



STATE OF RHODE ISLAND  
**ENERGY EFFICIENCY &  
RESOURCE MANAGEMENT COUNCIL**

**MEETING MINUTES**

**Thursday, August 13, 2015**

**3:30 - 5:30 PM**

Conference Room B, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor

Department of Administration, One Capitol Hill, Providence, RI

**Members Present:** H. Robert Bacon, Joe Cirillo, Jennifer Hutchinson, Michael McAteer, Shigeru Osada, Chris Powell, Betsy Stubblefield Loucks, Karen Verrengia, Diane Williamson

**Members Absent:** Roberta Fagan, Marion Gold, Joe Newsome

**Consultants Present:** Mike Guerard, Scudder Parker

**OER Staff Present:** Ryan Crowley, Danny Musher, Nicholas Ucci

**Others Present:** Michael Baer, Mary Coleman, Marisa Desautel, Angela Li, Nikka Malakooti, Leslie Malone, Stephen McShane, Fred Paine, Ben Rivers, Brigid Ryan, Tim Spillane, Emily Tradd, Puja Vohra, Belinda Wong, Chon Wong

**1. Call to Order**

Chairman Chris Powell called the meeting to order at 3:31 PM.

**2. Approval of July Meeting Minutes**

Bob Bacon made a motion to approve the July meeting minutes. Joe Cirillo seconded and all approved.

**3. Executive Director Report**

*Rhode Island Infrastructure Bank Update*

Nick Ucci informed the Council that the process has begun for establishing working groups on residential and commercial PACE and the efficient buildings fund. The Council will be represented at minimum by the consultants. Michael McAteer added that National Grid and Commissioner Gold had a meeting with Bill Sequino and his team to lay out what programs are currently available and to determine how the programs and policy will fit into the Rhode Island Infrastructure Bank (RIIB). Betsy Stubblefield Loucks asked if the stakeholder teams had been finalized. Mr. Ucci stated that the teams have not been finalized and any Council members interested in participating should notify Commissioner Gold. Ms. Stubblefield Loucks noted her interest in knowing who is making the decisions for the RIIB and wants to be sure they are paying attention to the sector she represents on the Council and the needs of her organization.

Danny Musher notified the Council that two public hearings on the State Energy Plan are scheduled for August 25 from 11am to 1pm and from 6pm to 8pm. All public input will be responded to with anticipation of the plan being adopted in October.

#### *PUC Rate Design Proceeding Update*

Mr. Parker shared that he, Marisa Desautel, Leslie Malone and Danny Musher attended the PUC Rate Design Proceeding. He said it will be a big proceeding that is expected to move fairly quickly. There is a hearing on September 17 on this matter. A motion to intervene has been filed by the EERMC, but the Council needs to consider to what degree it will intervene. Mr. Parker said the proposal is to recover more of the costs for the distribution system from fixed charges rather than variable charges. Chairman Powell noted that the EERMC needs to consider the impact the docket could have on efficiency programs. Mr. Parker stated that Grid has tried to moderate the impact by developing four tiers that apply to usage. Shigeru Osada asked who will represent the EERMC in the objection and what point will EERMC focus on in its objections. Chairman Powell said next month's meeting will be the time to decide how to move forward. Marisa Desautel reported the motion to intervene was filed today (August 13). She spoke with PUC's attorney, who described the September 17 meeting as a roundtable discussion from those who are objecting or voicing concerns. Mr. Parker stated that some of the issues that might be of interest to the Council include: does it reduce/increase the incentives; and metering. The Commissioners noted that they were pleased to hear EERMC's viewpoint on the rate design proposal. Chairman Powell suggested that Mr. Parker and Ms. Desautel meet before the next Council meeting to determine how to best move forward.

#### **4. Executive Committee Report**

##### *Vote to Appoint Alternate Executive Committee Member*

Chairman Powell notified the Council that there is an issue with attendance at the Executive Committee meetings. Because Abigail Anthony is out and Joe Newsome has limited availability, the Committee needs an alternate member. The Committee determines the Council's agenda based on the relevant issues of the month. Mr. Parker added that the Executive Committee provides great guidance to the consultant team about what they should be working on. Mr. Osada volunteered to be an alternate Executive Committee member. **Chairman Powell nominated Shigeru Osada as an alternate member for the Executive Committee. All members voted in favor.** Mr. Powell noted that it will be OER's responsibility to reach out to Executive Committee members to determine who will attend. Mr. Osada asked for a week's notice to fill in if needed. Mr. Powell noted that the meeting announcement needs to be changed to 2-3:30pm and some invitees need to be removed.

