Energy Efficiency Board Monthly Meeting

Wednesday, January 16, 2019, 1:00 – 3:30 PM
10 Franklin Square, New Britain, CT (Hearing Room 1)

MINUTES

In Attendance

Voting Board Members: Bill Dornbos (EEB Chair), Amanda Fargo-Johnson (EEB Vice-Chair), Bruce McDermott, Taren O’Connor, Adrienne Houel, Diane Duva, Jack Traver, Neil Beup
Utility Board Members: Jane Lano, Will Riddle, Chris Plecs, Ron Araujo
Board Members Not in Attendance: Attorney General designee, Eric Brown, Justin Connell
Board Consultants: Glenn Reed, Jeff Schlegel, George Lawrence, Craig Diamond
Others: Mickey Wiernasz, Mary Sotos, Julie Dumaine, Donna Wells, Mike Cassella, Anthony Clark, Guy West, Kerry O’Neill, Bryan Garcia, Paul Horowitz (phone), Nekabari Goka (phone), Samantha Caputo (phone)

Process

Minutes
The Board considered whether to approve the minutes from the December 12, 2018 Board meeting. Ms. Houel moved to approve, Mr. McDermott 2nd. Ms. Duva requested edits to the minutes, and those edits were incorporated into the minutes. All present voted to approve the amended minutes. December 12, 2018 EEB meeting minutes approved.

Public Comments
Mickey Wiernasz, Fireye. Mr. Wiernasz requested that the EEB distribute performance data of Fireye’s boiler control pilot programs. Mr. Dornbos requested that the Companies manage that process. Ms. Lano said the Companies would like to coordinate with the Policy Working Group (PWG) and the Board’s Evaluation Committee. Mr. Lawrence noted that the PWG views the Fireye pilots differently than the Board Consultants and Fireye, and he said those differences should be addressed.

VOTE: 2019 Consultant Work Plans
Mr. Schlegel provided a presentation. There was no discussion. Mr. Traver moved to approve the 2019 Consultant Work Plans. Ms. O’Connor 2nd. All present voted to approve. 2019 Consultant Work Plans approved.

1 Meeting materials available in Box.com: https://app.box.com/s/6t3ou4rwpz07hyg3516y6bcl9ixgbm4p
EEB Representation on EEB/Green Bank Joint Committee, and Attorney General EEB Designee
Mr. Dornbos said Ms. O’Connor would replace Ms. Fargo-Johnson as an EEB representative on the Joint Committee. He also said Mike Wertheimer had stepped down as the Attorney General’s EEB designee.

Programs and Planning

DEEP Final Determination on 2019-2021 C&LM Plan. Ms. Duva provided a presentation (she provided the same presentation at the Residential Committee meeting that morning). There was no discussion following the presentation.

Discussion on Cost-Effectiveness Testing and Non-Energy Benefits
Mr. Schlegel provided a presentation. There were several clarifying questions from Board members about many of the cost-effectiveness impact categories. Mr. Traver asked what the rationale should be for the Resource Value Test. Mr. Schlegel said that the Resource Value Test allows benefits of energy efficiency to be taken into account. Ms. Duva said that the different types of tests (Utility Cost Test, Modified Utility Cost Test, Total Resource Cost Test, Resource Value Test) are not additive, but rather they are chosen/considered independently. Ms. Houel asked which tests would be most applicable if one wanted to broaden the applicability of certain programs, in particular low/moderate income programs. Mr. Schlegel said that the Total Resource and Resource Value tests would be most applicable. Mr. Traver asked if all cost-effectiveness testing across the State’s entities should be the same, or if the tests could be different depending on the programs and entities involved. Mr. Schlegel said it was not very flexible. He said the key question was whether to do cost-effectiveness testing the same as we’ve been doing it, or to include one or more additional impacts. Ms. O’Connor said the OCC would like the State’s cost-effectiveness testing to remain as is, and it should not include any non-energy impacts. She said the OCC wanted to keep only the Utility Cost Test and Modified Utility Cost Test. Ms. Houel asked about the additional expense of expanding to the Total Resource Cost test. Mr. Schlegel said that quantifying benefits was much more difficult and costly than quantifying the costs. Ms. Duva noted that in some cases the data on benefits were already available (e.g., the regional cost of carbon). Mr. Schlegel said the Board consultants would be drafting Board comments on cost-effectiveness for the Board to consider at the February EEB meeting. A brief discussion ensued about how cost-effectiveness should be treated in regard to distributed resources.

CT Green Bank update: Introduction to Inclusive Prosperity Capital
Mr. Garcia and Ms. O’Neill provided a presentation on Inclusive Prosperity Capital, the new non-profit entity that had been spun-off from the Green Bank. The presentation included an update on the Green and Healthy Homes Initiative, an effort to bridge the funding gap for health & safety issues within the context of energy efficiency retrofits. There was no Board discussion following the presentation.
Update on SBEA re-capitalization agreements
Mr. Plecs and Ms. Lano provided a presentation. Ms. Lano said there was an opportunity for UI to use $1 million of interest-free C&LM funding to expand the existing SBEA offering to the other C&I customer segments (in particular municipal customers). Mr. Schlegel asked if there were modelled costs and revenues included in their proposal. Ms. Lano said cost and revenue models still needed to be developed.

Update on Lamont Administration transition on energy issues
Mr. Dornbos noted that a transition report had been made available. He said the report included 10 priorities. Ms. Sotos said the transition was still early, so she did not have much information to share yet. Mr. Plecs asked what was in the transition policy documents. Ms. Sotos said there were no big surprises in the documents.

Other
None

Closing Public Comments
None

The meeting adjourned at 3:30 pm.