

Massachusetts Energy Efficiency Advisory Council
 Meeting Minutes
 Tuesday, July 8, 2014

Councilors Present:

Voting	Present (designee)	Non-Voting	Present (designee)
Nancy Seidman	X	Elizabeth Cellucci	Monica Cohen
Martha Coakley	Matt Saunders	James Carey	Trish Walker
Meg Lusardi	Tina Halfpenny	Tilak Subrahmanian	X
Debra Hall	X	Michael Ferrante	
Charles Harak	X	Maggie Downey	X
Elliott Jacobson	X	Cindy L. Carroll	X
Christina Dietrich	X	John Ghiloni	
Richard Malmstrom		Paul Gromer	X
Robert Rio	X	Andrew Newman	
Deirdre Manning	X	Michael Sommer	X
Brad Swing	X	Carol White	X
Michael McDonagh	X	Eric Winkler	X
Paul Johnson	X		
Larry Chretien	X		

DOER: Steve Venezia

Consultants: Eric Belliveau, Jeff Schlegel, Jennifer Chiodo, Sam Huntington

Present:

Jodi Hanover	Meredith Miller	Lynn Westerlind
Natalie Hildt Treat	Dave Gibbons	Steve Menges
Matthew Nelson	Nelson Medeiros	Atakeltl Desta
Jeff Leupold	Betsy Harper	Erik Mellen
Cara Mottola	Sam Nutter	Clayton Hale
Lyn Huckabee	Amy Eirchen	Amy Vavak
Marie Abdou	Jessica Buno	Nathan Peyton
JoAnn Bodemer	Melanie Coen	Wendy Todd
Ryan Barry	Maggie McCarey	Richard Kazarian
Nate Strong	Ed Schmidt	Jayden Wilson
Joseph Bocanegra	Andrew Hunt	Bill Stack
Sharon Weber	Amy Boyd	Paul Lipke
John Danek	Kara Rodgers	Jeffrey Pollock

Halfpenny called the meeting to order at 1:04 pm and welcomed everybody.

Public comment

No members of the public came forward to speak.

General Updates

Halfpenny began the meeting by recognizing Charlie Olsen for his work in the energy efficiency industry. She also noted that Debra Hall would be leaving the Council to take a new job related to energy efficiency and real estate.

June 10th EEAC Minutes

Jacobson noted a correction to the attendance list. Dietrich motioned to approve as amended. All were in favor, with no one opposed or abstaining. The minutes were approved as amended.

June 25th Executive Committee Minutes

Halfpenny gave an overview of the meeting's agenda and discussion topics. There were no comments or corrections. Dietrich motioned to approve and Jacobson seconded the motion. All were in favor, though Saunders was absent for the vote. The minutes were approved.

RCS Guidelines

Halfpenny noted that Residential Conservation Services would soon be issuing new guidelines.

Statewide Database

Halfpenny described the upcoming technical session with the DPU, noting four agenda topics: level of data aggregation, identification of areas of commonalities and differences, clarification of reasons stakeholders find current data insufficient, and clarification on issues around data privacy.

DPU – Avoided Cost

Halfpenny announced that the DPU will hold a technical session [*sic*] on the avoided cost of GWSA compliance. (The DPU in fact held a public hearing and not a technical session)

Winter Peak

Halfpenny said energy efficiency alone could not solve the winter peak issue. Subrahmanian noted that NU is developing an RFP for promoting wifi thermostats, which could eventually be used in winter peak mitigation strategies. He added that wifi thermostats can gather a lot of data, essentially acting like cheap smart meters. Winkler noted that ISO would run the Winter Reliability Program again this year, but that current wifi thermostats do not meet the technical requirements to participate.

Monthly dashboard

Melanie Coen presented the July dashboard, noting several enhancements from previous months. She described forward looking information and compared the year to date achievements to their progress last year.

Saunders asked Coen to explain the high participation and low spending in C&I. Nelson noted that participants are not a great indicator, explaining that the metric was driven by spray valves.

Recess

Halfpenny announced a recess for a council-wide photo. She called the meeting back to order at 1:41 pm.

