

**Regular Meeting of the
Connecticut Energy Advisory Board
October 2, 2009 Meeting Minutes**

1. Call to Order

The October 2009 monthly meeting of the Connecticut Energy Advisory Board (CEAB) was held at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, October 2, 2009 at the Legislative Office Building (LOB), Hartford, CT. Members present were Michael Cassella (Chair and appointee of the Speaker of the House); Mary Healey, Connecticut Consumer Counsel; Phil Dukes, designee of the Chairman of the Department of Public Utility Control; Tracy Babbidge, designee of the Commissioner of the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP); James Sime, designee of the Commissioner of the Department of Transportation; Melissa Ozols and Joel Gordes, appointees of the Speaker of the House; Kevin Hennessy and Timothy Cole, appointees of the Governor; and Jeff Gaudiosi and Melissa Buckley, appointees of the Senate President Pro Tempore.

2. Approval of Minutes

Chairman Cassella asked the Board to review the minutes of the September meeting. After review, the Board unanimously approved the monthly minutes.

3. ISO-New England Presentation on Renewable Development Scenario Analyses

Eric Johnson, senior external affairs representative for ISO-NE, gave a PowerPoint presentation on ISO's *Renewable Development Scenario Analyses*, an economic study prepared at the request of the New England Governors' Conference.

Highlights from the report were:

- The region has significant renewable options nearby. New England has significant potential to develop onshore and offshore renewable resources and to expand trade with nearby Eastern Canada.
- Transmission investment will be needed. Transmission will be needed to integrate renewable resources into the electric grid and deliver energy from remote areas to load centers.
- The region has success building transmission. New England's success developing major reliability projects is a solid platform for studies to evaluate additional transmission scenarios.
- ISO, New England transmission owners, and state officials play critical roles in transmission development.

Mr. Johnson noted that in addition to ISO's economic study, that the Governors' Conference requested a complimentary piece from the New England States' Committee on Electricity-- a blueprint to identify significant sources of Renewable Energy available in New England.

Following his presentation, Mr. Johnson answered several questions from CEAB Board members including ones dealing with Massachusetts' position on potential transmission to be cited in that states, the viability of plug-in electric vehicles and whether the cost of not doing anything had been analyzed.

4. Connecticut Siting Council Docket 370

Mr. Peaco of La Capra Associates reported on Docket 370 at the CT Siting Council related to NEEWS. Hearings are ongoing and there are many witnesses scheduled ahead of CEAB. Michele Rivero of the Attorney General's office is participating in and monitoring the docket for CEAB.

5. Siting Council Docket F2009/Forecast of Loads

Mr. Peaco stated that input in the docket is complete and parties are awaiting the Connecticut Siting Council's issuance of the final report.

6. DPUC Docket 09-05-02 (2009 IRP)

Mr. Peaco reported that DPUC issued its final decision early in the week. The decision was consistent with CEAB's position on most points including viewing the 2009 IRP as a transition plan to a comprehensive IRP in 2010. Comments in the decision regarding the appropriate timing for consideration of alternatives to transmission siting filings highlight the need to redefine Connecticut's transmission planning process at the state level. The decision was supportive of CEAB's recommendation that DPUC convene a meeting to discuss transmission planning in the near future. CEAB recommends the meeting take place in October.

9. 2010 IRP

La Capra Associates is now officially under contract to assist CEAB with the 2010 IRP. It is the intent to have the IRP subcommittee begin convening stakeholder meetings on various subject areas of the plan this month and the subcommittee, with the assistance of the consultants, intends to have a comprehensive plan for review by the Board at its November meeting.

Chairman Cassella invited all members to participate in the development of the 2010 IRP by being involved in the subject matter areas of the plan in which they are interested.

Vice Chair Healey expressed concern about the DPUC's characterization in the 09-05-02 final decision that alternative projects under review by the CT Siting Council in Docket 370 are too late, stating that it is never too late to consider ways to mitigate the costs of building transmission projects. Ms. Healey expressed support for the technical hearing to be held by the DPUC to discuss the process for including transmission and alternatives earlier into the IRP process and encouraged CEAB's active participation to help assure a good process is developed to meet all stakeholders' concerns.

10. Other Business

Chairman Cassella noted that he had responded on behalf of the Board to interrogatories from DPUC in the docket reviewing CEAB's 2010 budget. The interrogatories had to do with past and projected expenses of the Board.

The Chairman also reminded the Board that the November meeting of the CEAB is at ISO-NE in Holyoke. Members of the public need to register with Ms. Deans no later than one week before the meeting so ISO can have the information for security reasons.

11. Public Comment

Chairman Cassella asked for public comment.

Robert Fromer stated that the ISO study presented earlier was incomplete as it did not factor in comprehensive life cycle energy consumption in the analysis. He referred attendees to Jevons' Paradox.

Jonathan Bilmes, Executive Director, Bristol Resource Recovery Facility, expressed that the ISO analysis was a stretch. Mr. Bilmes noted that studies by The Nature Conservancy rate the potential for wind energy as low in light of the amount of land required to make it viable. He also inquired about further potential of pumped energy.

Roger Smith on behalf of the Clean Water Action Committee urged the CEAB to look at a broader range of alternatives than covered in the 2008 and 2009 IRPs. He feels that there is a vacuum on energy direction for the State of Connecticut. Mr. Gordes of the CEAB responded that three studies were presented to the legislature in its past session but not changes were made to the State's energy structure.

Michael Perrone of the Connecticut Siting Council reported that this year's Forecast Report will be available soon. It will be shorter than last year's being mostly an update of the 2008 Report.

Chairman Cassella suggested the timing might be right for interested parties to pursue installation of photo voltaic technology as there is a glut of pv panels available at this time so pricing might be favorable.

He also suggested that the public should explore switching to independent energy providers. Information is available through the DPUC web site.

12. Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

Submitted by: Gretchen Deans

Approved by: