



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, March 4, 2020
100 Cambridge St, 10th Floor
Boston, MA 02114

Executive Committee Members Present: Don Boecke, Amy Boyd, Elliott Jacobson, Emmett Lyne, Maggie McCarey

Other Attendees: Marie Abdou, Adrian Caesar, Joseph Dorfler, Maggie Downey, Audrey Eidelman, Rachel Evans, Jonathan Goldberg, Frank Gundal, Emily Powers

1. Call to Order

McCarey, as Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:05 AM.

2. Executive Committee Updates & Business

McCarey announced that the Department of Energy Resources (DOER) is seeking to fill Rick Malmstrom's Executive Committee seat, which was designated as Large Commercial Customer representative. Once a candidate is selected, DOER will recommend them to the Department of Public Utilities (DPU) for approval.

3. 2020 Council Priorities and Planning

McCarey noted there were no additional revisions to the 2020 Council Priorities since the February 12th Council meeting, and requested final commentary from the Executive Committee. Lyne and Goldberg said the program administrators have already provided all comments to DOER.

4. March EEAC Meeting – Agenda Finalization

McCarey reminded the ExCom that the March Council meeting will be held in Fall River, MA. McCarey discussed the agenda topics, which included a Liberty Utilities Project Highlight, Cape and Vineyard Electrification Offering Review and Vote, Presentation and Discussion on Non-Participant Study Results, 2019 4th Quarter Report and Year-End Results, and Vote on 2020 Council Priorities.

Downey indicated there were minor changes to the Cape and Vineyard Electrification Offering, including a budget reduction and improved benefit-cost ratios. Boyd suggested they provide a summary of changes and present them during the March 18th Council meeting. McCarey added there should be a concise description on what the Council is voting to approve.

Regarding the Non-Participant Study being presented jointly by the Consultant Team (C-Team) and Eversource, McCarey said the results and presentation slides will be posted prior to the March Council meeting. In addition, she indicated a piece on Limited English Proficiency (LEP), and moderate-income strategy will be included. McCarey suggested the Non-Participant Study presentation will likely occupy half of the March meeting time since the results will have great implications on future program design.

Belliveau noted that recent improvements in evaluation techniques warrant increased emphasis on 2019 4th Quarter and Year-End Results, as these unevaluated results should not significantly deviate from evaluated results coming in May.

5. April EEAC Meeting – Draft Agenda Topics

McCarey discussed the potential agenda items for the April Council meeting, which included a Lunch and Learn on Performance Incentives, PA presentation on Energy Optimization, Update on Behavior Programs, and presentation on MMBtu Savings Targets.

Belliveau asked if the Lunch and Learn was meant to focus on performance incentive mechanisms in Massachusetts only or include discussion of other performance incentive mechanisms. McCarey replied the discussion will focus on performance incentives for Massachusetts utilities only. Abdou asked if there were other open questions the PA's should address during the Lunch and Learn. Boecke answered that current metrics of performance are not targeted enough toward specific customer segments, notably low-income, moderate-income, LEP, and other underserved segments. Lyne responded that the DPU exercised heavy control over performance incentive design in the past. McCarey suggested the PA's describe the history of performance incentives relative to current mechanisms. Belliveau added that performance incentive mechanisms which involve metrics targeted to specific customer segments can improve performance, as was the case with CHP and small business programs in the past.

Lyne asked what the PA's should emphasize during the Energy Optimization presentation. McCarey said they should update the Council on the Customer Decision Tree, Residential and Low-income Calculators, and other Energy Optimization items listed under Priority #3 in the 2020 Council Priorities. She added that C&I Energy Optimization topics should be presented during the May Council meeting, which will have a C&I focus.

Prior to filing MMBtu savings goals with the DPU, McCarey suggested the Council provide feedback to the PA's. Lyne indicated the PA's will be able to share data with the Council once the MMBtu study is complete.

McCarey continued to outline general plans for the May and June Council meetings. The May Meeting will focus on C&I programs and include presentations on Q1 Results. The June meeting will include program updates from LEAN, a presentation on Greater Lawrence in line with the Council Priorities, and a DOER update on the Clean Peak Standard. McCarey added that she and Powers were planning additional workshops and briefings for the Fall.

Boyd wondered how the Council would follow up on Mary Wambui's letter to the Council regarding the Columbia Gas (CMA) Greater Lawrence Resolution, which was approved during the February 12th Council meeting. McCarey noted that CMA will be updating monthly reporting on Greater Lawrence to include participation barriers for all customer segments and planned outreach efforts in Lawrence. In addition, CMA has established a calling line exclusive to Lawrence that has a Spanish language option and allocated \$23,000 to increased outreach there.

Boyd asked for an update on Eversource's acquisition of CMA. Gundal indicated the acquisition must be approved, but was expected to close in the third quarter. He added that Eversource would work to fulfill CMA's current commitments to program implementation and improvement. Gundal said they have not been granted full permission to discuss the transition, but Eversource and CMA will provide joint updates as appropriate.

Boecke announced he would be switching roles with Dorfler, and they will work with Evans to have the designation formally changed with the DPU.

6. Adjournment

McCarey, as Chair, adjourned the meeting at 10:52 AM.