

Draft Scope of Services: Study and Recommendations Report RE Various Energy Issues in Connecticut as called for by PA 07-242, Section 58

Public Act 07-242, Section 58, requires that the Connecticut Energy Advisory Board (CEAB) conduct a study and develop recommendations on “how to:

- (1) coordinate and integrate the state’s energy entities;
- (2) achieve the goals of:
 - (A) the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI), and
 - (B) the state, with regard to the reduction of emissions of greenhouse gas, as provided by section 22a-200a of the general statutes; and
- (3) promote indigenous alternative fuel resources.”

As part of the study of these issues, the CEAB is required to write a report containing its recommendations, including recommendations for legislation to achieve the goals listed above to the General Assembly’s committee of cognizance.

To produce the best quality report possible, CEAB will require that the process of formulating the report be broken down into two general phases: Phase I: research phase and Phase II: recommendations phase.

The contractor shall be expected to perform the following specific tasks under Phase I:

1. Contractor shall research state government energy entity constructs and responsibilities across the United States with specific emphasis on structures in the other five New England states, New York and mid-Atlantic states.
2. Contractor shall review the construct of Connecticut’s various energy entities (agencies, boards and commissions), identifying the energy-related functions, goals and tasks assigned to each entity. Specific clarification through the use diagrams, for example, should be included as part of the review. A separate discussion of the entities involved in shaping both RGGI and the promotion and regulation of indigenous alternative fuel resources should be included along with diagrams illustrating the processes involved and the entities of cognizance.
3. Contractor shall provide a brief overview of RGGI including a description of the history of RGGI and the specific emissions reduction goals established as part of the Initiative and an overview of the structure and function of the RGGI, Inc., Regional Organization. The overview shall put the RGGI program in context with the greater greenhouse gas emission reduction goals set forth in section 22a-200a of the general statutes.
4. Contractor shall research how other RGGI co-signatory states (Northeast and Mid Atlantic states) are planning to implement key features of the RGGI program, including procedures related to the auction of allowances; policies regarding the use of auction proceeds; procedures to approve offsets; procedures to enter into MOUs with non-RGGI states for the approval and use of offsets within RGGI states; measures Connecticut should support to address and/or mitigate leakage and any other Connecticut-specific issues that may arise. Contractor shall submit a written report to the Board detailing the findings of its research.
5. Contractor shall identify Connecticut’s indigenous fuel sources and incentives in place to promote the development of these fuels.

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The contractor shall be expected to perform the following specific tasks under Phase II:

1. Contractor shall examine and identify the advantages and disadvantages of changing the current Connecticut energy entity constructs in such a way as to ensure future coordination of energy planning with RGGI, the promotion of indigenous alternative fuel sources and meeting overall greenhouse gas emission reduction goals set forth in section 22a-200a of the general statutes. This shall include producing concrete recommendations to the Board of ways to better coordinate or consolidate the work across various boards, agencies and commissions in Connecticut government. Contractor shall also recommend ways that the existing energy entities can achieve greater coordination under the current construct or recommend a new construct to accomplish these goals.
2. Contractor shall coordinate and participate in soliciting public comment on these issues.
3. Contractor shall coordinate and participate in a public hearing on these issues.

Deliverables:

1. Contractor shall provide a summary report of its research under "Phase I" to the Board by March 1, 2008.
2. Contractor shall produce a draft recommendations report as described in Phase II #1 above on or before May 15, 2008
3. Contractor shall assist the Board in soliciting comments on the draft report and recommendations on or before July 15, 2008
4. Contractor shall assist the Board in holding a public hearing on its draft report and recommendations on or before August 30, 2008.
5. Contractor shall provide a final draft recommendations report to the CEAB on or before October 15, 2008.
6. Contractor shall provide a final report to the CEAB on or before November 15, 2008.

Rough Timeline:

RFP released - September, 2007
Contractor selection – October/November, 2007
Draft research report – March 1, 2008
Draft recommendations report – May 15, 2008
Public Comment Period begin – July 15, 2008
Public Hearing – August, 30 2008
Draft recommendations report – October 15, 2008
Final Report – November 15, 2008