

Executive Committee minutes 10/1/14

In attendance:

Attendees: Christina Halfpenny (DOER), Matt Saunders (AG), Amy Boyd (ENE), Elliot Jacobson - (LEAN), Emmett Lyne (PAs), Shaela Collins (PAs), Carol White (NGrid), Lisa Shea(NU), Cindy Carroll (Unitil), Frank Gundal (NU), Eric Belliveau(Consult), Paul Johnson (Greentek), Ian Finlayson (DOER), Lawrence Masland (DOER), Alissa Whiteman (DOER), Johnathan Raab (Raab Associates), Patrick Field (CBI)

Furnace Baseline Issue:

- There was a discussion regarding the baseline efficiency to be used when calculating savings associated with the installation of high efficiency gas furnaces as reported in the 2013 Plan Year results.
- Based on a variety of evaluation studies conducted outside of Massachusetts, the EEAC consultants estimate that 88 AFUE should be used as the baseline, while the PAs believe that there is a range of efficiencies and would like an assessment performed to determine the proper one.
- It was decided that EEAC members discuss and or vote on this at the November EEAC meeting; they will be provided with more information about each position and its implications in advance of the meeting.

Implementation Update (IU) Summary Recommendations:

- There was discussion regarding a possible Council resolution supporting the EEAC consultant recommendations in the Implementation Update summary presented by the consultants at the September EEAC meeting.
- There was general discussion about whether the document voted on should be a resolution, or a document expressing support as “sense of the Council”. Amy Boyddid not feel strongly either way as long as the vote moves implementation of the recommendations forward. No specific decision was reached on this issue. It was decided that there will be no Council resolution on IU recommendations at the October meeting. The Consultants may submit a memo with their IU recommendations. .
- The EEAC consultants expressed the need to make decisions on whether to implement the recommendations.
- Emmett Lyne communicated the following general themes:
 - the PAs would like to present their response to the recommendations directly to the Council;
 - the EEAC should not vote without hearing directly from the PAs;
 - a resolution (vs a “sense of council vote”) would be inconsistent with the advisory role of the Council;
 - the IU process has become more resource-intensive than originally planned;
 - regarding data: the PAs are happy to provide more C/I data but do not believe that a request for data should be included in an EEAC resolution.

- It was decided that the PAs will present their response to the consultant recommendations at the October EEAC meeting. The consultants will have time to reply to the PAs' presentation. There will be time for questions and discussion, as well.

Optimal budget:

- Optimal is asking for an additional \$60,000 toward its 2014 budget. Optimal will provide Tina Halfpenny with additional information regarding this request.
- The EEAC will vote on this request at the October EEAC meeting and the individual members of the Executive Committee will provide their recommendation prior to the vote.

Mid-term modifications (MTMs):

- At the October EEAC meeting, the EEAC will vote on MTMs requested by National Grid electric, Unitil, and the Cape Light Compact to increase their residential program budgets.
- The PAs stated that their requested increase for residential program budgets due to a number of factors, including increased demand for efficiency services due to rising electricity prices.
- The Exec Comm and the Consultants support the MTMs, subject to a request for more information from CLC on sponsorships.

October Council Meeting Agenda: the agenda for the 10/15 EEAC meeting was discussed. It was decided that the agenda will be as follows:

- Updates (including public comment): 20 mins
- Implementation Update Summary Recommendations (PA presentation, consultant response, questions & discussion): 1.5 hours
- Clean Energy Center jobs report: 20 mins
- MTM request and vote: 30 mins
- Optimal budget request & vote: 10 mins

Interviews of EEAC members as part of the EEAC process review and to inform 2016-2018 Energy Efficiency Investment Plan (EEIP) planning process:

- Johnathan Raab and Patrick Field provided draft questions for the upcoming interviews of EEAC members that they will be performing. There was discussion about the ordering of the draft questions.
- Tina Halfpenny clarified that the intent is to identify critical issues that need to be worked through to inform the development of the 2016-2018 EEIP.
- Interview results will be presented at the 10/29 Executive Committee meeting.