

Massachusetts Energy Efficiency Advisory Council
Meeting Minutes (DRAFT)
Tuesday, March 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	Alisha Frazee	
Charles Harak	X	Maggie Downey	X
Elliot Jacobson	Rita Carvalho	Cindy L. Carroll	X
Jeremy McDiarmid	X	John Ghiloni	
Rick Mattila	X	Paul Gromer	X
Robert Rio	X	Andrew Newman	
Deirdre Manning	X	Michael Sommer	X
Brad Swing	X	Carol White	Lynn Westerlind
Michael McDonagh	X	Eric Winkler	X
Paul Johnson	X		
Larry Chretien	X		

DOER: Steve Venezia

Consultants: Eric Belliveau, Jeff Schlegel, Sam Huntington, John Livermore

Present:

Note: The general attendance sheet was not returned.

Halfpenny called the meeting to order at 1:06pm and welcomed everybody.

Public comment

Jeremy Shenk (CLU) – GJC spoke positively about the gains MA’s efficiency programs have made over the past three years, and how he’s excited about the potential for the Efficiency Neighborhoods+ initiative. He noted wanting to contribute to the design and work with the other stakeholders at the meeting.

General Updates

New Councilors

Halfpenny welcomed the recently appointed councilors – Winkler (ISO-NE) and Swing (City of Boston). She noted that the new councilor representing the MA non-profit network is Larry Chretien (Mass Energy Consumers Alliance). She also announced the winner of the election for the small EE business councilor, Paul Johnson. Halfpenny noted that, since they haven’t received official notice from the DPU yet, new councilors would not be able to vote at today’s meeting.

February Meeting Minutes

Halfpenny had a few minor edits to the minutes. Saunders moved to approve the February 12th meeting minutes; McDonagh seconded. The Council voted and unanimously approved.

Executive Committee Report and Minutes

Halfpenny gave an update on the executive committee report. She noted that they will revisit council bylaws at the next meeting at which point they may consider minor modifications. She noted that discussions about the database resulted in the draft resolution to procure a contractor. Halfpenny also noted that at next month's meeting there will be a discussion about whether to continue the Executive Committee meetings, and whether to keep the same members. Rio motioned to approve the minutes from the February 28th EC meeting; seconded by McDiarmid. The council voted and unanimously approved.

Update on Consultant Report

Belliveau updated the Council on key items the Consultant Team worked on in February, including compliance filing, stakeholder input processes, the avoided cost study, updating new councilors on issues and processes, working groups, getting the new Residential EM&V contractor on board, and beginning the process of support for the statewide database. Halfpenny asked if he had come to agreement about management committee meeting schedules. Eric responded that it wasn't finalized, but that there would only be one monthly in-person meeting and the others would be call-in.

Avoided Energy Supply Cost update

Schlegel updated the council on the status and content of the Avoided Energy Supply Cost study. He explained that Synapse was selected by the group to lead the study, and that a kick off meeting was held last week. In response to a question from Winkler, Schlegel noted that the council will have an opportunity to review the study before it is released to the public.

EM&V Summit

Halfpenny updated the council on the EM&V summit held from February 25th-27th. Representatives from the PAs, the Consultant Team, DPU, and EM&V contractors were all in attendance. She noted that one of the big accomplishments was getting alignment across research areas and that a plan for 2013 EM&V will be ready for the April EMC meeting. She also noted that the Residential evaluation work is currently out to bid and that they are hoping to choose a vendor by May.

Commercial Real Estate WG

Halfpenny noted that the first meeting was held last Friday by conference call with McDonagh, Swing, and Mattila all participating. She noted that the working group is putting together a charter, and will be focused on serving the commercial real estate market. Gundal explained that they will do a presentation that looks at the current state of the market and initiatives, and from there will look for solutions. Winkler asked if the group was thinking about including a demand response component to the program

design. Halfpenny responded that they haven't reached that phase of the project yet but that they could include his recommendation.

Website modification proposal

Halfpenny explained that she has been receiving a lot of questions from people looking for information on the Massachusetts' efficiency programs. She noted that she refers these inquirers to the website, and suggested that the website could be improved.

Belliveau presented a proposal by the Consultant Team to improve the site, making it more intuitive and with richer content, all at no additional cost. Johnson suggested that they make the site more visually attractive. Halfpenny asked what the timeline was for the improvements, to which Belliveau responded that they would start right away.

Consultant Evaluation

Halfpenny explained that she has put together an evaluation of the Consultant Team and that it will be distributed via Survey Monkey to all the voting councilors. She also noted that it would be sent to Lyne for PA response.

Presentation on 5 Largest Users Pilot

Gundal (NU) presented a set of slides on the 5 Largest Users pilot. He explained the impetus of the program and the basic concept behind its design – the 5 largest customers in any PA's service territory would direct access to up to 90% of the monies they would have contributed into the fund, effectively an accelerated rebate. Investments would still have to be cost effective, and any unused monies would go back into the fund. He noted that most customers could get a lot more out of participating in the program instead. Winkler asked if he knew the magnitude of the participants' usage, to which Gundal responded that he did not, but that the information would be available soon. In response to a question from Swing, Rio explained that the impetus for the legislation was that some businesses couldn't get money upfront to participate and this offers them a way out. McDiarmid encouraged the council to remember that this is a pilot program and that it is important to track its impacts in order to learn from it.

Performance Metrics Tracking

Halfpenny offered some background on the issue of performance metrics and noted that they hadn't heard from DPU yet on metrics approval. She noted that there is desire from the Council to see progress on this. Lyne presented a proposal: PAs would report on metrics in two of their quarterly reports in 2013 – Q2 and Q4 – like the benefits reporting schedule. Halfpenny countered that she would like to see Q3 as well since by Q4 the year is over. Loh noted that this is important data for the councilors to see and that if we're having a lot of trouble putting the metrics reporting together then that's a problem. Harak thought Q2 and Q3 made sense and was wary of adding too many onerous reporting obligations to the PAs. Lyne suggested that the PA group digest the various comments and circle back with a conclusion before the next EEAC meeting.

Review 2010-2012 Performance

Schlegel presented on the performance of the energy efficiency at the statewide level over the past three years. Comparisons were drawn with the three year plan, with a review of preliminary 2012 results. He included a list of notable PA accomplishments

which have implications for future programs. Halfpenny and other councilors called out this significant achievement. The presentation, along with other meeting documents, will be made available on the website.

Compliance Filing Overview

Abdou presented on the results of the Compliance Filing and the DPU order issued at the end of January. She noted a number of big themes and key takeaways:

- Stick to a true 3 year plan (not individual 1 year targets).
- Take out 3 NEIs (reduced benefits)
- NSTAR and WMECO should submit separate tables.
- Update screening models and 08-50 tables.
- Revise performance incentive models
- Submitted new EE surcharge calculations

Database - Council

Halfpenny updated the council on the status of the statewide database, commenting that many are interested in the database, but everyone has a different idea about the content. She suggested that the Council set up a Database Committee to oversee the project since the effort is large enough that it requires some focused attention. She noted that the Database Committee would procure a consultant to develop the system requirements in support of an RFR to find a vendor to build the database. Halfpenny asked the council for volunteers to serve on the Committee. Rio, Winkler, McDiarmid, Seidman, Loh, Saunders, and Halfpenny all volunteered. Halfpenny explained that DOER needs a resolution on this for the procurement team. McDiarmid moved to approve resolution; Matilla seconded. The Council voted and unanimously approved.

Adjourn

Halfpenny adjourned the meeting at 3:23pm.