a bill such as this one, if it passes.

8. OTHER BUSINESS

Ray Gosney handed out a [press release](#) from Senator Shaheen’s office regarding the creation of a bipartisan rural energy savings program. Plymouth, NH received 3 grants.

Julia Dunndorf – On June 19th there will be a Local Energy Solutions Conference. She is still looking for input in a couple of areas as well as looking for speakers, sponsors, etc. Registration will be online in April. The target audience for this workshop is schools, local energy committees, etc.

Madeleine McElaney – NHSEA is sponsoring a workshop on [Financing Solutions for Renewable Energy Projects](#) on May 5th at [PSNH Energy Park](#), Manchester, NH –. Clay Mitchell will be speaking.

Wes Golomb – on April 24’ 2010, from 8:00 – 4:00 p.m. at [Lakes Region Community College](#), Laconia, NH, there will be a [PV Design and Installation Course for Electricians](#). The college also received federal grant funds, with help from Senator Shaheen’s office, to expand its curriculum and received a merit award for their programs. He also noted that on April 27-28, 2010 at the [Center of NH Radisson Conference Center](#), Manchester, NH – there will be the [2nd](#)

[Annual Heating the Northeast with Renewable Biomass Conference](#). Hosted by: Biomass Thermal Energy Council, Biomass Energy Resource Center, Alliance for Green Heat, New York Biomass Energy Alliance, Maine Pellet Fuels Assn, Pellet Fuels Institute, and Clean Air – Cool Planet. For complete program details and registration details, see www.heatne.com.

Clifton Below noted that the Plainfield School District underwent renovations which allowed them to reduce their heating BTU's used per square foot from 7.1 to 0.35, or 95% ,and heating, lighting and ventilation use by 57% from 2 KWH per square foot per year to .85. They also reduced their overall projected costs by 83%, from 1.32 per square foot per year to .21 cents per square foot per year. They will ultimately be saving over \$20,000 per year. This is in a building built in the 1980's.

Chairman Ober asked Jennifer Ducharme to notice all of these seminars and events on the EESE board page and email the service list periodically rather than produce many mass e-mails. The link to this page can be found [here](#). Additionally, future emails will be blind copied to all.

The next meeting will be held on April 9, 2010. There will be a panel discussion on renewable energy. All subsequent meetings will be held on the 2nd Friday of the month at the PUC.

There being no other business to come before the board, Chairman Ober adjourned the meeting at 12:44 p.m.