2013 Plan Year Report

Nelson and Abdou presented on the 2013 year-end report, focusing on changes between Q4 and the DPU filing. The main updates were related to evaluation and general QC, which caused overall spending, savings, and benefits to all go up. Nelson noted that there were fewer evaluations this year and thus fewer updates. They also noted general changes to the report structure and process, including a new format, more information, and greater consistency among PA models.

Seidman asked if it was possible to compare electric and gas performance against each other. Nelson suggested comparing benefits or converting electric savings to Btus.

Nelson and Abdou showed a slide summarizing the achievement of performance metrics by PA and the calculation of their total shareholder incentive. Schlegel explained that the total incentive earned by the PAs equates to roughly 5% of total spending.

Schlegel gave the Consultant Team presentation on year end performance. He broke down performance by PA, sector and fuel, highlighting where different PAs excelled and where they fell behind. He noted that some PAs exceeded their goals in some areas, suggesting this demonstrated that Massachusetts' aggressive goals were in fact achievable.

Schlegel mentioned that the residential furnace baseline was still a point of disagreement between the Consultant Team and the PAs, noting that Ralph Prah, the Evaluation lead, had proposed a blended baseline in the low 80s, and the PAs had elected to use 80%. This difference resulted in a 2% increase in overall gas savings. White explained that at the time of their planning there was an expectation of a rising baseline, but in the absence of strong data they had elected to use the federal baseline. Belliveau expressed concern that the Consultant Team's scope had given them the authority to decide these issues and in this instance they had been ignored.

Large C&I Retrofit Deep Dive

Dave Gibbons presented on past performance, challenges and cost drivers in the C&I sector. He noted particular challenges in 2013, including evaluation, market confidence, availability of trade allies, and cross-program influences. He gave an overview of strategies and specific tactics the PAs were employing to increase both the breadth and depth of savings. Tactics included vendor driven implementation, emphasis on large projects, investments in capacity and capabilities, and best practice sharing.

Richard Kazarian presented on market observations. He explained how NU engages with different size customers and the importance of targeted value propositions for businesses.

Nate Strong presented on a new initiative to promote high-efficiency circulator pumps. He explained that the extra efficiency was due to an electronically commutated motor and explained that savings could range from 55% to 90% compared to standard pumps. Chiodo asked if they were looking at the full system or just the pump. Strong said they were mainly looking at single pump swap-outs. Belliveau asked if other PAs were also planning on pursuing it. Strong said they would have to wait and see.

Johnson noted that the PAs were not meeting goals in C&I and that it remained unclear to him what exactly they were proposing to do differently.

Chiodo delivered the Consultant Team's presentation on the C&I Large Retrofit deep dive. She explained why they were focused on Large Retrofit, why there was a continual shortfall, and how they could accelerate savings. She noted that although most PAs had come up short in their C&I programs, some had exceeded their goals, suggesting that improvement was possible. One slide showed the current trajectory of C&I savings relative to the plan, and another depicted the cumulative effect of the anticipated savings shortfall. She emphasized that the Council needed a good lens into the C&I programs to understand how to improve them. Belliveau noted that the next three year plan would already be in place before they knew their actual performance relative to goal in the current three year plan.

Chiodo reviewed several strategies for accelerating savings, including a forum for advancing program design ideas between PAs, turn-key CHP, emphasis on single system rather than whole-building, retrocommissioning, and advanced market segmentation. She concluded by commending the PAs for their efforts to drive savings while cautioning that those efforts may not be enough. She suggested the Council needed a new mechanism for understanding progress toward goals.

Winkler asked if anyone had looked at the role low commodity prices were playing in C&I underperformance. Chiodo responded that the PAs had not cited it as a barrier. Chretien commented that Synapse had looked at this issue and concluded that the impact of low commodity prices was minimal.

Hall asked what role ESCOs played in the C&I market. Chiodo noted that ESCOs generally did not participate in the C&I market, instead focusing on the MUSH market.

Seidman asked how the PAs were responding to the idea of a best practices clearinghouse. Gibbons responded that those conversations already happened organically. Seidman expressed her support for a more formalized process.

2016 Planning

Halfpenny noted that they would be conducting an assessment of Council processes to get a sense from Councilors about what was working, what was not working, and where

people's priorities were. She said she would put together a scope of work to pitch to the next Executive Committee meeting.

Adjournment

Halfpenny adjourned the meeting at 4:03 pm.