

**Regular Meeting of the
Connecticut Energy Advisory Board
December 7, 2007 Meeting Minutes**

1. Call to Order

The December 2007 monthly meeting of the Connecticut Energy Advisory Board (CEAB) was held at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, December 7, 2007 at The Connecticut Economic Resource Center in Rocky Hill, Connecticut. Members present were John Mengacci, designee of the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management (OPM); Mary Healy, Connecticut Consumer Counsel; Donald Downes, Chairman of the Department of Public Utility Control (DPUC); Kenneth Hennessy, designee of the president of CBIA (an appointee of the Governor); Tracy Babbidge, designee of the Commissioner of the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP); James Sandler, appointee of the President Pro Tempore of the Senate; Joel Gordes, Michael Cassella and Melissa Ozols appointees of the Speaker of the House; David Carey, designee of the Commissioner of the Department of Agriculture; Jim Hoffman, appointee of the Governor representing an environmental organization; and Pam Sucato, designee of the Commissioner of the Department of Transportation (DOT). Chairman Mengacci welcomed Jim Hoffman and Melissa Ozols as new members in attendance. Pam Sucato introduced Jim Simes from DOT and announced he would be the DOT's commissioner's designee to the board beginning in 2008.

2. Approval of Minutes

Chairman Mengacci asked the board to review the minutes of the November meeting which were distributed prior to the meeting. After review, the board approved the minutes.

3. Chairman's Remarks

Electric Conservation Programs Study

Beginning his monthly report, Chairman Mengacci asked Julie Cammarata to report on the status of the Electric Conservation Programs Study. Ms. Cammarata noted that consultant Dick Spellman is participating in the meeting by telephone. Progress on the study seems to be on time. It is scheduled for a December 18th release to the board for comment. A public hearing is to be conducted on January 10, 2008. The study will include assessment of comments received and why or why not comments are incorporated into the study. Mary Healy suggested that the study note that CEAB's study was done in consultation with the Energy Conservation Management Board. Don Downes suggested that the January 10 public hearing be done in two parts, a day time session from 2 to 4 p.m. and an evening session from 6 to 8 p.m. Members were encouraged to attend the hearings.

Report on Various Energy Issues

The consulting contract for this work is still under review at OPM but should be executed in December. Work on the report should kick off in early January.

Procurement Plan

The draft procurement plan from the utilities is due to the board on January 1, 2008. Ms. Cammarata reported that a committee had met to review the one proposal received from consultants in response to CEAB's request for proposal. The proposal received a favorable evaluation on established selection criteria and the committee is recommending the board select La Capra, the proposer, to carry out the support work for reviewing the procurement plan. After discussion it was moved, seconded and approved to hire La Capra as the consultant for this work and to authorize Chairman Mengacci to execute a contract with La Capra on behalf of the board.

At this point, Chairman Mengacci asked Don Downes to give his PowerPoint presentation on the current procurement process in the state.

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Annual Review of OPM Strategic Plan

Consultant John Athas began a review of his PowerPoint highlighting the status of CEAB's review of OPM's Energy Management Plan for State Buildings which reviewed the legislative mandate for the plan and CEAB's review of the it, the process employed to conduct the review, and a discussion of proposed format to incorporate CEAB comments and proposed amendments. The presentation evolved into an extended discussion of how a final decision on what and how comments received by board members would be incorporated into the final plan accepted by CEAB. It was finally decided that the November 27, 2007 modified version of OPM's plan would be distributed to the board along with La Capra's December 7, 2007 PowerPoint for review by board members and the agency staff work group (ASWG). A December 14 deadline was set for submittal of substantive comments on the documents. The ASWG will meet early in the week of December 17 to seek consistency in comments and discuss possible incorporation into the board addendum to this year's plan. The ASWG will bring any unresolved matters to the attention of board members for discussion and resolution. La Capra will refine findings and observations and circulate. A final draft addendum will be prepared by La Capra for inclusion in the January 2008 board packets to be distributed on December 28th.

Net Energy Analysis

Ms. Cammarata noted that work has been temporarily suspended on the net analysis task pending further investigation of the legislative intent of this requirement.

NEEWS

Mr. Mengacci reported on his November 7th meeting with ISO representatives on the New England East West Solution (NEEWS). He noted that that the forward capacity market auctions may have loosened the timeline around the NEEWS project because of the success of the auctions. It was also noted that CEAB will be submitting comments the week of December 10th in DPUC's current reliability docket.

Nominating Committee

Mr. Mengacci noted that 2008 officers for CEAB are to be elected at the January meeting. He reported that Mr. Sandler had offered to serve as the chair of a nominating committee. He asked if other board members were interested in participating on the committee. Jim Hoffman said he was willing to participate. After discussion, it was moved, seconded and approved that Jim Sandler serve as chair of the nominating committee and that Jim Hoffman serve on the committee. Other interested members may participate by contacting Mr. Sandler.

4. Low-Income Energy Issues

Board member Joel Gordes next presented his concerns about effectively getting state assistance to Connecticut's low-income residence and proposed that CEAB consider participating in efforts to make the process more effective. Mr. Mengacci recognized that this problem arises annually. He committed to working with Mr. Gordes on ways the CEAB might participate and work collaboratively with the state's Low Income Energy Advisory Board (LIEAB). This might start with the board writing a letter of concern to LIEAB bringing forward recommendations for improvements to the current process.

5. Consultant Work Order Report

Dan Peaco gave a brief presentation highlighting important points related to open CEAB work orders in which La Capra is involved.

6. Other Business

Chairman Mengacci opened the meeting to public comment.

Robert Fromer advocated for the opportunity for public comment on CEAB's review of the state's energy management plan and then presented material through three handouts on examples of net energy analysis.

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Lee Hebert reviewed his history of promoting energy storage as part of a solution to current energy concerns including previous presentations to CEAB. He encouraged the board to give energy storage serious consideration as it carries out its work.

There was no other public comment.

7. Adjournment

There being no other business to come before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 12:50 p.m.

Submitted by: Gretchen Deans

Approved by: