



**Energy Efficiency Board
Commercial & Industrial Committee Meeting**

Tuesday May 11, 2021

1:00 – 3:30 PM

Meeting Materials in Box.com: <https://app.box.com/s/pu6yrm8966qtyz1th6ry6nz6xhdq0126>

Minutes

1. Roll call

Committee Members: Donna Wells, Neil Beup,

Attendees: Elizabeth Murphy, Ron Araujo, Randy Vagnini, Paul Gray, Emily Rice, James Klase, Dan Robertson, Mike Weissmann, George Lawrence, Amanda De Vito Trinsey, Philip Mosenthal, Michael Bruno, Jordan Schellens, James Dormon, Prarthana Kakulte, Paul Tangredi, Peter Ludwig, John Kibbee, Matthew Menard, Jodi Sullivan, Donald Mauritz, Joel Kopylec, Sheri Borrelli, Tugi Gotora, David McIntosh, Michael Santangelo, Marc Riel, Dan Mellinger

2. HVAC Modernization Update, Rooftop Units (RTUs) – Companies

Mr. Paul Tangredi presented slides on behalf of the Companies for the HVAC RTU Modernization Demonstration Program update. Companies solicited early/post retirement projects via a competitive bid process for eligible customers. The program launched September 2020, included 19 proposals and 13 awarded incentives. Installations must be completed in July 2021. Mr. Tangredi provided key program statistics and lessons learned from the program, as well as desirable steps going forward. More information can be found in “2 – EEB HVAC RTU Modernization Final” in the materials folder.

Mr. Randy Vagnini asked whether customers that didn’t qualify this round would have an avenue to in the future? For repeat customers that have already installed multiple projects, is it possible to retroactively make their efforts a comprehensive approach and yield benefits of incentives that reward such an approach? Mr. Paul Tangredi noted Companies are considering expanding the window for the comprehensive incentive, specifically for customers that couldn’t get in this round. Mr. George Lawrence appreciated the global warming potential for this; how much refrigerant will a twenty-year-old RTU leak in a year? Mr. Tangredi noted that he believes the data is out there and some evaluation folks are looking at this; he could follow up. Mr. Lawrence stated that newer refrigerants are less damaging and replacing refrigerant could be a valuable measure in terms of climate impact. Mr. Tangredi agreed this could be incentivized.

3. Gas Demand Reduction – Companies

Mr. Paul Gray from UI Company provided an overview of the Gas Demand Response Pilots which target mid- to large sized customers. The objectives for the pilot include shaving peak

demand, reducing pipeline capacity, and reducing gas usage emissions. Avangrid hopes to better understand the magnitude of net load reductions customers can provide and inform incentive structures. The pilots will kick off November 2021 – March 2022 and November 2022 – March 2023 and will include the C&I Performance Based Gas Demand Response and Direct Load Control – Gas DR Reductions. Mr. Gray overviewed each pilot’s targets, strategy, and details. More information can be found in the materials folder, “3 – EEB Presentation – C&I Gas Demand Response”.

Ms. Amanda Trinsey with CIC asked if there was a penalty for failure to curtail. Mr. Gray noted no penalty would be applied but customers would experience a loss of potential revenues since it is performance-based program. Mr. Gray also noted that Companies will engage with participating customers that aren’t demonstrating savings in an effort to help them achieve savings potential. Ms. Amanda Trinsey asked what the budget was for the program? Mr. Gray noted combined budget for two years is \$561,000. Mr. George Lawrence asked how a baseline would be determined. Mr. Gray noted that it would be calculated like on the electric side; looking at the ISO mean 10-10 and then calculating a ten-day rolling average for similar days prior to. Mr. Phil Mosenthal said, disregarding snapback, unlike electric you won’t get much snapback because on coldest days your system needs to run, which ComEd found and it’s difficult to get much savings. Mr. Gray noted that these pilots are focusing not on twenty-four-hour events, but shorter four-hour events in order to better understand behavior.

