

Massachusetts Energy Efficiency Advisory Council
 Meeting Minutes
 Tuesday, May 8, 2012

Councilors Present:

Voting	Present (designee)	Non-Voting	Present (designee)
Nancy Seidman	Sharon Weber	Elizabeth Cellucci	X
Martha Coakley	Danielle Rathbun	James Carey	Trish Walker
Penn Loh	X	Penni Conner	Tilak Subrahmanian
Mark Sylvia	Tina Halfpenny	Michael Ferrante	
Debra Hall	X	Alisha Frazee	
Charles Harak	X	Kevin Galligan	Maggie Downey
Elliot Jacobson	X	Cindy L. Carroll	X
Jeremy McDiarmid	X	John Ghiloni	
Rick Mattila	Jeff Holmes	Paul Gromer	X
Robert Rio	X	Andrew Newman	X
Deirdre Manning	X	Richard Oswald	X
		Michael Sommer	X
		Carol White	X

DOER: Tina Halfpenny

Consultants: Jeff Schlegel, Eric Belliveau, John Livermore

Present:

General public sign in sheet not returned

Halfpenny called the meeting to order at 2:04 and welcomed everybody. She noted that the Council had received the April 30th draft plan, and she reflected on the past 3 years that have seen savings goals grow 30-40% per year. She commended everyone for having tackled big issues, with some success and lessons learned, and encouraged building on the tremendous expertise and passion in the room. Halfpenny also noted that the Commonwealth wants to uphold its #1 position in the ACEEE scoring, and that we need to demonstrate again that we are the national leader in energy efficiency, by seeking continuous improvement. She thanked everyone who has contributed to the Commonwealth's success, and she then began the public comment period.

Public comment

Matt Godfried, NEEP, commented on the Northeast Residential Lighting strategy, a paper requested by PAs in the region in response to the rapidly changing landscape of energy efficient lighting. He referenced new products and new federal standards, and recommended to implement strategy recommendations, as appropriate, in the 3-year plan.

Steve White, Efficient Buildings LLC, a business owner on the Cape since 2005 commented on some issues he had with new hires doing work in the HES program (e.g. small fire and personnel falling through ceilings). He noted reaching out to CLC and Rise

to get recertified, but was not able to get the required \$300k liability insurance, effectively preventing him from operating in the program.

Jeremy Shenk, CLU, thanked the PAs for funding pre-weatherization and for making a strong commitment to economic development in the clean energy sector. He emphasized the important role of transparent and publicly available data to show the effectiveness of programs. He noted that the proposed savings goals are below those in the GCA, and he suggested that the HES rebate structure must be equitable. Shenk thanked the council for their commitment and for working with the Green Justice Coalition.

General Updates

Legislative Report

Halfpenny reported that the legislative report will be issued in the next couple of weeks for review and vote at the June meeting.

Executive Committee Meeting update

Halfpenny noted that the EC largely talked about the EEAC meeting agenda. She asked Councilors to provide feedback on the PAs' draft plan.

EC Meeting Minutes

Halfpenny noted that EC meeting minutes were distributed last Thursday. McDiarmid motioned for a vote, Rathbun seconded. Council voted and approved by unanimous consent.

April EEAC Meeting Minutes

Halfpenny noted that EEAC meeting minutes were distributed early Friday morning. McDiarmid motioned for a vote, Rio seconded. Council voted and approved by unanimous consent.

DPU 11-120 Update

Venezia updated the Council on the latest DPU deliverable, a filing of reply comments to the March technical session. He urged various interested parties to file comments jointly and to provide concrete proposals. He noted that joint comments were filed by all the PAs, with DOER and ENE, and that the low income community also filed comments. Halfpenny noted this as a good example of how far ahead MA is with energy efficiency, with some states still discussing whether to have EE programs.

Appreciative Inquiry

Halfpenny informed the Council of the 2-day event at Gillette Stadium, led by David Cooperider, on May 15-16. The idea of the event, she explained, is for the PAs to get stakeholder input into the 3-year plans. She noted that Governor Patrick would be speaking.

ISO-NE PAC Meeting

Halfpenny noted that ISO-NE is having a meeting next Thursday in Westboro to talk about the EE forecasting model.

Quarterly report

Cohen and Walker presented the PA 1st quarterly report and noted that the numbers are preliminary. Halfpenny asked if ‘participants’ are widgets or customers, and Cohen responded that it depends on the program. They presented the savings-to-goal numbers year to date, and noted that no behavioral participants are included in the numbers. Electric Annual Savings - 11%; Gas Annual Savings – 11%. Electric: Res - 14%; LI - 10%; C&I - 11%. Gas: Res – 20%, LI – 10%, C&I – 8%. They noted that expenditures in the residential sector were higher in Q1 due to behavioral expenses. Walker presented residential, low income, and marketing program highlights, and Gundal presented C&I program highlights. Halfpenny thanked the PAs and asked them to provide an update on the marketing campaign at the June Council meeting. Schlegel gave a brief consultant update on savings levels year to date and noted no concerns.

