

D R A F T

Connecticut Energy Advisory Board
Teleconference Meeting
March 12, 2010 Meeting Minutes

A CEAB conference call meeting of the Connecticut Energy Advisory Board (CEAB) was held at 1:30 p.m. on Friday, March 12, 2010. CEAB members on the call were Michael Cassella (Chair); Jeff Gaudiosi (Vice Chair); Mary Healey, CT Consumer Counsel; Melissa Buckley; Paul Farrell, designee of the Commissioner of the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP); Joel Gordes; Tim Cole; Kevin Hennessy; Melissa Buckley; Paul Nuñez and Jim Sime and Rick Hanley, designees of the Department of Transportation. Daniel Peaco, John Athas, Beth Quinlan, and Shawn Carraher of La Capra Associates were also on the call.

At the outset of the call, Ms. Healey expressed the hope that this call would leave the Board with a concise statement of what it will be recommending and why with the analytics to back it up.

Beth Quinlan of La Capra gave the Board a summary of high level thinking on key findings and observations and the overall structure of the proposed document. She noted that there would be less detail in the main body of the document than last years. The appendix will cover the technical white papers with links to key documents.

Dan Peaco then reviewed the proposed action plan.

There was consensus among Board members that a key goal of CEAB's IRP work and report should be to educate Legislators so they can make informed decision on CT energy policy issues.

The Board discussed their position on All Cost Effective Energy Efficiency options and restructuring of energy organizations in CT. The Board also discussed the ability to measure the actual effects of energy efficiency. La Capra said they would have further conversations with Board member on how to handle demand side management in the report including Messrs. Gordes and Gaudiosi and Ms. Healey.

Both Mr. Cassella and Ms Healey expressed concern that the Board's work could get bogged down in analysis paralysis.

The Board also discussed what its position should be on Renewable Portfolio Standards and the impacts of the need for out-of-state sources versus in-state sources of renewable energy to meet any set goals.

The Board recognized the volatility in today's energy environment that makes it difficult to make recommendations for the long term. Recommendations of the Board might have to be qualified in light of this dynamic. In light of this discussion La Capra will craft a balanced position for the Board regarding renewables.

It was proposed that the Board should recommend targeted procurement allowing the option for CT facilities to begin repowering now. Mr. Cole encouraged that combined heat and power (CHP) options be tied to any recommendations on repowering as much as possible. Should DPUC issue an RFP for repowering incorporating CHP? was raised as a question.

The State needs to consider reprioritization of what is spending on energy and why.

The Board also discussed what the balance should be between transmission and non-transmission options in its recommendations.

Mr. Cole stated that the Board's recommendations will impact the interaction between the DPUC and state utilities and the Board needs to be cognizant of this. Legislation needs to be changed from "reactive" consideration of energy proposals to simultaneous alternate assessment.

The call concluded at 3:50 p.m.

Submitted by: Gretchen Deans