

**Regular Meeting of the
Connecticut Energy Advisory Board
November 7, 2008 Meeting Minutes**

1. Call to Order

The November 2008 monthly meeting of the Connecticut Energy Advisory Board (CEAB) was held at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, November 7, 2008 at the CT Economic Resource Center in Rocky Hill, CT. Members present were John Mengacci, designee of the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management (OPM); Mary Healey, Connecticut Consumer Counsel(OCC); Donald Downes, Chairman of the Department of Public Utility Control; Tracy Babbidge, designee for the Commissioner of the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP); James Sime, designee of the Commissioner of the Department of Transportation (DOT); David Carey, designee of the Commissioner of the Department of Agriculture (DOA); Michael Cassella, Joel Gordes and Melissa Ozols, appointees of the Speaker of the House; Jim Hoffman and Timothy Cole, appointees of the Governor; and Melissa Buckley, Jeff Gaudiosi and Tony Sheridan, appointees of the Senate President Pro Tempore.

2. Approval of Minutes

Chairman Mengacci asked the Board to review the minutes of the October monthly meeting distributed prior to the meeting. Tracy Babbidge recommended changes to wording about the Various Energy Issues study and Joel Gordes was removed from those in attendance. After review, the board approved the minutes as amended. Melissa Buckley, Michael Cassella and Joel Gordes abstained.

3. Request for Proposal (RFP) for Alternative to CL&P Siting Council Filing Related to NEEWS

Chairman Mengacci asked for Board approval to add an agenda item to discuss the issuance of CEAB's reactive RFP issued on November 4, 2008. The Board approved this action.

The question at hand is whether the Board had approved the issuance of this RFP at the discretion of the Board's subcommittee without bringing it again before the Board. The September minutes which dealt with this matter read:

Members supported continuing to get more information from CL&P so the Board can proceed with its required statutory tasks and discussed and developed a consensus on the value of going forward with an RFP for alternative solutions while simultaneously keeping its prerogative to exempt the project(s) open as an option.

This implied that the matter would come before the Board again before the RFP was issued. Mr. Sheridan stated that there are two issues at hand: the integrity of the Board and alternatives relative the issuance of the RFP itself.

Mr. Sheridan made a motion for the Board to withdraw the previously issued RFP. The motion was not seconded, so the motion failed.

There was an extensive discussion on the appropriateness of the issuance of the RFP and what possible actions were legally possible in light of the RFP already being issued. The mandatory legislated timeline triggered by CL&P's filing with the Siting Council was discussed as were the implications of withdrawing the RFP at this time and the possibility of reissuing it if it was withdrawn. Procedural guidelines for similar future situations were also discussed.

After review of the CEAB bylaws and procedures for amending the bylaws, Mr. Downes Moved that a written notice be included in the call for the December meeting of the Connecticut Energy Advisory Board (CEAB) to consider amending the bylaws to require that no request for proposal be issued on behalf of CEAB without prior discussion, consideration and final authorization of release by an express majority of voting CEAB members.

This motion was seconded and approved by the Board.

Ms. Healey noted the bylaws change would require Board approval for both proactive and reactive RFPs issued by the Board.

Mr. Cole made a motion that it is the sense of the Board to ratify the actions of the subcommittee issuing the current RFP. This was seconded and approved by a majority of the Board. Mr. Sheridan voted in opposition.

Mr. Mengacci, as Board chair, and Mr. Gaudiosi, as subcommittee chair, apologized to the Board for administrative misunderstanding that created this issue.

4. Procurement Plan

Mr. Cassella, Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) subcommittee chair, summarized discussions with electric distribution companies (EDCs) regarding procurement planning for 2009 including review of a proposed timeline for the process. Ten committees are planned to address the ten action items identified as necessary to complete the plan. The goal at this time is to continue along a similar path to that which evolved in the development of the 2008 plan. The process will be a joint process between CEAB members and representatives of the EDCs. This process should be documented as it evolves. By 2010 it is hoped to have a defining IRP for the state.

5. Various Energy Issues

Ms. Babbidge, on behalf of Commissioner McCarthy who chairs the Various Energy Issues (VEI) subcommittee, summarized the work of the subcommittee in developing the VEI draft report providing recommendations for changes to how various energy entities in the state operate. The subcommittee has had lengthy discussions on many items related to the recommendations and were not able to reach consensus in all cases. The draft report highlights those cases in italics in the document and seeks public input on these items in particular as well as the overall report.

Ms. Babbidge related that there is a public hearing on the document scheduled for Thursday, November 13, 2008 at 6 PM at the Legislative Office Building in Hartford.

Mr. Mengacci and Mr. Downes specified that procedures for the hearing will be similar for those used for legislative public hearings except for no preference being given for representatives of public agencies. There will be a sign up sheet at the hearing. People will be taken in the order they signed up and each will be allowed approximately five minutes to speak. The proceedings will be recorded and then transcribed for posting to the CEAB web site. Board members are invited and encouraged to attend.

6. Other Business

Mr. Mengacci announced he will be stepping down as Chair of the Board as of its January 2009 meeting. He asked Board members who wished to be considered for the positions of Chair or Vice Chair to contact him. If there are multiple names for the positions, a written anonymous ballot will be made available for voting.

Mr. Sheridan expressed his sorrow that Mr. Mengacci will be stepping down recognizing his good service to date.

Mr. Mengacci noted that a proposed schedule of 2009 CEAB meetings has been presented to the Board. After discussion the schedule as presented was adopted.

7. Executive Session

Mr. Sheridan asked the chair under what circumstances the Board could go into Executive Session. Mr. Mengacci stated that Executive Session can be called to discuss pending litigation, contracts and personnel matters. Mr. Sheridan then requested that the Board go into Executive Session to discuss personnel matters. Upon a motion duly made and seconded the board voted to go into executive session at 11:45 AM.

The Board resumed its regular meeting at 12:05 PM noting that no vote had been made during Executive Session.

Mr. Sheridan then moved that consultants to the Connecticut Energy Advisory Board provide a proposed scope of work, timeline and project cost to the subcommittee overseeing the scope of work for approval in advance of proceeding with the project and upon completion of the project, provide a summary of the work completed.

Further moved that all bills be approved at the subcommittee level prior to payment and that a summary of billings and work completed be reported to the full board on a quarterly basis. Also moved that the CEAB chair is empowered to communicate this requirement to all consultants and all CEAB subcommittee chairs.

After discussion the motion was seconded and approved by the Board.

8. Adjournment

Mr. Mengacci reminded the Board of DEP's workshop at 1 p.m. following this meeting. He also solicited public comment and there was none.

There being no further business to come before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 12:30 PM.

Submitted by: Gretchen Deans

Approved by: