

**Regular Meeting of the
Connecticut Energy Advisory Board
January 6, 2009 Meeting Minutes**

1. Call to Order

The January 2009 monthly meeting of the Connecticut Energy Advisory Board (CEAB) was held at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, January 6, 2009 at the CT Development Authority 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); Phil Dukes, designee of the Chairman of the Department of Public Utility Control; Gina McCarthy, the Commissioner of the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP); James Sime, designee of the Commissioner of the Department of Transportation (DOT); Michael Cassella (Chair), Joel Gordes and Melissa Ozols, appointees of the Speaker of the House; Timothy Cole and James Hoffman, appointees of the Governor; and Tony Sheridan, Melissa Buckley, and Jeff Gaudiosi, appointees of the Senate President Pro Tempore.

2. Approval of Minutes

Chairman Cassella asked the Board to review the minutes of the December 2008 monthly meeting distributed prior to the meeting. After review, the board approved the minutes as distributed.

3. Procurement Plan

Mr. Cassella commended the utilities on the quality of the Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) submitted for 2009 noting the vast improvement from 2008 work. The chairman next reviewed a PowerPoint presentation detailing the process to date and going forward. A legislative briefing is planned for late January or early February to inform and engage the Energy and Technology Committee and other legislators. The current IRP process is working toward having an optimal plan in 2010. Efforts are focused on creating a plan that is truly integrated.

Regularly scheduled conference calls on both the IRP and the NEEWS RFP are planned to keep Board members informed on progress.

Heather Hunt has been asked to draft changes to the enabling legislation to make CEAB more than an “electric” board.

Vice Chair Healey envisions the IRP becoming the energy plan for the state that educates key stakeholders on state energy policy.

Mr. Sheridan asked if the Board should develop a public relations component to the IRP process. Ms. Healey and Mr. Mengacci have been conducting ad hoc public relations with key stakeholders as have Chairman Cassella, Commissioner McCarthy and Messrs. Mengacci and Downes.

The Board discussed what the implications on the IRP might be against the back drop of a volatile deficit legislature. Ms. Healey recommended a consistent message be developed for CEAB members to use in discussion with legislators and other constituents.

The Chairman concluded the discussion by noting that CEAB has 60 days in which to submit the IRP with Board comments to the DPUC from the date of DPUC’s final decision on the current IRP docket (08-07-01) and invited all Board members who are interested to participate in this year’s IRP process.

4. Various Energy Issues

Commissioner McCarthy thanked Board members for their input that has been incorporated in the Various Energy Issues report presented today for CEAB approval. She noted the three key issues presented in the Executive Summary of the document are recommending comprehensive state energy planning; having the CEAB encourage all state entities participation in achieving the state’s energy, environmental and economic

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goals; and, advocating for the state to allow the current IRP process in place to mature through several cycles before making any changes to the process.

The next steps are to prepare a cover letter to the chairs of the Energy and Technology Committee to emphasize key points in transmitting the report to the Committee and to plan to include discussion of the report in the IRP briefing to the legislators.

Chairman Cassella thanked the subcommittee for its work in finalizing the document. After discussion, it was moved, seconded and approved to submit the plan as presented.

5. NEEWS RFP

Mr. Gaudiosi, chairman of the Energy/NEEWS RFP subcommittee updated the Board on progress related to the RFP. Three proposals were received by CEAB in response to its RFP. Two of the proposals were for generation and one was for demand side management.

Next steps for the subcommittee are to compare the proposals to the CEAB preferential criteria as well as comparing it to the CL&P filing and then to develop its report to go to the Connecticut Siting Council by November 17th. The subcommittee is holding weekly sessions at 9:00 a.m. on Fridays until the report is complete.

The plan of action is to get the draft report to the subcommittee for review by the end of January. The Board will be presented the draft at its monthly meeting on February 6th and final consideration by the Board will be during a special meeting to be called for February 13th.

6. Staffing

Chairman Cassella expressed the continuing need, based on his short duration as chairman, to provide further staff support to the Board. The type of support needed is in the order of an executive director to CEAB to make routine decisions and represent the board in various settings. Mr. Mengacci has drafted a job description for such a post. The Board named Ms. Buckley and Messrs. Mengacci, Gordes and Hoffman to a committee to review the need and report back to the Board in February on how to proceed.

7. Public Comment

Chairman Cassella solicited items for other business and public comment. Robert Fromer reiterated his support for a state department of energy rather than the approach proposed in CEAB's Various Energy Issues report. Other flaws he sees in the report are that life cycle analysis is not covered, it is not truly an integrated plan yet, and it does not offer a resource conservation plan from a global perspective. Derek Phelps of the Siting Council announced he had copies of the current Forecast of Loads for interested attendees.

8. Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 11:20 AM.

Submitted by: Gretchen Deans

Approved by: