



## **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

**Wednesday, February 2, 2022**  
Virtual Meeting: Zoom

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**Executive Committee Members Present:** Greg Abbe, Jodi Hanover (for Emmett Lyne), Maggie McCarey, Dennis Villanueva

**Executive Committee Members Absent:** Jo Ann Bodemer, Amy Boyd

**Other Attendees:** Griffith Keating, Emily Webb, Paul Johnson, Kate Peters, Isabella Gambill, Charles Harak, Sarah McDaniel, Jonathan Fitch, Wesley Couture, Joe Dorfler, Rachel Evans, Bill Graham, Audrey Eidelman Kiernan, Yve Torrie, Marie Abdou, Bob Eckel, Jerrold Oppenheim, Alyssa Vargas, Jodi Hanover, Eric Belliveau, Bruce Ledgerwood, Tim Maurer, Elliot Jacobson, Mark Tseng, Margaret Downey

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### **1. Call to Order**

McCarey, as Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:06 AM.

### **2. Executive Committee Updates and Business**

McCarey congratulated the Executive Committee and Program Administrators (PAs) since the Department of Public Utilities (DPU) Order on the 2022-2024 Plan was released the prior day. McCarey stated that the Department of Energy Resources (DOER) and Consultant Team (C-Team) will review the DPU Order during the February Council meeting, but DOER would distribute a link to the Order to the full Council.

### **3. 2022 Department of Public Utilities (DPU) Budget Request**

Webb reviewed the originally requested, revised, and actual 2021 Council budget. Webb indicated that the 2022 DPU Budget Request would be voted on during the February Council meeting.

McCarey stated that the overall 2021 spending was lower than budgeted. McCarey reviewed the Budget Request process noting that the spending table will be voted on by the Council during the February EEAC meeting, which DOER would file with the DPU by March 1<sup>st</sup>.

Johnson asked why the electric and gas program administrator budgets for 2022 were less than those of 2021. McCarey responded that the C-Team budget is lower than the previous year, so the collections are less as well. McCarey also provided clarification that the PA columns were for collections, not budgets.

#### **4. Draft 2022 Council Priorities**

McCarey stated that the process around the Council Priorities is slower in the first year of Plan periods due to the DPU Plan review, but the EEAC will aim to vote on the Priorities at the March Council meeting. McCarey stated that DOER has been working with the C-Team to develop the Council Priorities list. McCarey said topics for Council Priorities included strategic electrification, equity considerations, and other areas. McCarey stated that based on the DPU Order, the draft Council Priorities should not change significantly, though additional compliance filing dates will be added to the Priorities list. McCarey added that the updated draft Council Priorities would be released before the February Council meeting.

Abbe felt that the process delay made sense and delaying the vote is also prudent.

#### **5. Mass Save Program Update – Implementation Efforts During COVID-19**

Hanover indicated that the PAs continue to report COVID-19 cases among program contractors to the DPU, and hoped that infections would decrease soon. Regarding vaccine mandates for contractors, Hanover read the following statement from the PAs: “While President Biden issued a vaccine mandate for federal contractors through an Executive Order in September 2021, on December 7<sup>th</sup>, 2021 a nationwide preliminary injunction was issued by a federal court that stayed all enforcement efforts by the federal government for a federal contractor vaccine mandate. At this time the federal contractor vaccine mandate is not in effect for the program administrators. The PAs are continuing to require business partners to comply with the revised personal protective equipment requirements and practices for all customer facing work set forth on Mass Save.”

Johnson thanked Hanover for responding to his earlier question and asked if the C-Team has looked into the home energy audit (HEA) and home performance contractor pricing information. McCarey responded that the information has been shared with the C-Team. Johnson asked when the C-Team would provide recommendations and what their data review would entail. McCarey replied that Margie Lynch would be reviewing the pricing data and the C-Team would present a summary of key takeaways.

McCarey indicated that the DPU Order has potential implications on the contractor pricing discussions which also require further review. Johnson asked for clarification on how the DPU Order would impact contractor pricing. McCarey responded that an evaluation on renter habits will need to be conducted, and Residential lighting will continue until the study is completed.

Marie Abdou confirmed that the PAs have the same interpretation of the Order. McCarey suggested follow-up discussion offline. Johnson agreed.

## **6. February EEAC Meeting –Agenda Finalization**

McCarey announced that the February Council meeting would include a review of the DPU Order on 2022-2024 Three-Year Plan, a PA presentation on the Q4 2021 Report, a 2022 DPU Budget Request vote, review of the draft 2022 Council Priorities, an update on the C&I Working Group, and an industry update on active demand management.

## **7. March EEAC Meeting – Draft Agenda Topics**

McCarey indicated that the March Council meeting will include a vote on the 2022 Council Priorities, a presentation on heat pump market transformation strategy, and a C-Team presentation on the Q4 2021 Report.

Hanover asked for clarification on the heat pump market transformation strategy presentation.

Abbe stated that in addition to high level review of the DPU order, there should be additional focus on areas of directional change within the Plan. McCarey stated that the review will likely focus on the Council priorities and the implications of the DPU Order.

Johnson asked that February Council meeting include an update on the contractor pricing situation. Johnson also requested that third-party program administration is discussed during the C&I Working Group presentation.

McCarey stated that the topic of the C&I Working Group presentation is largely around working group participation, and not on alternative implementation strategies. Johnson asked whether the HEA pricing would be addressed in the February meeting. McCarey suggested that the PAs could provide a written update on the topic, as the agenda is already full. Johnson said the update could be brief. McCarey agreed that a brief on HEA pricing can be included with the Council updates and business.

Johnson asked about the heat pump market transformation strategy presentation. McCarey stated that the PAs would present current heat pump strategies, new offerings, and updates to the heating equipment savings calculator.

Johnson asked if the PAs had supplied the information they stated they would share by the end of January. McCarey noted that Webb is conducting an inventory of all dates of interest for PA deliverables such that the Council can keep track. Johnson asked if Webb could review prior Council meeting minutes to determine if there was any additional promised information.

Webb indicated that PA updates on the C&I Working Group, All Electric New Construction, and heat pump market transformation strategy are all due in Q1 2022.

## **8. Adjournment**

McCarey, as Chair, adjourned the meeting at 10:45 AM.