##### *EERMC Budget Report*

Chairman Powell noted that 2% of the energy program budget is allocated for administrative costs. The legislation was changed during Director Licht's tenure to a 60/40 split between EERMC and OER. Starting next year there will be a 50/50 split and there will be less money in the consultant bucket next year. In December the Council will rework the budget for next year. Mr. Osada requested a monthly budget and Chairman Powell noted that it will have to be worked on with OER. Mr. Parker noted that the EERMC has never come out over budget and that the consultant team scrutinizes its budget monthly. Chairman Powell added that any changes in allocation of funds must be approved by the Council. He also added

that further discussion about OER providing additional details in the expense detail will happen at the next Executive Committee meeting.

## 5. Policy & Planning Issues

### *RFP for Next Phase of Finance Study*

Danny Musher and Mike Guerard made a presentation on the RFP for next phase of finance work. The presentation identified the tasks that may be needed by the Council to explore new issues related to financing. Ms. Stubblefield-Loucks asked who the target audience is for the outcome of the study. Mr. Parker said the money being discussed would be used to determine finance strategies in most sectors where it could provide a benefit. Ms. Stubblefield-Loucks asked if there is an assumption that all sectors have an interest. Mr. Parker said it may be discovered that some sectors that do not fit but the goal is to figure out how to get a deeper investment in efficiency. Mr. McAteer said that National Grid finds that there are technical, operational and financing barriers but the biggest barrier is affordability. In the commercial sector there is a shortage of funds. Evoking far more participation in the commercial area is key. Mr. Musher noted that the selected consultant would be on a retainer basis. Mr. Guerard clarified that the selection process might not necessarily be an RFP but could also be a sole source contract.

Mr. Powell asked for clarification of Phase 1 and 2 budget figures. It was determined that \$46,660 was spent and \$23,310 was remaining. The funding had been previously approved, the vote being outlined is for the language in the RFP. Mr. Musher noted that the procurement rules for EERMC are different in that the Council will have more flexibility than state agencies do in regards to how to choose the consultant. Mr. Guerard said it would be ideal to find a candidate for the Executive Committee's consideration and then seek approval by the full Council. Mr. Osada asked what is next after Phase 2 is complete. Mr. Ucci said having the consultant on retainer will allow the EERMC to answer questions that are already being posed. Mr. Guerard clarified that this would not be a new study. Karen Verrengia stated that putting the money in an escrow account is a good idea as there are new programs beginning and many existing programs and the Council needs to determine how the different pieces fit together. She also noted that the bidding process can be rather lengthy. Diane Williamson asked if it is a qualifications based bid or a budget based bid. Mr. Musher said that the method of choosing needs to be discussed with the Executive Council.

Mr. Osada asked that future agendas include the language for proposed votes for the Council. Chairman Powell said agenda items need to be more specific moving forward so Council members are more prepared.

Mr. Osada asked who finds the bidders. Mr. Musher noted that during the bid that Dunsky was chosen for, OER managed the bidders list with suggestions from the consultant team, National Grid and Acadia Center. Mr. Bacon asked if it would delay the process if the money was taken out of escrow and the Executive Committee was given the authority to go forward with the RFP or sole source. Chairman Powell said the escrow would not delay progress. Ms. Williamson expressed support for doing an RFP. Mr. Guerard said using the language "selection process" will allow the process to be expedited if necessary by using a sole source process rather than an RFP. Mr. Musher said having that option is important. Ms. Verrengia expressed support for having the option of a sole source and/or RFP.

**Ms. Stubblefield-Loucks made a motion to approve the finalization and release of a selection process under the direction of the Executive Committee to secure the services of an expert consultant for technical and policy support related to energy efficiency financing for an amount up to \$70,000, as**

needed, to be held in an escrow account of Council's legal counsel. Karen Verrengia seconded and all approved.

*2016 Energy Efficiency Program Plan Update*

Mr. Guerard outlined what has been completed and what is upcoming. All important dates and deadlines are included in meeting materials. Chairman Powell asked that presentation be sent to the Council via email. Angela Li, Ben Rivers and Puja Vohra presented an update on the 2016 Energy Efficiency Program Plan for the residential and commercial/industrial sectors. Mr. Rivers reported that residential numbers are where they were expected and that commercial numbers are slightly lower than expected in the second quarter report.

**6. General Updates on Energy Efficiency Programs and System Reliability Procurement**

There was no update.

**7. Other Business**

Mr. McAteer reminded Council members to review National Grid's second quarter report. Mr. Osada asked to see the budgeted price of each segment so Council members have a better understanding of where matters stand.

**8. Public Comment**

Mr. McAteer added that the Commissioners toured the Toray facilities to understand how policy translates to customers and the kinds of decisions customers make. National Grid noted that a public meeting on combined heat and power will be held at DOA on August 24 at 3:30pm.

