

DRAFT

March 26, 2014 EEAC Executive Committee Meeting Notes

Attendees: Christina Halfpenny (DOER), Matt Saunders (AG), Christina Dietrich (ENE), Rita Carvahlo (LEAN), Emmett Lyne (PAs), Shaela Collins (PAs), Carol White (NGrid), Matt Nelson (NU), Paul Johnson (Greentek), Eric Belliveau (Consult), Jeff Loiter (Consult), Ian Finlayson (DOER), Steven Venezia (DOER), Lyn Huckabee (DOER), Alex Pollard (DOER), Ani Krishnan (MAPC)

Agenda:

- Implementation update presentation
- Database update
- Interim data plan
- DPU 14-05
- April EEAC agenda

Meeting began at approximately 10:05am

IMPLEMENTATION UPDATE

- (Halfpenny) would like feedback on the implementation update webinar.
- (Dietrich) had difficulty hearing some of the presenters because they were all in the same room.
- (Belliveau) If you had the data in front of you, you could follow the presentation. However, following via just the webinar was difficult.
- (Halfpenny) found that a data heavy topic may not be well served by a webinar.
- (Johnson) disliked the volume of data without any substantial identification of strategy
- (White) reminded Johnson that strategy identification was not the purpose of the presentation as determined by the Council and its consultants.
- (Belliveau) declared that more data has been released since the webinar. The Council will have it before the April meeting.
- (Nelson) communicated the challenge involved in designing a presentation where no discussion is allowed.
- (Halfpenny) suggested that the implementation update should not be tables and tables of data. A better format would include a synthesized format emphasizing summary.
- (Belliveau) has scheduled a meeting of consultants and PAs to determine some best practices for presenting data.
- (Venezia) offered that presentations should focus on the value of the data rather than the data itself.

- (Lyne) Reminded participants of the limitations imposed by the technology, the consultants, and the open meeting law.
- (Halfpenny) assured Lyne that the EC feedback is broader than this one presentation and that the directive is as much to the consultants as the PAs.
- (Lyne) The PAs sometimes feel pressured to decrease the narrative in presentations. He would like some clarification moving forward.
- (Halfpenny) Suggests that the PAs focus on what's changing. For instance, if you are starting the year with an 11% gap, focus on how you plan to bridge it. Match PA strategies to the numbers.
- (Belliveau) Also suggested pointing out which changes are departures from the plan.
- Lyne and White offered examples to ensure they understood exactly where to land.
- (Halfpenny) refocused on the upcoming Implementation Update which will include a consultant take (20 minutes + 10 for questions) PA presentation (15 minutes) and then a Grid specific presentation (10 minutes + 15 for questions) with questions answered in real time.
- (Johnson) requested that the PAs help the questions go more smoothly by anticipating what they will be and including answers in the presentation. Give highlights and describe how issues will be fixed.
- (Lyne) reminded Johnson that different Councilors want different things.
- (Halfpenny) acknowledged that there will always be a challenge finding the balance between data and synthesis but cautioned that, at \$2 billion in value, that balance must be pursued in the oversight process. She suggested that the Council use April as a test case to identify where the presentation strategies could improve.
- (White) assured the EC that the April update will reflect their feedback, including numbers with increased context.

APRIL AGENDA

- (Halfpenny) continued with the April meeting agenda items, including an energy markets/forecasting/EE as source of supply presentation with Birud Jhaveri (45 min). This topic will feed into a conversation about geotargeting to relieve capacity constraints and enabled by micro avoided cost data.
- (Johnson) wanted to understand the general issues surrounding energy markets
- (Halfpenny) clarified that, if NE is too reliant on natural gas and has limited transmission capacity, we experience major price spikes like this winter's \$80/MMBTU.
- (Halfpenny) A lot of updates are planned for April. The updates include DPU issues including 14-05 and how the AESC will be applied to 08-50 with a little piece on performance metrics. She indicated that the DOER has been contemplating how to make performance metrics meaningful and performance indicators that influence program development rather than top line numbers.

- (Belliveau) warned if the state gets rid of performance metrics, it will be impossible to re-implement later and the money allocated to them will just go to the other metrics. This outcome points to little value in dropping performance metrics.
- (White) countered that the PAs are anti-metrics because the PAs have a track record of responsibly dealing with issues without metrics.
- (Lyne) added that performance metrics represent a disproportionate amount of administrative work.
- (Belliveau) countered the concern about increased administrative burden by pointing out that, now, the data is crunched manually and that the advent of better data systems will decrease the administrative burden.

PERMANENT AND INTERIM DATA UPDATES

- (Halfpenny) A database committee meeting is scheduled for next Friday. At this meeting, they will flesh out the vision statement, better defining the purpose and audience of the project. They will be looking at the processes of other states for guidance on issues like customer privacy and security.
- (Johnson) questioned how the interim data plan ties to the permanent data plan
- (Finlayson) clarified that the interim will likely be a user-friendly interface using existing data whereas the permanent solution will likely include changes in the source data.
- (Halfpenny) questioned whether there is enough information on the electronic TRM to present in April.
- (Lyne) indicated that the PAs were looking at products already on the market and trying to vet their options.

OTHER APRIL AGENDA ITEMS

- (Halfpenny) DOER will be providing updates including the commercial real estate working group, zero net energy buildings, consultant update, and the introduction of the new C&I Councilor. There will be time to provide feedback on the webinar and a data dashboard if they have time. She would also like to work on getting Councilor biographies on the EEAC website.
- (Belliveau) Added that the consultants are currently looking at the EM&V data behind the firewall and have found that it includes 90% of the C&I data they would ever need. He would like to queue up a discussion about accessing that data for the purpose of trend analysis but he isn't sure how to approach it.
- (Halfpenny) indicated that there is an opportunity to use that data for planning purposes too.

Meeting adjourned at 11:05am