



## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, May 1, 2019  
100 Cambridge St, 10<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Boston, MA 02114

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**Executive Committee Members Present:** Don Boecke, Amy Boyd, Jodi Hanover (for Emmett Lyne), Elliott Jacobson, Judith Judson, Rick Malmstrom

**Other Attendees:** Marie Abdou, Eric Belliveau, JoAnn Bodemer, Austin Brandt, Rachel Evans, Ian Finlayson, Jonathan Goldberg, Charlie Harak, Craig Johnson, Maggie McCarey, Jerrold Oppenheim, Emily Powers

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### 1. Call to Order

Commissioner Judson, as Chair, called the meeting to order at 2:36 PM.

### 2. Cape Light Compact and Eversource Negotiations Update

Brandt noted that negotiations and discussions between the two parties was ongoing. He indicated that it was the Cape Light Compact's (CLC) perspective that the two parties were not as close to an agreement as they had hoped they would be at the time of the meeting. Brandt added that the CLC had made a proposal to Eversource that would allow the CLC to implement their active demand response offerings while addressing Eversource's concerns about safety and reliability and that they have requested that Eversource respond to the proposal by May 10, 2019.

McCarey noted that a full update to the Council on this matter was scheduled for the June EEAC meeting, but suggested that some update be provided at the May meeting given that Eversource was not present to give their own update. McCarey asked if the CLC had received any response for their request to see Eversource's dispatch procedure. Brandt indicated that Eversource had not responded to that request and that they had reached out to Eversource to ask for it again.

McCarey asked if there was any update on discussions of the direct load control efforts. Brandt indicated that Eversource would potentially be implementing direct load control in 2019 if it was subject to a more comprehensive agreement at a later date. He added that CLC was asked to

provide a letter to the DPU, however, they were not able to do so because Eversource's terms were not consistent with the CLC.

Commissioner Judson noted that it was difficult to have this conversation without Eversource present at the meeting.

### **3. EEAC Meeting Topic Schedule Review**

McCarey reviewed the topics for the upcoming meetings through the month of August.

Abdou noted that the winter benefits study was listed as a meeting topic for the month of August. She indicated that the Program Administrators (PAs) would be happy to give an update at that time but noted that the study was unlikely to get going until August so there might not be much to report on. She added that changes at ISO-NE could potentially impact that study and how winter impacts are considered. She indicated that the study group wanted to wait until those impacts are considered before kicking off the study.

Boyd asked if the Council could receive an update on the RGGI allocation report that would be submitted to the DPU on July 1, 2019. McCarey indicated that they could add that to the July Council meeting agenda.

### **4. Priority Topic Updates**

McCarey noted that the Council would be getting updates on its priorities in the quarterly report but indicated that that would not be available shortly before the next meeting. She asked the PAs and the consultant team (C-Team) to give a brief update on how the priority topics are going.

#### ***Energy Optimization***

Abdou indicated that the PAs were talking to vendors to determine who has the capabilities to deliver the online calculator. She added that the PAs are still on track to meet their year-end commitment. Abdou noted that all home energy specialists had been trained on the new heat pump and integrated control offerings. She added that communication pieces about the different options that are available to customers was still being developed. Abdou also noted that there was nothing new to report on the commercial and industrial (C&I) side of energy optimization.

Belliveau asked if any specifics had been finalized with respect to what the calculator would do. Abdou indicated that that was still a work in progress. Belliveau asked if there was a timeline for when more detail on C&I energy optimization would be available. Abdou indicated that she did not have specifics but could check and follow up.

Oppenheim noted that he was not aware of any communication on the low-income side of energy optimization. McCarey noted that there had been some conversation about trying to provide some insight to the Council and that it would be important to do so at the May meeting. Finlayson noted that discussions to date have determined that home assessors would need parameters to decide when to recommend fuel conversion. Oppenheim agreed that a protocol was needed but that it was unclear what that protocol would be.

