

Energy Efficiency Advisory Council

Executive Committee Meeting
March 27, 2013

Tina Halfpenny, Chair, convened the meeting to order at 10:03 am.

Attending Committee Members: Halfpenny, Jeremy McDiarmid, Matt Saunders

Other attendees: Lynn Westerlind-National Grid, Lisa Shea-NSTAR, Shaela Collins-RichMay, Steve Venezia-DOER, and Jeff Schlegel-Council Consultant (via telephone).

American Council for an Energy Efficient Economy (ACEEE) Awards: there was discussion that ACEEE had announced several Massachusetts programs as awardees for running exemplary programs: National Grid for its small business program; Mass Save for its Whole Home initiative; Action as part of Massachusetts' effort for Low-Income Multi-Family programs; NSTAR was given an Honorable Mention for its use of Memoranda of Agreement; and NSTAR again receiving an Honorable Mention for its "Main Street" program.

Elliott Jacobson was in Washington, DC today to accept the award for Action.

Quarterly Reports:

Halfpenny asked Westerlind and Shea to work with Lawrence Masland of DOER to make the 08-50 Tables more workable and move them into pivot tables.

Schlegel cited the need to have one consistent data set for all parties: DOER, AG and the PAs that would be used, managed and disseminated to all. PAs need to appoint a "data manager" to update the data constantly. Currently, the data is regularly updated but it's left up to Schlegel to put the data into an internally consistent format. The goal would be to have the PAs do this by assigning a data manager this task. The data manager would then distribute the data to all and be able to accurately "source" the data on an ongoing basis. Ultimately, it would be desirable to have the PAs manage the "statewide" tables.

Statewide Database:

McDiarmid stated that the Database Subcommittee needed to meet, so that the Council could eventually put out an RFR via ComPass to bid for an expert consultant to realize the statewide database. Halfpenny stated that the subcommittee needed to meet soon and that the Council would have to publish a Notice of this pursuant to the Open Meeting Law. There was brief discussion about the possibility of convening the meeting for next week after polling the availability of subcommittee members.

April EEAC Meeting:

Halfpenny recommended that the April EEAC meeting be cancelled for April 9th. With so many major tasks needing preparatory work before the Council could provide meaningful input and guidance, it seemed like an opportunity to forego a monthly meeting. Saunders and McDiarmid

had no objection to the cancellation of the April meeting. The decision was made to cancel the April 9th meeting. Venezia would publish the required Notice.

The next EEAC meeting would then be held on May 16th, as previously scheduled. And it was noted that the May meeting was on a Thursday, not the usual Tuesday.

Consultant Survey:

Halfpenny stated that there were some valid criticisms offered that the bands used to register approval/disapproval of the consultants' performance were too broad to provide more meaningful evaluation feedback. However, there was a widespread assessment that Optimal Energy had done a good job serving the Council and that the Council should exercise its option to grant a one-year extension on the Optimal contract. Halfpenny expressed her preference that the Council go out to re-bid the consultant contract with a new RFR in 2014, rather than issue the RFR in 2015 while the Council was in critical planning stages for the next Three-Year Plan to reviewed and filed in 2015 to go into effect in 2016.

DPU Tech Session regarding Performance Metrics:

There was discussion concerning the DPU's decision to issue a Memorandum giving Notice of a Technical Session regarding Performance Metrics. For administrative convenience, the DPU assigned a separate docket number to this effort: D.P.U. 13-67, though the subject matter was the result of previous proceedings in D.P.U. 12-100 through 12-111. The Session is scheduled for next Tuesday, April 2nd and will cover topics dealing with performance incentives over the three-year term; design criteria as reflected in the EE Guidelines; and performance metrics and alternatives to metrics. It was announced that Eric Belliveau, a Council Consultant, would attend the Technical Session on behalf of the Council. There was an expectation that three-quarters of the meeting would be dedicated to further discussion of performance metrics and as no presentations were asked of stakeholders and parties to D.P.U. 12-100 through 12-111, that there was a likelihood that the DPU would itself present a straw proposal for attendees to consider.

There being no other business, the Executive Committee meeting adjourned at 10:37 am.