

**Regular Meeting of the
Connecticut Energy Advisory Board**

Meeting Minutes
October 11, 2005

1. Call to Order

The October monthly meeting of the Connecticut Energy Advisory Board (CEAB) was held on Tuesday, October 11, 2005 at 10:00 a.m. at the The Connecticut Economic Resource Center, Inc., 805 Brook Street, Building 4, Rocky Hill, Connecticut. Members present were Donald Downes, Chairman of the Department of Public Utility Control (DPUC); Mary Healey, Connecticut Consumer Counsel; Jane Stahl, designee of the Commissioner of the Department of Environmental Protection; John Mengacci, designee of the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management (OPM); James Sandler, partner in the Law Firm of Sandler & Mara (appointee of President Pro Tempore of the Senate); Kathleen O'Connor (appointee of the Governor), Kevin Nursick, designee of Commissioner of the Department of Transportation; and Dave Carey, designee of the Commissioner of the Department of Agriculture.

Chairman Downes opened the meeting for public comment.

Robert Fromer distributed copies of an article, "Energy and the U.S. Economy" by Charles Hall, and recommended its reading to the board. He also emphasized the need to coordinate the many plans, initiatives and agencies dealing with energy in the state. He feels to date the board through its energy plan has not done so and he continues to advocate the establishment of a state energy department. He also stated that energy planning needs to incorporate agriculture and food security.

There was no other public comment.

2. Approval of Minutes

Minutes of the August 20, 2005 regular board meeting were approved by the board as presented. Ms. O'Connor abstained from voting as she did not attend the August meeting.

3. Chairman's Report

Chairman Downes highlighted agenda items to be covered during the meeting including CL&P's proposed Wilton Substation Siting Council filing, LaCapra's continued work for the board on DPUC Dockets on short-term and long-term measures to mitigate Federally Mandated Congestion Charges (FMCCs) and 2006 budgeting for CEAB. In light of the activity, he advised the board that CEAB activity is likely to increase and board members will be called upon to participate more frequently.

4. RFP Committee Report

Mary Healey reported that the RFP Subcommittee met just prior to today's meeting to discuss plans for a CEAB reactive RFP should CL&P file its Wilton substation proposal with the Siting Council. LaCapra has done work on structuring CEAB's RFP procedures. Efforts have been stepped up in light of CL&P's announced plan.

5. DPUC Docket Update

Vice Chair Mary Healey updated the status of the Board's involvement with DPUC's Docket 5-07-14PH1&2. The board filed its preliminary report at the beginning of September. The report was well received. The Board's team from La Capra participated in the docket by providing an overview of the Board's strategic assessment, providing testimony and being cross examined by other docket participants. Hearings are now complete and briefs are now being written. DPUC plans to issue a decision around November 1, 2005

Also on November 1, 2005 CEAB's recommendations regarding the DPUC's February RFP are due to the department dealing with medium and longer term actions to mitigate FMCCs. The report will be sent to the full board for its review and authorization before filing with DPUC.

Chairman Downes cautioned the board as it works with DPUC on the docket that it is better to be right than quick in the actions cited in any recommendations or decision.

6. Administrative Support RFP

Mr. Mengacci reported that three proposals were received in response to CEAB's RFP for administrative services. These were from CERC, Momentum and Comverge. Using a scoring sheet and criteria developed before receipt of the proposals, Mr. Mengacci and the other members of the review team (Mr. Sandler and DEP's Nicole Lugli) independently scored each proposal. Then they met to discuss results. Scorings were fairly consistent on all proposals between review team members and all three rated CERC's proposal the highest. Criteria used were experience, price, understanding of the scope of work and affirmative action. He recommended that the board hire CERC for administrative services for 2006.

After discussion the board moved, seconded and

RESOLVED: that CEAB hire CERC for 2006 administrative support and that Mr. Mengacci is authorized to finalize a contract for these services based on the approved budget for these services.

7. 2006 Budget

Michael Chowanec was asked to review a draft budget for CEAB for 2006. He reviewed the budget line item by line item discussing status of current 2005 budget, spending and recommended changes and modifications for the coming year.

Following Mr. Chowanec's presentation Ms. Healey asked for clarification on how the Systems Benefit Charges (SBC), which fund CEAB, work and what would be the implications if CEAB found itself in a position to require more money than their budget submittal requested. Mr. Downes reviewed how SBC works and recommended trying to plan so the board was not in a position of having to request more funds. After discussion, it was moved, seconded and

RESOLVED: to approve the budget as submitted and that it be submitted to DPUC for review and approval.

8. 2006 Energy Plan

William Leahy of the Institute for Sustainable Energy distributed the first draft of a 2006 energy plan for CEAB the board to review and discuss. He reviewed the work and sessions that went in to developing the draft. The plan puts forth six board initiatives plus a communication plan. It is formatted to be posted on the Web site and be a dynamic work in light of energy plans being a moving target as time passes.

Chairman Downes stated that CEAB is poised to present a timely and comprehensive energy plan.

Deputy Commissioner Stahl felt that by submitting this plan this year the board is establishing a good pattern for going forward by submitting a plan of substance every other year and in the off year hosting a conference to gather input while filing a report that is an update of progress on the current detailed energy plan.

Ms. Deans was asked to produce a timeline for finalizing the plan by year end. Public comment will be taken in November and early December accompanied by public hearings during that same time frame.

Chairman Downes encouraged comments on the scope of what is covered by the draft plan as well as edits to the plan as presented.

9. Other Business

Ms. Stahl asked if the November board meeting should be expanded so La Capra can review its report to DPUC at that time. After discussion, La Capra was asked to be prepared to give a half-hour presentation on the report submitted for DPUC at the November monthly meeting.

10. Adjournment

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

Submitted by: Gretchen Deans

Approved by: CEAB on November 1, 2005