

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

Meeting Minutes
July 11, 2006

1. Call to Order

The July 2006 monthly meeting of the Connecticut Energy Advisory Board (CEAB) was held at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, July 11, 2006 at The Connecticut Economic Resource Center, Inc., Rocky Hill, Connecticut. Members present were Donald Downes, Chairman of the Department of Public Utility Control (DPUC); Mary Healey, Connecticut Consumer Counsel; Gina McCarthy, the Commissioner of the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP); 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); Carl Schiessl (appointee of the Speaker of the House); Pam Sucato, designee of Commissioner of the Department of Transportation; and Dave Carey, designee of the Commissioner of the Department of Agriculture. Also in attendance as guests of the board were Ray Wilson of OPM and William Leahy of the Institute for Sustainable Energy.

2. Public Comment

Chairman Downes opened the meeting to public comment. He called upon Ray Long of NRG Energy Inc. to give an update on NRG's proposed plans for enhancements to their Connecticut electric generation facilities. Mr. Long and John Niland, also of NRG, presented a PowerPoint presentation on the company's plans and answered several questions from the board.

Following the presentation other public comment was solicited. Robert Fromer made a statement faulting assumptions on which NRG's projections are made. Mr. Fromer stressed the importance of incorporating full life cycle analysis of all energy projects. He asked that the article, "Boom Talk" by James Howard Kunstler, be circulated to members of the board. There was no other public comment.

3. Approval of Minutes

Chairman Downes asked the board to review the minutes of the June meeting which were distributed prior to the meeting. The board approved the minutes as distributed.

4. Chairman's Report

Chairman Downes noted that a letter to ISO New England on issues of concern has not yet been drafted. He requested that Vice Chair Healey help him complete this task. He reported that ISO is receiving many interconnection requests indicating increasing planned project activity.

5. CEAB Participation in DPUC Dockets

Ms. Healey reported that CEAB, assisted by its consultant LaCapra Associates, has commented on DPUC's consultant London Economic's needs assessment. There are conflicts between each entities analysis but there is a good give and take going on to resolve the differences.

The draft request for proposal (RFP) related to Phase 2 of DPUC's Docket 05-07-14 has been issued and Ms Healey and the RFP committee are reviewing it in conjunction with LaCapra in preparation for filing written comment.

Chairman Downes noted that the RFP is intended to solicit generation side, demand side and efficiency contracts.

The board discussed contested case impacts on chosen RFP bidders.

Ms. Healey also reported that CEAB has issued a reactive RFP, required by law, associated with a proposed UI substation in Trumbull. A bidders' conference for the RFP will be held the last week of July or the first week of August.

6. CEAB Participation in Siting Council Forecasts

Ms. Healey updated the board on CEAB/LaCapra participation in the Connecticut Siting Council's 10-year forecast of loads proceedings on supply and demand. CEAB has recommended, among other things, that CSC not uniformly adopt ISO forecast assessments without Further vetting of those assessments through cross examination of knowledgeable ISO New England witnesses. Ms. Healey noted that CEAB is monitoring CSC's Life Cycle 2006 proceeding but is not an active participant.

7. CEAB STAFF WORKING GROUP REPORT

Michael Chowaniec reported that the staff group has met several times since the last CEAB meeting. He emphasized the quick response is need for action items being addressed by the group: 2007 administrative support, near-term regulatory support and drafting the 2007 energy plan.

Agency staff concluded they need more input from board members in defining the role of CEAB as well as on the role of the energy plan and what the board's role should be in implementing the recommendations and goals of the plan.

In order to address the pressing action items and proceed in preparing a budget to submit to DPUC in a timely fashion, after discussion it was moved, seconded and passed that the draft budget and associated assumptions presented at the July meeting be approved as the basis for preparing CEAB's 2007 budget to be adopted by the board and submitted to DPUC.

The board suggested that the administrative contract with The Connecticut Economic Resource Center, Inc. (CERC) be extended through December 31, 2007 rather than go to RFP for a second consecutive year if at all possible.

It was decided to schedule a workshop with board members and the agency staff work group as soon as possible as a forum for the board to share its views on key issues with the staff in order that the staff can have more information to shape a recommendation to the board on the role of CEAB going forward. Mr. Chowaniec was asked to work with agency staff on drafting an agenda for the workshop.

Ms. Healey suggested the agenda include such topics as board members' obligation in carrying out energy plan objectives within their agencies, the board's role on implementation of energy plan goals, rolling out the plan to the legislature and other audiences, implementation of 2006 goals and the role of OPM's energy unit versus CEAB's role.

Derek Phelps of CSC noted his organization's willingness to give input as CEAB seeks to clarify and define its role since CSC and CEAB deal with closely related matters.

8. 2007 Energy Plan Update

John Mengacci reported drafting of the energy plan has been incorporated into the agency staff work group mission. Ray Wilson of his staff has met with Bill Leahy of ISE, consultant to assist with the plan. This year's drafting process incorporates a series of workshops with groups having vested interest in various areas covered by the plan prior to finalizing the draft.

9. 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: The Connecticut Energy Advisory Board, August 3, 2006