Review of 2013-2015 Draft Plans - PAs

Lyne introduced the three lead PA presenters of the 2013-2015 draft plans, White, Sommer and Gundal. White provided an overview of the highlights of the plan, and noted that the PAs are truly committed to achieving the Commonwealth’s goals. She explained that the plan focused at the sector level, with details at the program level to come later. White noted that, in the plan, the PAs have tried to be very responsive to Council Priorities, with aggressive but achievable savings targets, a focus on cost-efficiencies, and support on key program development and implementation needs. She highlighted the plan focus on: Hard to Reach/Hard to Serve customers; financing; commitment to statewide consistency, while also recognizing unique needs in some areas; commitment to enhance integration of electric and gas efforts in C&I sector; improved comprehensiveness – going ‘deeper’. White noted other considerations, including: consolidated programs, a focus on R&D efforts, and the large volume of EM&V results coming in that may lead to some changes. She explained that the PAs had done some top-down and some bottom-up budgeting. Rathbun asked that, in the next plan iteration, the PAs highlight and explain the specific factors that are driving higher costs to achieve. White agreed, and went on to discuss the proposed increase in benefits, and big reduction in greenhouse gasses. She explained that the PAs are proposing to retain the current PI model, and have an on-going commitment to robust EM&V. White then presented a timeline of core next steps.

Sommer gave a brief overview of residential and low income programs. He noted the plan builds on efforts from 2010-2012 and strives to continue to improve program offerings and delivery. Gundal gave an overview of C&I programs, noting that if you want to find out where you’re going, you need to look back. He noted that the opportunities are changing, as the savings delta narrows and with the decreased cost of gas, and explained to need to broaden the market. Gundal explained the 2-fold strategy of 1) acquiring small incremental savings at higher volume, and 2) screening for higher value opportunity. He also highlighted an expansion of upstream efforts and the development of self-service web-based tools to educate and inform. Gundal noted that the PAs will monitor and communicate with groups like CA’s Emerging Technologies, Northwest’s Energy Efficiency Alliance, EPRI, and GTI, and that concept papers will help to drive innovation. He emphasized that the PAs looking to build and expand on their successes.

Consultant Assessment of Draft Plans

Schlegel presented the consultant *Review of 2013-2015 planning process and critical path to Oct 30, 2012*. He noted that the consultants received the PA data when the Council did, and that there was a very quick turnaround time period to produce the consultant report that was sent to the Council. Schlegel presented a set of slides summarizing key findings, including impressive benefits, and positive developments at the program level. He emphasized that there are some positive things in the plan. He highlighted two main short-comings of the plan, including: 1) plan does not include the necessary level of information detail for review and analysis – would a short form of a Plan would ever be sufficient?, 2) Four key substantive concerns: Electric savings goals are approaching consultant-recommended targets but are not quite there yet; Gas savings goals are too low; PA-proposed costs are too high and are not justified; and the priorities of the EEAC, adopted in Feb 2012, are not adequately addressed in a clear, complete, and tangible manner in the Plan. Schlegel noted that it should be possible to achieve higher electric and especially gas savings; that there should be some oil savings goals; and that it is recommended that the PAs look at the best practices of the highest performing PAs to see if other PAs can come up to that level. He respectfully requested that PAs look at costs across PAs and explain differences so that Councilors can understand. Schlegel noted that, while bill impacts are crucial they are driven largely by costs, and we need to get the costs understood first. A robust Council discussion ensued regarding savings goals and costs.

Halfpenny explained that this is a collaborative process, which means a lot of meeting, and a lot of process. She noted that the Council was hopeful that the plan short form would hit on all of the point we wanted to see, however, in hindsight we realistically wanted to see more information. Halfpenny noted that we need to justify goals and costs, and make sure that the goals are sustainable. She explained that we need more robust information around the strategies that are going to be implemented in the next 3 years.

Identification of Next Steps

Halfpenny revisited the plan timeline and noted that the 08-50 tables won't be realistically populated until July 1st, due to EM&V studies. She noted that the PAs have proposed to submit the next draft plan on July 1st, and then there is a Council meeting on July 10th. Halfpenny asked the PAs if there is any information they could provide the Council to address some of the things we've heard today. She thanked the PAs for their hard work, and thanked the Consultants for the very quick report turnaround.

Halfpenny suggested that the June Council meeting include an update on marketing, next steps on the plans, and an update from the working groups. Lyne agreed that this sounded reasonable, and noted a planned discussion with the PAs on this topic after today's meeting. Halfpenny noted that the EC will work with the PAs to decide what the June presentation will look like.

Adjourn

Halfpenny adjourned the meeting at 5:22.