

Massachusetts Energy Efficiency Advisory Council
 Meeting Minutes
 June 12, 2013

Councilors Present:

Voting	Present (designee)	Non-Voting	Present (designee)
Nancy Seidman	X	Elizabeth Cellucci	X
Martha Coakley	Matt Saunders	James Carey	Trish Walker
Penn Loh	X	Tilak Subrahmanian	X
Mark Sylvia	Tina Halfpenny	Michael Ferrante	
Debra Hall	X	Maggie Downey	X
Charles Harak	X	Cindy L. Carroll	X
Elliot Jacobson	X	John Ghiloni	
Christina Dietrich	X	Paul Gromer	X
Rick Mattila	X	Andrew Newman	
Robert Rio	X	Michael Sommer	X
Deirdre Manning		Carol White	X
Brian Swett	Brad Swing	Eric Winkler	X
Michael McDonagh	X		
Paul Johnson	X		
Larry Chretien	X		

DOER: Steve Venezia

Consultants: Eric Belliveau, Jeff Schlegel, Sam Huntington

Present:

Emmett Lyne	Katelyn Mazuera	Clayton Hale
Frank Gundal	Monica Kachru	Elizabeth Enco
Lisa Shea	Beth Lonergan	Spencer Haught
Loie Hayes	Jean Weber	Raphael Herz
Tom Regh	Lynn Westerlind	Chris Goulding
Jeff Leupold	Melanie Coen	Staci Rubin
Cara Mottola	Amy Vavak	Sam Ames
Matthew Nelson	Michael Prokosch	Matt Lee
Lyn Huckabee	Aimee Powelka	Rob Calnan
Antonio Souza	Sharon Weber	Margie Lynch
Michael Blasnik	Jeremy Newberger	

Halfpenny called the meeting to order at 1:09pm and welcomed everybody.

Public comment

Darlene Lombose from the Green Justice Coalition (GJC) spoke about the need for greater data transparency from Massachusetts' energy efficiency programs. She explained that while the GJC partners with and supports the PAs programs, they need more transparency to continue to justify those efforts to their members and supporters. She explained that the GJC would ideally like to see quarterly reporting, by census tract, and at the measure level.

Natalie Hildt of the Northeast Energy Efficiency Partnership (NEEP) spoke about the need for the council to support the upcoming bill before the legislature that would provide a funding mechanism for energy efficiency projects for oil heat customers. She noted that business customers on oil heat and customers in municipal territories have no access to energy efficiency funding and that this bill would change that. She directed the council to visit Oilheatsaveenergy.org, and closed by reiterating her intent to make sure the council was aware of the important bill.

James Norton, the energy efficiency coordinator for Malden, spoke up in support of the Efficient Neighborhoods program. He noted that his town wanted to push the idea, but lacked a way of determining which homes had already received energy services, and thus which homes should be targeted. He noted that open access to information on these programs would be very helpful to him.

Max Veggeburg, of Homeworks Energy, noted that there is no process for dispute resolution under the current HES program. He also noted that participation agreements are imposed on contractors, and that they would appreciate more ability to negotiate the terms. Lastly, he noted that there is no compensation mechanism for adding additional items to projects, or for call backs.

Ethics Commission Review

Venezia introduced Dave Giannotti from the state ethics commission, explaining that it is an appropriate time for an ethics refresher since there are upcoming appointments and re-appointments of council members. Giannotti proceeded to explain the laws regarding conflicts of interest for state employees. He explained that in any situation where you are performing your responsibility as a public employee, if the matter at hand affects an element of your personal life it could potentially be a conflict of interest. He elaborated that there are two types of conflict – financial, and everything else. In financial conflicts, the law requires one to withdraw oneself from the issue, with some exceptions for individuals who are appointed as representatives of particular industries. In non-financial conflicts, the law simply requires disclosure.

General Updates

May 16th EEAC Meeting Minutes

Halfpenny introduced the minutes from the May 16th EEAC meeting and noted a couple changes. Saunders moves to approve - no one opposed and no one abstained. The council voted and approved the minutes.

May 22nd Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

Halfpenny introduced the minutes from the May 22nd Executive Committee meeting. Saunders motioned to approve, no one opposed and no one abstained. The council voted and approved the minutes.

Consultant Monthly Report

Belliveau updated the council on the activities the consultant team had been working on since the last council meeting. He highlighted their work on the strategic vision for the three year plan as a being central. He proceeded to give highlights by team. The C&I team had been working on outreach strategies for the multifamily and wastewater subsectors, as well as looking at new strategies for building commissioning. The planning and analysis team had been focused on the avoided energy supply cost study, in addition to monitoring the developments of the statewide database. The evaluation team had recently completed a few studies and is preparing to complete around 28 more in the coming months. Furthermore, the evaluation team had been working on a strategic vision that will incorporate their plans for future evaluations into a single document. Belliveau introduced Margie Lynch, the new residential team lead, to give an update on the residential team. Lynch proceeded to introduce herself and explain her background, noting that she was looking forward to bringing a fresh perspective to the consultant team's work with the PAs. Lynch introduced another new residential team member, Courtney Moriarta, who serves as a technical lead to the DOE's Home Performance with Energy Star program. Moriarta was not present. Lynch then introduced another new residential team member Michael Blasnik. Blasnik proceeded to elaborate on his history in the energy efficiency industry, highlighting, in particular, his work on impact evaluations.

