

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

1. Call to Order

The March 2009 monthly meeting of the Connecticut Energy Advisory Board (CEAB) was held at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, March 13, 2009 at the CT Economic Resource Center in Rocky Hill, CT. Members present were Michael Cassella (Chair and appointee of the Speaker of the House); Mary Healey (Vice Chair), Connecticut Consumer Counsel(OCC); John Mengacci, designee of the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management (OPM); Phil Dukes, designee of the Chairman of the Department of Public Utility Control; Gina McCarthy, 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); Joel Gordes and Melissa Ozols, appointees of the Speaker of the House; Timothy Cole and Jim Hoffman, appointees of the Governor; and Jeff Gaudiosi, Tony Sheridan (via telephone) 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 February 2009 monthly meeting and the February 13, special meeting distributed prior to the meeting. After review, the Board approved the monthly minutes as distributed as well as the minutes of the special meeting. However, Melissa Ozols, Melissa Buckley and Timothy Coles abstained from voting on the special meeting minutes.

3. IRP Subcommittee Report

Chairman Cassella asked Dan Peaco of La Capra Associates to update the Board on key points of the DPUC's final decision in Docket 08-07-01 which reviewed the 2008 IRP submitted by CEAB. The decision cited the plan as too narrow around the issues of reliability, cost and security. The decision suggests a broader framework to work in to provide the DPUC what they need to see in a plan to proceed with procurement.

The Board next discussed the impacts that a recession/depression could have on the assumptions of the plan and how this should be addressed going forward and how the Board might learn from the decision for future plans.

Board members also discussed how energy efficiency could have a favorable impact on low income ratepayers and the need to be conscious of not raising the amount of ratepayers bills such that even more ratepayers cannot pay their bills.

Chairman Cassella reported that the notice of public hearing and request for comment on the 2009 IRP plan has been issued. The intent is to give the LaCapra consultants time to review comments received prior to the date of the hearing. At this time, the 2009 plan is approximately at 85% of where it needs to be prior to submitting. After the plan is in its final form and submitted to DPUC, work will begin on the 2010.

The Board will not respond to DPUC's final decision but rather concentrate on moving forward with the 2009 and 2010 plans.

Mr. Cole expressed concern about the complexity of the environment in which the planning is taking place. The pace of change particularly in economic areas requires that future planning incorporate flexibility of response. Mr. Cole also noted the conflict between short term (ratepayer relief) and long term goals (maximizing energy efficiency).

Board members discussed concerns about the status of energy efficiency dollars in the State's budget. Mr. Gaudiosi noted that the Energy Conservation Management Board is monitoring events impacting energy efficiency line items closely.

Mr. Mengacci reviewed the draft request for proposal circulated to the Board prior to the meeting. The request is for technical consulting services to assist the Board in preparing the 2010 IRP. Mr. Cole encouraged OPM to publish the request in a Hispanic community publication in addition to those listed in the document.

After discussion, it was moved, seconded and voted unanimously to issue the RFP as presented.

Mr. Mengacci said the requests for proposal for executive director services and administrative services had been temporarily delayed by the Secretary of OPM but they are now making progress and may be ready for Board approval at the April meeting or sooner.

Mr. Mengacci noted that members of the selection committee for the RFPs would be required to file a Statement of Financial Interest with the State.

4. NEEWS RFP

Mr. Gaudiosi stated that the CEAB report to the Connecticut Siting Council on the CL&P NEEWS application and alternative responses received by the Board was filed on time.

5. Other Business

Chairman Cassella stated that ISO has reissued its invitation to the Board to come to ISO for a meeting. He recommends an August date but the Board's regularly scheduled meeting date is not good for ISO. Other August meeting dates will be considered and presented to the Board and transportation to ISO will be coordinated.

Mr. Sime mentioned a transportation consortium of 6 New England states to secure federal funding related to hybrid vehicles. He would like Board input, so he plans to distribute information on the work to the Board for comment.

6. Public Comment

Chairman Cassella solicited public comment. There was none.

7. Executive Session There was no Executive Session.

8. Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

Submitted by: Gretchen Deans

Approved by: **The Connecticut Energy Advisory Board, April 3, 2009**