

Massachusetts Energy Efficiency Advisory Council
 Meeting Minutes
 Tuesday, August 12, 2014

Councilors Present:

Voting	Present (designee)	Non-Voting	Present (designee)
Martha Coakley	Matthew Saunders	James Carey	Trish Walker
Nancy Seidman	Sharon Weber	Cindy Carrolk	X
Arthur Jemison	X	Elizabeth Cellucci	X
Charles Harak	X	Maggie Downey	X
Elliott Jacobson	X	Michael Ferrante	
Deirdre Manning		Paul Gromer	X
Richard Malmstrom	X	Andrew Newman	
Amy Boyd	X	Michael Sommer	X
Robert Rio		Tilak Subrahmanian	Frank Gundal
Larry Chretien	Eugenia Gibbons	Carol White	X
Paul Johnson	X	Eric Winkler	X
Michael McDonagh	X		
Brian Swett	Brad Swing		
Meg Lusardi	Tina Halfpenny		

DOER: Steve Venezia

Consultants: Eric Belliveau, Jeff Schlegel, Margie Lynch, Courtney Moriarta, Sam Huntington, Craig Johnson

Present:

Marie Abdou	Jodi Hanover	Joseph Murphy
JoAnn Bodemer	Betsy Harper	Matthew Nelson
Jessica Buno	Riley Hastings	Sam Nutter
Rita Carualtto	Lyn Huckabee	Ashley O'Shea
James Collins	Greg Krantz	Nathan Peyton
Shaela Collins	Spencer Lawrence	Alex Pollard
Nick Corsetti	Jeff Leupold	Andrew Pratt
Kevin Cote	Beth Lonergan	Becca Schofield
John Danek	Lourdes Lope	Margaret Song
Kristen Demeter	Emmett Lyne	William Stack
A.T. Deste	Larry Masland	Elizabeth Terry
Stacey Donnelly	Andrea Matthews	Bob Van Meter
Kim Dragoo	Maggie McCarey	Jayden Wilson
Betsy Glynn	Steve Menges	Michael Zukowski
Clayton Hale	Cara Mottola	

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

Public comment

Bob Van Meter of the Local Initiatives Support Corporation expressed strong support for energy efficiency programs, especially for multifamily. He noted that there are more opportunities for efficiency and looks forward to planning with the Council.

General Updates

Halfpenny began the meeting by announcing that the Council as a whole was selected as the 2014 Champions of Energy Efficiency and that she would be accepting the award on behalf of the Council at the upcoming ACEEE Summer Study.

July 8th EEAC Minutes

Lyne noted that comments were sent to the Council. Saunders motioned to approve the minutes as amended. Swing seconded the motion. All were in favor, with no opposed or abstaining. The minutes were approved as amended.

July 31st Executive Committee Minutes

Halfpenny noted that the Consultant Team requested a change to the C&I team budget. Belliveau explained that the overall budget was well within the normal range but that there may be a need to shift funds to account for the significant efforts on C&I. Halfpenny also noted that DOER drafted a RFR for a process assessment and that they met on August 6th to discuss language in the draft. An overview of the draft RFR was sent in the Council materials on August 7th.

Jacobson motioned to approve the minutes. Boyd seconded the motion. All were in favor, with no opposed or abstaining. The minutes were approved.

August 6th Executive Committee Minutes

Halfpenny introduced the minutes from the August 6th ExCom meeting for which there were no edits or comments. Jacobson motioned to approve the minutes. The minutes were unanimously approved.

Database DPU

Halfpenny noted that the PA's released an excel workbook and that interested stakeholders could submit comments by August 21st.

Avoided Cost – DPU

Halfpenny noted that the procedural schedule goes through nearly the end of 2014. Discovery has begun and is ongoing through the end of September.

RCS Guidelines

Finlayson explained that DOER is looking at revising the guidelines for 2014 and beyond. He noted that there was a public comment period during which they received a lot of comments which are posted on the DOER website. Ultimately, Finlayson suggested that the modifications would be minor.

AESC 2014

Schlegel updated the Council on the 2014 Avoided Energy Supply Cost study, which will set avoided costs for efficiency programs in Massachusetts and the rest of the New England. He explained that the working group was starting a new cycle where the study will now be completed every 3 years to coincide with the planning cycles of MA and CT. He noted that they are currently in the process of developing an RFP for contractors which is expected to be completed by September so that the contractor can begin this fall or early winter.

Winkler inquired about how far forward they are looking. Schlegel responded that the study would develop avoided costs through 2031.

Website Upgrade

Belliveau explained that the new website would be up by the end of the week and should be fully functional by the end of the month. He added that the website now has a search function, is better organized, and allows Optimal to update it themselves. Halfpenny inquired and Belliveau confirmed that the new website will allow agendas and some other materials to be loaded prior to meetings.

Johnson inquired about inclusion of a blog on the new website, suggesting that it would help to keep the conversation going. Belliveau said it was discussed previously and would not be included in the new website.

Consultant Monthly Report

Belliveau reviewed the highlights from the monthly report, including a new summary section at the front of the report. He noted that the C&I team had slowed their work this month due to budget concerns, while the Residential team spent much of the month working on the presentations for the day's meeting.

EEAC Schedule

Halfpenny reviewed the upcoming EEAC schedule, which is set to include the following topics:
October – Innovative approaches and a follow up to C&I
November – Broad topic of achieving deeper savings
December – Discussed cancelling this but will explore that later in the year

Johnson asked Halfpenny to explain what is meant by “innovative approaches.” Halfpenny responded that it will be an opportunity for PAs to explain what new strategies are being explored in their programs right now.

Halfpenny requested that if there were specific issues that fall under future topics to let her know so the schedule could be updated.

Process Assessment

Halfpenny reminded the Council of the process assessment that was discussed in previous meetings. She noted that the Council had several new members who have not been through the planning process before, which, combined with the Council’s increased size, has made it difficult to identify common priorities. Halfpenny suggested bringing in a consultant to review and streamline Council processes and help with the functionality of the meetings. In doing so, this would help ensure that the Council is better prepared and organized going into the 2016-18 three-year plan.

Johnson supported the idea and suggested that it might modify the planning process quite a bit. Swing further supported the idea and suggested that the Strategic Engagement Plan could be focused on general processes and workings of the Council. Swing also suggested that the scope could include an overview of the three-year planning process to benefit new members. Halfpenny suggested that the Consultant Team could do this given their history of involvement. Jacobson cautioned that this could make process more complicated rather than less and that the Council should be smart about what it is recreating. Malmstrom agreed that it was important to stay focused on the process. Collins supported an evaluation process but did not support a Strategic Engagement Plan.

Halfpenny suggested that the Council is not looking for an overhaul but that there is room for improvement. She requested a vote to move forward. Johnson motioned to move forward with an RFR for consultants to develop a Strategic Engagement Plan. Malmstrom seconded the motion. All were in favor, with no opposed or abstaining. The motion to move forward with an RFR was unanimously approved.

Saunders asked if the RFR would go to the Executive Committee for redlines before being sent out. Halfpenny suggested the Executive Committee submit redlines to DOER by the end of the week.

Multifamily

Beth Lonergan and Bill Stack presented on the Multifamily Retrofit program, explaining who it serves, the types of facilities, typical projects, and the size of its participants. Stack reviewed an all-encompassing energy action plan that can be left with property owners to show where potential savings exist. Stack also discussed recent improvements to the program, including the addition of a Multifamily Market Integrator (MMI) who serves as a central point of contact for customers to help them through the process. Stack adds that they have received many info

requests about the MMI and have quickly become a national model. Lonergan updated the Council on progress to date in the multifamily sector and explained that actual 2013 savings statewide were significantly above goal and that statewide benefits for electric PA's are down 46% because of saturation issues with weatherization and heating equipment.

Stack concluded by previewing some of the goals for the program looking ahead which includes more targeted marketing for condos and retargeting for properties that did not implement all measures.

Gromer asked about the specifics of who does the action plans and Swing followed up by inquiring about how many vendors there are per PA. Stack responded that the lead vendors do the action plans and that there is one vendor per PA, with the exception of National Grid, which has two vendors. Johnson expressed concern about leaving action plans in the hands of property owners as that might not be sufficient enough to actually spur participation.

Courtney Moriarta discussed some of the unique challenges that the multifamily sector faces including technical, customer, implementation, and policy-related issues. Moriarta also discussed the significant opportunity that exists with delivered fuels and projects that achievable benefits are on the order of over 200,000 MMBtu in annual savings by 2030. She also noted that this projection is conservative. Moriarta concluded by discussing how residential versus C&I program silo-ing affects measure implementation. She suggested that a cost-benefit analysis be conducted from the consumer's perspective so that they have a clearer idea of how they would be affected by participation. Her overall recommendation was that there should be a fully integrated and distinct multifamily segment in the next 3-year plan.

Halfpenny noted that it was a big recommendation and wondered what the next steps and associated implications would be. Moriarta suggested that the conversation needs to continue and that the idea needs to be more fully developed. White added that it is important that people do not see the current process as ineffective, rather that there is room for improvement.

Low Income Multifamily

John Wells and Jerrod Oppenheim gave a brief presentation on how WegoWise is used to benchmark multifamily properties. They explained that the tool used btu/sf/HDD on the gas side as the primary metric to compare efficiency between buildings. Initially this process was used to prioritize high energy usage buildings, but today it is used to see where buildings are since all customers get served.

Winkler asked if the tool was able to apply interval data. Wells responded that it was not, adding that the tool was not intended to identify measure-level improvements, but rather to compare buildings and to verify savings after measures had been implemented.

Johnson asked if customers embraced WegoWise. Wells responded that the tool was offered for free to property owners the first year after which they had to pay a small fee. He said 70 percent of property owners retained it after the first year.

Home Energy Services

Moriarta gave an overview of the HES initiative and its core activities which include in home audits, direct-installed lights, smart strips, DHW measures, programmable thermostats, air-sealing, incentives for insulation and guidance on HVAC incentives and HEAT loans. She also discussed some key areas of focus which included the cost-efficiency of program delivery, quality assurance and contractor performance, and how to achieve deeper savings.

To address some of the barriers and issues within these key areas, Moriarta recommended that performance indicators for cost efficiency be established to measure performance over time. She also mentioned that contractor performance standards are in the development process statewide to address continued development for QA/QC systems. Finally, she recommended a performance-based path to support and incentivize deeper savings.

Winkler expressed concern at the high cost of achieving deeper savings. Moriarta suggested that deeper savings can be achieved at reasonable costs if the plan is comprehensive. Schlegel said it is not necessarily expensive since the program would not be servicing all customers at once. Moriarta emphasized this point by suggesting the program could funnel customers into different levels of participation depending on their needs. Winkler expressed further concern that the payback period for some of the comprehensive work could be 10 or more years.

Moriarta concluded by suggesting that the Council make it a priority to establish performance indicators for HES and that the programs need to find more creative ways to go after deeper savings beyond deep energy retrofits.

Halfpenny suggests that the Q2 update be saved for the next Council meeting.

Adjournment

Halfpenny adjourned the meeting at 3:58 pm.