**9. Adjournment**

Mr. Cirillo made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Bacon seconded and all approved. Chairman Powell adjourned the meeting at 5:52 PM.

**Next Meeting:** Thursday, September 10<sup>th</sup>; 3:30-5:30 PM; Conference Room B

## **ENERGY EFFICIENCY & RESOURCE MANGEMENT COUNCIL**

**Minutes-December 13, 2012**

**Conference Room B, Second Floor, DOA**

**Call to Order:** Chairman Ryan called the meeting to order at 3:30 PM

**Members Present:** Joe Newsome, Joe Cirillo, Abigail Anthony, Paul Ryan, Marion Gold, Vic Allienello, Chris Powell, Paul Ryan

**Consultants Present:** Scudder Parker and Mike Guerard

**Staff Present:** Danny Musher, Chris Kearns and Charles Hawkins

**Others Present:** Jeremy Newberger, Rachel Henschel, Michael McAteer, Angela Li, Charity Pennock, Sam Huntington, Kim Ziegelmayr, Brian Kearney, Sam Nutter, Bob Chew and Carolyn Sarno

**Acceptance of Minutes:** Joe Newsome made a motion to accept the November minutes. It was seconded by Abigail Anthony and passed unanimously.

### **NGrid Presentation on Codes & Standards**

Puja Vohra of NGrid was introduced to give this power point presentation (attached). This presentation is a follow up to one given last year to the Council. Paul R. asked if the code was mandatory or voluntary. Puja V. said that the base code, which is mandatory, is adopted every three years according to International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) requirements. Results of recent code compliance studies, using NGrid and stimulus funding, have found that RI buildings only met 70% of commercial code and no RI building is 100% compliant with code. On the residential side, the average home only received 58% of possible points.

What can the Energy Efficiency Program Plan (EPPP) do to get the compliance up to 100% of the base code? RI Code Commissioner Jack Leyden has shown interest in developing language for a stretch code similar to Massachusetts. It would be voluntary, but go beyond the requirements of the IECC code. What are the gaps in today's compliance and what steps can be taken to improve it? Paul R. said he was not surprised by the non-compliance. He asked if any RI municipality was at 100%. Northeast Energy Efficiency Partnership's (NEEP) Carolyn Sarno said that no town in the Northeast is 100% compliant. The range was 55-75%. USDOE is undertaking an effort to establish a national checklist on code compliance that states can use. Mike M said that code compliance is a low cost energy efficiency (EE) strategy.

Joe C. said that commercial buildings only meeting 70% of code compliance is not acceptable. If 30% of the buildings are not up to code, the people in charge of enforcement did not do their jobs. He feels it is a legal issue. Chris P. wanted to know

why they weren't compliant and what areas were non-compliant. Puja V. said it was a complicated issue to determine who is legally responsible. This is not clear. Surveys were taken during the compliance studies to try to get to these answers. Paul R. said in Massachusetts enforcers have statutory immunity. Chris P. said that at Brown they used their commissioning agent to ensure compliance. Bob C. asked about code compliance for LED certified buildings. Have they been better than 70%? According to the DOE checklist none were at 100%. Danny M. asked if some residential buildings were so old they can't come up to compliance. Puja V. said that the study only included new construction. Joe N. asked if the survey included re-habs. No, it was just new construction. Paul R. said that if the study only included new construction the numbers look even worse.

Puja V. then explained the voluntary stretch code, which goes beyond the IECC base code. NGrid can assist in research & development, technical assistance, and cost analysis to help develop this code. A compliance mechanism for the stretch code needs to be developed because there will be two different codes. In 2013 NGrid will work in collaboration with NEEP and the RI Code Commission on compliance training, circuit rider technical assistance, and other documentation tools.

Carolyn Sarno, NEEP's Project Manager for High Performance Buildings, was introduced to present a brief power point. NEEP is one of six regional EE organizations funded by USDOE to assist states in energy code compliance. NEEP works within the twelve State Northeast Region to overcome barriers to EE through collaboration, education and advocacy. NEEP, working with the OER, NGrid & the RI Code Commission, wants RI to have a comprehensive codes program with effective enforcement mechanisms. NEEP is working to develop a benefit cost analysis tool for this purpose. They are also working on a model stretch code that states in the region can use. They have also done several code compliance training sessions and are looking to refine them by making them smaller and doing them on-site.

### **Executive Director's Report**

Marion G. said that OER has been working on benchmarking buildings in conjunction with the Public Energy Partnership (PEP) and will be bringing on staff shortly to assist in this process. The State has also hired a project manager for the EE rehab of the State House. She would like to have him talk to the Council & the Consultant Team (C-Team) ASAP.

She then mentioned the first joint meeting of the Renewable Energy Coordinating Board (RECB) & the EERMC on November 27th which attracted over 30 people. