

Massachusetts Energy Efficiency Advisory Council
 Meeting Minutes
 Tuesday, June 10, 2014

Councilors Present:

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

DOER: Steve Venezia

Consultants: Eric Belliveau, Jeff Schlegel, Glenn Reed, Courtney Moriarta, Margie Lynch, Sam Huntington

Present:

JoAnn Bodemer	Brenda Pike	Staci Rubin
Adam Tardif	Shaela Collins	Kristin Mahnke
Kristin Pomer	Nathan Peyton	Noah Marks
Marie Abdou	Sharon Weber	Brenda Hunt
Riley Hastings	Amy McGuire	Derek Buchler
Amy Vavak	Michael Berry	Emmet Lyne
Jodi Hanover		

Halfpenny called the meeting to order at 1:09pm and welcomed everybody.

Public comment

No members of the public came forward to speak.

General Updates

May 13th EEAC Minutes

There were no comments or edits. Saunders motioned to approve and Rio seconded. All were in favor, with no one opposed or abstaining.

May 28 Executive Committee Minutes

Halfpenny gave a brief overview of the Executive Committee meeting, noting discussions on the implementation updates, the back and forth between the PAs and the Consultant Team, and the agenda for this meeting. Dietrich motioned to approve and Saunders seconded. All votes were in favor, though Jacobson was absent.

Consultant Monthly Report

Belliveau described the areas the Consultant Team focused on in the past month, including Deeper Dives, Implementation Updates, and the Council topic schedule. He introduced members of the residential team set to give presentations, noting extensive collaboration with the PAs to prepare for this meeting. He described how the C&I team are working on best practice reports while the EM&V team is busy wrapping up several studies.

Section 111(d) update - DEP

Seidman gave a brief overview of the recent EPA proposal to limit CO₂ emissions from power plants. She noted that the proposal is extensive and that Massachusetts will be working with the other RGGI states to figure it out together. She described energy efficiency's prominence within the proposal, noting that EPA is assuming every state will achieve the equivalent of a 1.5% reduction in retail sales annually. Finally, she noted that Massachusetts is specifically mentioned multiple times in the proposal for its efforts to limit emissions through the GWSA and its efficiency programs.

Harak asked why certain states had to reduce emissions more than others. Seidman suggested the targets were partly based on states' abilities to actually achieve goals.

Rio asked if any additional federal money was coming to help fund Massachusetts' efficiency programs. Seidman said it was not.

Residential Conservation Services (RCS) Update

Halfpenny noted that the DOER recently issued a public notice of RCS stakeholder meetings, and that they were soliciting feedback on specific elements to update. She described several updates, including flexibility to switch fuels, integration with renewable programs, and contractor standards.

Expanded Heat Loan

Halfpenny noted a recent press release about the Heat Loan, which raised its cap from \$25,000 to \$50,000 for multi family, and expanded coverage to include additional technologies such as biomass and pre weatherization.

CEC/DOER Heat Pump Program

Halfpenny described a new pilot program for heat pumps, jointly sponsored by the Massachusetts Clean Energy Center and the DOER. The objective is to get robust field performance data for ground- and air-source heat pumps. She noted that the additional incentive was only available to households that had received an energy audit, and that the heat pumps must offset 80% of the heating load.

Implementation Update

Schlegel gave a brief overview of the Implementation Updates, describing the process, topic areas, and roles of the different parties. He noted the considerable cooperation and progress made on the deep dives, but also cautioned that there was still disagreement on the C&I Retrofit data. He explained that the PAs had committed to delivering 2012 data at sufficient granularity, but would not deliver forward looking pipeline data. He added that the Consultant Team was unable to fulfill their responsibilities to the Council without access to all the data they had requested.

Johnson asked why the PAs had refused to release pipeline data. Schlegel cited the PA's response to their request: "Pipeline information is fluid, handled differently by different PAs, and contains very sensitive customer and project information, and the PAs are therefore not providing it." He explained that they needed the pipeline data to make an assessment on the accuracy of the PAs' IU from March.

Lyne disagreed with Schlegel's description of the process. He suggested that the PAs had worked hard to collaborate with the Consultant Team, despite an onerous data request. He explained that they were not opposed to releasing forward looking data, rather that they were trying to find the right balance between the extensive data request and customer privacy. He added that they also disagree on the need for information related to staffing resources and salary.

White noted that prior to the data request National Grid had invited the Consultant Team to meetings with upper management and volunteered much of the information in the subsequent data request. She said they had not realized that information would become a template for data requests from all the PAs. She added that they were continuing to cooperate and had provided about 70% of what was requested.

Belliveau noted that they had agreed to about 70% of the data request, but had yet to provide anything. He agreed that the dialogue was positive, but had yet to produce the needed results.

Saunders acknowledged the privacy concerns of project-specific data and asked if there was a more aggregated level of data that would be acceptable to the Consultants. Belliveau noted that the Consultants had a Non-Disclosure Agreement and suggested customer privacy should not be an issue. Schlegel said the Consultants were open to obtaining data in aggregated form, such as by market segment. Saunders asked the PAs if that was acceptable. Lyne responded that it would be an ongoing discussion, adding that the parties were coming closer but the issue would not be resolved today. Halfpenny said that she expected an update from the two parties by the following Friday.

Plan Year Report

Hanover said everything was going well and that they were on track for the June 20th filing. She added that they had shared spreadsheet templates with the Consultant Team and were awaiting comments.

DOER Resiliency Program

Amy McGuire of DOER gave an overview of the DOER Resiliency Program, including its goals, approach and relationship to energy efficiency. She explained that all municipalities in the state are eligible, but individual facilities must complete an energy audit prior to receiving any funding through the program.

Residential Overview

Lighting Demonstration

Adam Tardif, President of TechniArt, gave a demonstration of different energy efficient lighting products. He explained that LEDs would eventually become the dominant lighting technology due to their flexibility in meeting consumer preferences. He suggested utility rebate programs were instrumental in driving the rapid decline in LED prices, and showed slides to support his assertion.

Winkler asked him to explain the divide in quality between commercial grade and retail grade bulbs, such as those sold at Home Depot. Tardif explained that most residential customers simply did not require the same level of performance as commercial customers.

Lighting Overview

Song explained that while savings per bulb are declining, production is going up. She said programs were taking an educational approach and producing a lot of new marketing materials. She added that by purchasing in bulk the programs are able to reduce the price of the direct-install bulbs delivered through the HES program.

Nelson reviewed recent lighting evaluation findings. He explained that while socket saturation had been gradually increasing close to 70 percent of all residential sockets in the state still had inefficient bulbs. Other evaluation findings included that participating retailers stocked significantly more efficient bulbs, and that Massachusetts residents used their lights at relatively high levels compared to other northeastern states in the study.

Winkler asked if Energy Independence and Security Act (EISA)-compliant halogens qualified as efficient bulbs. Nelson explained they were considered baseline. Winkler also asked if any of the studies examined ‘snapback’. Nelson said it was not directly studied, but that it was accounted for in the hours of use evaluation.

Deeper Dive

Glenn Reed presented on the evolving role of lighting in Massachusetts’ efficiency portfolio. He noted that lighting savings account for approximately 60 percent of all residential savings, and that its importance was set to continue due to LEDs. He commented on the differences in PA lighting strategies, noting that National Grid expanded their lighting program through the IUs, but that NU still had a higher overall percentage of lighting in their portfolio.

Winkler asked if savings calculations accounted for the fact that some LEDs are replacing CFLs. Reed noted that all the PAs used a weighted baseline of incandescents, halogens, and CFLs, which changed each year.

Reed showed slides supporting his assertion that LEDs were approaching cost parity with CFLs on a lifetime basis. The implication, he explained, is that programs are nearing the exit of CFLs.

Residential Overview

Margie Lynch presented on recent program performance in the residential sector. She noted that overall results were strong, and highlighted the increasing importance of leveraging data to inform program strategy. In reviewing recent participation results, she highlighted the difficulty in understanding program overlap and repeat participation. She suggested a potential solution was to assign unique site IDs which would have the added benefit of allowing PAs to understand the geographic nature of participation.

Courtney Moriarta gave a presentation addressing the recent performance of the Heat Loan Program, noting a rise in AC loans in 2013. She also commented on the preliminary conclusions of the Efficient Neighborhoods Plus program evaluation, as well as EnergySavvy, an online self-audit tool. She concluded by emphasizing the importance of site level data in driving program strategy. She said there is a nationwide movement toward better data and that Massachusetts has a tremendous opportunity to be a leader with a statewide database.

Johnson expressed concern about participation rates given the cost of the programs to average ratepayers. He suggested the Council convene a subcommittee to discuss the issue. Halfpenny agreed that there were unanswered questions and suggested he begin an offline conversation with the Consultant Team and the PAs.

DOER Home MPG Pilot

Alissa Whiteman of DOER presented on the Home MPG program. She explained it was a two year initiative to add an asset rating ‘scorecard’ to the HES program, and showed examples of scorecards developed by Honeywell and CSG. She reviewed initial program results, suggesting the scorecards could help boost participation rates.

Chretien asked how the DOER was planning to advance the initiative. Halfpenny said she was not sure but that they had received feedback from some communities interested in a labeling program. White asked if there had been efforts to disentangle the impact of the PA programs from the impact of the scorecard. Whiteman said they were trying to figure that out, but that it was difficult.

Adjournment

Halfpenny adjourned the meeting at 4:10pm.