

**Regular Meeting of the
Connecticut Energy Advisory Board**
August 3, 2007 Meeting Minutes

1. Call to Order

The August 2007 monthly meeting of the Connecticut Energy Advisory Board (CEAB) was held at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, August 3, 2007 at The Connecticut Economic Resource Center in Rocky Hill, Connecticut. Members present were John Mengacci, designee of the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management (OPM); Mary Healey, Connecticut Consumer Counsel; Jack Betkoski, designee of the Chairman of the Department of Public Utility Control; Paul Farrell, designee of the Commissioner of the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP); Jim Sandler, appointee of the President Pro Tempore of the Senate; and David Carey, designee of the Commissioner of the Department of Agriculture. Dan Peaco of LaCapra Associates was a guest of the board.

Chairman Mengacci solicited comments on the new format for meeting material distributed to the Board in hard copies prior to this month's meeting. The Board expressed support of and appreciation for the new format and its continued use.

2. Approval of Minutes

Chairman Mengacci asked the board to review the minutes of the July meeting which were distributed prior to the meeting. The board approved the minutes as distributed. Mr. Betkoski abstained.

3. Chairman's Remarks

Chairman Mengacci reported that he is actively following up on appointments required by 2007 legislation so that timelines mandated to the Board can be met. He next reviewed matters actively being addressed by the Board at this time.

Electric Conservation Study

Responses to an RFP for a vendor to assist with the Electric Conservation Programs Study are due August 16. The review committee needs to set evaluation criteria prior to opening proposals received. Mary Healey named Joaquina Borges-King as her representative to the review committee completing assignments to the committee. Mary Healey stated the vendor selected should make use of existing studies of conservation programs by the Energy Conservation Management Board and other entities rather than starting from scratch. Mr. Betkoski noted that an independent third party evaluation of these programs was completed two years ago. Mr. Mengacci expects the vendor to utilize these studies in completing the current report.

Annual Review of OPM Strategic Plan

To support the Board in its review of OPM's Strategic Plan to Improve Energy Management in State Facilities, Mr. Mengacci recommended issuing a new work order for La Capra Associates to minimize the number of RFPs for new vendors required by the board. After discussion it was moved, seconded and approved to issue a work order for this purpose. A draft work order will be presented to the board at its September meeting for approval.

RFP Exemptions

A request for comment on draft exemption criteria for CEAB RFPs is scheduled to be issued in August. The Board received the draft to be issued as the basis for comments prior to the meeting. After discussion, the Board moved, seconded and approved the draft as presented to be issued for public comment.

Net Energy Analysis

A draft work order for La Capra to develop a white paper on the methodology for CEAB to conduct Net Energy Analyses with regard to certain proposed facilities was presented to the Board. After discussion, the Board moved, seconded and approved the work order. A draft methodology is scheduled to be released for public comment in November 2007.

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Report on Various Energy Issues

Based on input from the July meeting the approach to the Board's required report on various energy issues was reworked by staff at the Department of Environmental Protection and a new draft scope of services for an RFP for consultant support for the report was circulated to the Board. The new approach is broken into two phases. The first phase will be to do research on the issues and entities. The second phase will be policy recommendations based on the research. After discussion, the board moved, seconded and approved the scope of services for release in an RFP.

Procurement Plan

The 2007 energy legislation requires the Board to prepare a comprehensive resource procurement plan based on filings from the utilities. The scope of services for a consultant to assist with this work needs further refinement but should be ready for Board action in September. Current plans are for UI and NU to make presentations on their plans to CEAB at the Board's monthly meeting in January. The meeting will be held at the Legislative Office Building.

NEEWS Request for Comment

CEAB's RFC on the need for a Board RFP for the New England East-West Solutions (NEEWS) was issued on July 6th and the deadline for comments was extended through August 3rd. La Capra will summarize the comments for board members prior to the August 9th workshop with ISO-NE. There will be opportunity for Board discussion of comments received at the September meeting. Anticipated timing for NU's filing with the Connecticut Siting Council for projects related to NEEWS is mid-2008. Donald Downes is still working on a collaborative effort by Connecticut, Massachusetts and Rhode Island in addressing NEEWS.

CERC Contract Extension

At its July meeting the Board approved extending its contract with the Connecticut Economic Resource Center for administrative support services. After review the draft extension contract circulated to the Board, the document as presented was moved, seconded and approved for execution.

2008 Budget

A 2008 – 2009 budget proposal was reviewed by the Board. It includes a line item for the potential hiring of one staff member by the Board to facilitate the significant new tasks assigned to CEAB in the 2007 legislation. The Board was willing to leave it in as a place holder for this purpose but felt more discussion was needed before making a final decision and that it would be good to wait until all or most of the new appointees to the board are in place. Mr. Mengacci noted a correction on slide 15 of his report - rather than the 2008 budget being an increase of 38% it is an increase of approximately 60%. Even though figures for both 2008 and 2009 have been projected, DPUC will only be approving the 2008 figure this fall. After discussion it was moved, seconded and approved to submit the 2008 budget as presented to DPUC for approval. Mr. Betkoski abstained from voting.

CEAB Workshop

Mr. Mengacci noted that folders with background material for the August 9th workshop were included with Board distributed Board material. The workshop will consist of a review by ISO-NE of System Planning in New England including the impact of Order 890 by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission and ISO's Scenario Analysis.

4. Consultant Update

Dan Peaco of La Capra Associates commented briefly on the background material and then gave a brief update on La Capra's open work orders with the board.

5. Other Business

Mr. Mengacci referenced copies of the Board's exiting by-laws circulated to the members. He noted that at least Section 2.1 needs revision as a result of the 2007 legislation. He asked the Board to review the document and submit any input on revision of the by-laws in advance of the September meeting so that a new draft document can be voted on at the time.

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Mr. Mengacci introduced Jeff Durham of Lang Durham to present Governor Rell's OneThing campaign developed by Lang Durham. The campaign is a multi-media approach to promote simple things Connecticut citizens can do to lower energy costs and help preserve the planet. It will culminate in an exposition in October of 2008.

After Mr. Durham's presentation, meeting attendees were asked if they had public comment.

Robert Fromer put forth comments on the importance of a global approach to net energy analysis and questioned whether OneThing takes this into account. He also expressed concerns about the environmental impacts of completing construction plans for Route 11.

Henry Link supported the Governor's new campaign but felt the exposition should be held sooner. He also questioned why 10% reductions in energy was set as the threshold for benefiting from the state's summer savings program

7. Adjournment

There being no other business to come before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 11:40 a.m.

Submitted by: Gretchen Deans

Approved by: