

**Regular Meeting of the
Connecticut Energy Advisory Board**
August 7, 2009 Meeting Minutes

1. Call to Order

The August 2009 monthly meeting of the Connecticut Energy Advisory Board (CEAB) was held at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, August 7, 2009 at the Legislative Office Building (LOB), Hartford, CT. Members present were Michael Cassella (Chair and appointee of the Speaker of the House); 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; Tracy Babbidge, designee of the Commissioner of the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP); David Carey, designee of the Commissioner of the Department of Agriculture; Richard Hanley, designee of the Commissioner of the Department of Transportation; Joel Gordes, appointee of the Speaker of the House; Kevin Hennessy and Timothy Cole, appointees of the Governor; and Jeff Gaudiosi, Tony Sheridan and Melissa Buckley, appointees of the Senate President Pro Tempore.

Chairman Cassella suggested that Board members and attendees visit the home page of the Department of Public Utility Control's web site to review options for selecting electric suppliers that could result in savings on residential and commercial electric bills.

2. Approval of Minutes

Chairman Cassella thanked Ms. Stahl for providing the minutes from the July meeting. He then asked the Board to review the minutes of that meeting. After review, the Board approved the monthly minutes. Ms. Buckley abstained from voting.

3. Freedom of Information Presentation

Thomas Hennick, public education officer for the Connecticut Freedom of Information (FOI) Commission, reviewed the basic FOI requirements that apply to public agencies. He emphasized points relating to noticing and providing minutes as well as results of votes taken at agency meetings and when executive sessions in meetings are appropriate. He provided the Board members with a pocket reference guide on FOI requirements.

4. CEAB 2010 Budget

Chairman Cassella summarized issues surrounding finalizing the 2010 CEAB budget. The Board could wait until the state has a budget to approve the CEAB 2010 budget or approve a budget now and adjust if necessary when a state budget is approved. The Board decided to vote on the budget at this time. It was moved and seconded to accept the budget as presented by Chairman Cassella. Mr. Hennessy asked if there was comparative information for the proposed 2010 budget versus the 2009 budget. Mr. Cassella said this information is available and promised to forward it to Mr. Hennessy. The Chairman stated that line items are similar to those for past years but the request is approximately half a million dollars higher than last year because there are no carry over funds. The Board then voted to approve the budget as presented. Mr. Hanley abstained and Mr. Mengacci was not present for the vote.

5. 2010 Procurement Plan

Chairman Cassella reported that the Board is moving forward on a 2010 Procurement Plan as best it can without a budget. The IRP Subcommittee is meeting after this monthly meeting with the electric distribution companies and that meeting is open to the public. If funds are not secured for consulting assistance for the 2010 Plan, the Board's fall back position will have to be tapping the expertise of Board members.

6. Siting Council/NEEWS Update

Mr. Peaco of La Capra Associates reported on Docket 370 at the CT Siting Council related to NEEWS. Hearings in the docket have begun and Michele Rivero of the Attorney General's office is attending for CEAB. So far CL&P representatives are the only individuals to have participated in the hearings. Jeff Gaudiosi, Dan Peaco and Richard Hahn will appear for CEAB when required in the hearings. The timing for this is estimated to be middle to late December.

7. Siting Council Docket F2009/Forecast of Loads

Mr. Peaco stated that comments on the Council's posted draft Forecast are due by August 14. Proposed comments from CEAB will be circulated early next week for comment before being submitted on August 14.

8. DPUC Docket 09-05-02 (2009 IRP)

Dan Peaco reported that a schedule was recently issued by DPUC which indicates the Department intends to issue a draft decision on August 24 and written exceptions will be accepted through the end of August. A final decision is slated for September 3.

9. Other Business

Chairman Cassella thanked Mr. Gordes and Ms. Healey for drafting a CEAB informational brochure which was distributed today for member review. A picture of the Board for the brochure is scheduled to be taken at the September Board meeting. Mr. Gordes noted that Taren O'Connor of the Consumer Counsel's office has done the majority of the work on the document and comments should be submitted to her.

Mr. Gordes commented on current energy security matters and circulated three relevant articles. Issues like cyber security and electro magnetic pulses need to remain at the forefront of the Board's attention.

Chairman Cassella noted that the Connecticut Academy of Science and Engineering (CASE) has delivered the report requested by CEAB on utilizing waste heat. He asked Richard Strauss of CASE to give a brief summary of the document. Following the summary, Mr. Strauss noted that a more detailed presentation by members of the study team will be given at CEAB's September meeting.

11. Public Comment

Chairman Cassella solicited public comment. Kathryn Moschella, a consultant for Paul Miller of Fair View Dairy Farm, presented on plans for an anaerobic digester at the farm and the possibility of a business center associated with it to tap the energy supply. She asked for help and advice from Board members on moving this project forward. Several members committed to being in touch with her with ideas.

Lee Hebert of Scotland, CT presented his case for promoting energy storage to Board members.

12. Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 11:20 a.m.

Submitted by: Gretchen Deans

Approved by: The Connecticut Energy Advisory Board, September 4, 2009