McCarey asked if recommendations made to customers would be limited to actions that the PAs would incentivize or if it would include options that they might not incentivize. Hanover asked if that question applied to renewables or gas. McCarey indicated it applied to both. Hanover said that the answer is likely to be different for each.

### ***Residential Program Enhancements***

Abdou noted that there were several enhancements either launched or close to launching in the first quarter. She began by noting that the residential additions and renovations initiative, the zero energy and zero energy ready initiative, the HEAT Loan for pre-weatherization, and pay for savings initiative through the new construction program all launched in the first quarter. She added that their partnerships with contractors and distributors efforts were ongoing and that the focus early on was to improve integrated controls in the heat pump market. Belliveau noted a clear definition for this effort did not exist from the C-Team's perspective and that one was likely needed so that success could be measured. Abdou agreed.

Commissioner Judson asked if the PAs could report on what percentage of houses in Massachusetts had been through the Mass Save programs. Abdou asked if the Commissioner was referring to the audit or something broader. Commissioner Judson indicated she would like to know what percentage of homes have at the very least received an audit. Abdou indicated that they keep track of the number of audits and that that data is available on Mass Save Data. She added that that data does not keep track of unique audits. Abdou also noted that the customer profile study addresses participation over time.

### ***Active Demand***

Abdou noted that there would be a more detailed update in the first quarter report, but noted the PAs were actively recruiting new customers and retaining previous customers. She added that the PAs felt they were in a good position to launch their active demand response programs in the summer.

### ***Passive House***

Finlayson indicated that the PAs and the evaluation team were working closely to establish the baseline data needed to set incentive levels for passive house new construction. He added that the EM&V team expedited getting the passive house study out, but that they recently discovered that they were only pursuing one of the two passive house certifications. Finlayson noted that the EM&V design has been modified to make sure both certifications would be available to model results. He indicated that they wanted to make sure that they did not pick a winner between the U.S. and the international certification. Belliveau asked what the difference was between the two. Finlayson indicated that the original one was based in Germany and it argues that it works anywhere in the world while the US version argues that climate zone matters. He added that Massachusetts' climate is not too different from Germany so the International one could work, but ultimately, he felt that the two would exist in parallel for a while.

## **5. Program Administrator Reporting Update**

Hanover noted that the PAs provided information about what was readily available for reporting on renters and renter participation, income level, and language to DOER. She added that DOER

had asked some follow up questions and that the PAs were in the process of responding to those. McCarey added that this came out of the process to establish renter metrics and the goal is to hear what the PAs are thinking about.

Hannover noted that they would be reporting renter versus non-renter participants for residential coordinated delivery, customer, and income eligible. Boyd asked if that would track units or participants. Goldberg indicated it would track units. McCarey asked if that would be reported by PA. Goldberg indicated that it would be.

Hanover noted that all the key performance indicators would get reported on but that the timing of when they would be reported would vary. She added that some would be reported on in the quarterly reports while others would be reported on in the quarterly reports but only bi-annually.

Belliveau asked if the PAs would be doing any retrospective reporting for previous years. Hanover indicated that the reporting on the key performance indicators would begin in 2019 and not go into the past.

Boecke noted some language around collection of readily available participant data and noted that it would be good to know what that would include. Boyd added that it would be good to know if collecting readily available participant data referred to something that the PAs could do passively or if it referred to them taking active steps to solicit more information and make it available.

Harak asked if the PAs would be collecting information about languages spoken. Hanover noted that customer intake phone language spoken would be recorded. Harak added that there may be other ways to make good information that is not perfect available. McCarey asked if the number of users accessing the non-english versions of MassSave was being tracked. Hanover indicated that she would assume it would be but cautioned that that number would not be representative of participants. McCarey agreed and added that the number of non-english rebate forms received could also be tracked.

## **6. May EEAC Meeting Agenda**

McCarey reviewed the May Council agenda and noted that it would be primarily focused on the low-income sector with program updates from LEAN and a presentation by the C-Team. She added that there would also be time for a first quarter update from the PAs.

## **7. Adjournment**

McCarey, as Chair, adjourned the Executive Committee at 4:00 PM.