Statewide database RFQQ

Halfpenny explained that there was a database subcommittee meeting on Monday where proposals were distributed along with evaluation forms for each of the subcommittee members to fill out. She noted that the subcommittee would reconvene on Wednesday the 18th of June to determine if any of the firms should come in for interviews. She explained that if none of the firms who submitted proposals were determined to be sufficiently qualified, the council could go out for rebid to the broader business community. She also noted that if the subcommittee did decide to interview any of the respondents, the interviews would be held on Friday the 21st of June.

Quarterly report

Halfpenny noted that some councilors had requested more time to review and discuss the first quarterly report. She then proceeded to open up the meeting for discussion. Johnson asked a series of questions regarding the incentives and participation rates for gas programs, to which Abdou and Nelson responded. Halfpenny noted that, given the nature of the questions, it would be better to take them offline. Additionally, Halfpenny noted that she would like to see a status update on CHP in the next quarterly report, as well as an update on the EM&V plan.

Monthly Dashboard

Melanie Coen delivered the monthly update on the PA's progress toward annual goals. On the electric side she noted that the PAs were trending similar to last year with lower savings but higher participation due to high volume of upstream lighting. On the gas side she noted that the PAs were also trending similar to last year with HEHE program doing well resulting in above-target lifetime savings. Halfpenny expressed concern that the PAs had only achieved 8% of the annual therm goal, noting the need to "flatten out the hockey stick". Gundal responded that they are working on that, but the higher goals combined

with lower gas prices were making it difficult. Seidman requested that future data dashboards show comparisons to previous years.

Avoided Energy Supply Cost Study review

Jeff Schlegel delivered an update on the draft results of the Avoided Energy Supply Cost study. He began by explaining how the results of the study underpin much of the benefits that are used to calculate cost-effectiveness, and proceeded to demonstrate how energy savings translate to benefits by being multiplied against avoided costs. He gave an overview of the various elements of avoided costs, including energy, capacity, DRIPE, and non-embedded CO2 costs, and provided definitions of each. Schlegel summarized the results by observing that energy prices are generally lower compared to the 2011 AESC study, while capacity prices are higher. He explained that since the electric and gas programs are highly cost-effective, while the benefits will suffer, the underlying program economics should not change dramatically. He concluded by noting that Synpase, the firm leading the study, would be giving a public presentation of the results on Friday June 21st.

DPU 11-120-A Reporting Streamlining

Halfpenny introduced Jeff Schlegel to give an update on DPU docket 11-120-A, concerning reporting streamlining. Schlegel explained streamlining of reporting should result in reporting that is effective, efficient, timely, transparent, systematic and automated. He listed a series of regular events where streamlining would be beneficial, including DPU regulatory proceedings, statewide reporting, and individual PA reporting. He recommended that the EEAC continue to review reports, noting that the DPU left that issue open ended. Schlegel then delivered the consultant team's proposal for "Plan Updates". He explained that these updates are needed annually and should have three components – a data update, a narrative description of key impacts and implications, and a narrative description of strategic adjustments. He called attention to the fact that the consultant team was not proposing to allow goal modification, but rather proposing that the plan updates allow the PAs to adjust their strategy to reach the goals.

Halfpenny asked Lyne for a joint response from the PAs, which was delivered by Abdou. She noted that the PAs were in agreement that the goals should not be allowed to be modified. The issue for the PAs, she explained, was that any change to measure mix would necessarily result in a full update of the 08-50 tables, which was the exactly the type of time-intensive work they were seeking to avoid. White added that this was not a question of transparency, but rather a question of how efforts were being undertaken. Lyne further added that while the PAs and the consultant team had been working well together and were mostly in agreement, they were indeed in disagreement on this particular issue and it was unfair that the PAs were not allowed to show their slides. Johnson asked for clarification on why the PAs are unable to change their measure mix mid-year. Abdou responded that changing the measure mix affect the rollup to the 08-50 tables, and thus would require a full update. White commented that it was not appropriate to rely on pre-evaluated numbers to change strategy, further explaining that evaluations come in at end of year at which point numbers are finalized, and decisions should be made based on those numbers. Multiple councilors commented that there appeared to be a communication issue and that further discussion should take place outside of the

council meeting. Schlegel noted that the only issue left was this issue of the Plan Updates, specifically the data related to the plan updates.

Home Energy Services

Ellen Pfeiffer delivered a presentation on the Home Energy Service program. She noted the successful new program design which unified the electric and gas models, moved to a set price model, and expanded pathways to participation. She noted that the program was recognized by ACEEE as an exemplary program. She explained that they had recently implemented contractor performance reporting, and used Opinion Dynamics to map entire state to identify neighborhoods with the highest potential. She also noted that they were working on a RenewBoston demo for 2-3 family homes. Swing added that the city was very excited about the program.

Johnson asked for an extension of the meeting to discuss HES, as well as some additional time next meeting to continue the discussion. Halfpenny agreed and announced a 10 minute extension to the current meeting and asked for 20 minutes at the next meeting.

Johnson asked for the data to back up figures in presentation, noting that the ones presented were very different from the annual report. Johnson also asked for the current customer acquisition cost, explaining that marketing and audits are all part of that. Johnson noted that, based on feedback from meetings with contractors, the audit process was a key concern.

Adjourn

Halfpenny adjourned the meeting at 4:05pm.