4. 2022-2024 Three Year Plan Outline – Companies

Mr. George Lawrence introduced the topic and welcomed input from stakeholders as there is still time to shape the next plan. This update is intended to provide an overview of the focus for the next plan. Ms. Jordan Schellens provided slides that outlined the history and trends in the C&I Energy Efficiency portfolio, ACEEE ranking and performance compared to other states and accolades. Ms. Schellens discussed the key priorities for the 2022-2024 plan: equity, decarbonization, and energy affordability. Currently the focus is underserved areas, but workforce development and leveraging municipal and community partnerships will be key going-forward. Ms. Schellens and Ms. Elizabeth Murphy discussed programs and strategies for the C&I Sector: New Construction, Equipment Replacement and Major Renovations, Energy Opportunities, Business and Energy Sustainability, Small Business, Upstream and Midstream Offerings, ADR Strategies. For each program focus, the objectives and target markets as well as potential approaches were outlined. More information can be found in “4 – 2022-2024 CLM Plan C&I Outline 05-11-21” in the materials folder. Some themes under the New Construction programs included passive houses, electric vehicles, and streamlined adoption for HVAC technologies.

Ms. Schellens provided an update on Codes Standards; Connecticut will update the current International Code Council (ICC) 2015 to the ICC 2022, skipping ICC 2018. The next Three-Year Plan recommendations include support for this transition. Mr. Neil Beup noted that there are some issues presented that are yet undetermined as to the role of programs; specifically net neutrality, carbonization and fuel switching, promoting adoption of more stringent codes. Mr. Beup noted these are controversial and asked how far along are we in this process? Are these recommended or points for discussion? Ms. Schellens noted customers are choosing all electric or carbon-neutral and the recommendation is to focus on assisting customers with the transition rather than encourage a fuel source or switch. Mr. Beup asked for clarification on the difference between what resources we are providing now to get to the most EE option and how that varies from the recommendation. Regarding the slides on new code adoption, Ms. Schellens acknowledged that the stringent codes warrant

further discussion. Mr. Beup insisted that the Board would need to continue these discussions as laws around lobbying and rate payer funded legislation (by way of building codes) prohibited the Board and programs from certain activities. Mr. Beup expressed concerns here, echoed by Ms. Amanda Trinsey. Mr. George Lawrence suggested a review of the language.

While Ms. Murphy presented on the Energy Opportunities strategies, Mr. Beup noted that after months of looking at the equity metric, the distressed and Environmental Justice communities weren't found to be particularly relevant in terms of program design and asked why it was still included in the language under Business Energy Advantage? Mr. John Kibbee clarified that mid-sized customers remain an important customer class and that the goal is to monitor and collect data to be prepared to identify gaps and respond to oversight inquiry. Mr. Beup's concern is on the language provided in the 3.3.3 Business Energy Advantage slide that (1) falsely gives the impression the Board has not been focused on these areas and (2) gives the false impression that the programs are delivering tailored incentives/measures for these areas. Ms. Murphy noted they are still working on meaningful ways to frame efforts that are consistent and will take the feedback and work on the terms for each section.

Mr. Dan Robertson like the idea of expanding the HVAC focus and noted that providing more financing options will be really beneficial from a consumer perspective.

5. Planning for June C&I Committee meeting

Mr. George Lawrence talked through the following topics for the next meeting and indicated there may not be time for all. Mr. Lawrence asked if there would be a public input session beforehand. Ms. Donna Wells noted that DEEP was working with the Board to get one scheduled, she wasn't certain it would happen before the next C&I meeting. Mr. Lawrence suggested items A, B, C and tentatively E. Ms. Jordan Schellens asked if the KPI data should be included and Mr. Lawrence noted only if it's exciting; he will have to review first. The group concluded that A, B, C and either metrics or Three-Year Plan for a fourth topic.

- a. Institute for Sustainable Energy Update – Lynn Stoddard
- b. Non-lighting Allstream Update (HVAC and refrigeration)
- c. Lighting Upstream Update
- d. Address input from Public Input session
- e. Three-Year Plan

6. Adjourn

Mr. Neil Beup adjourned the meeting.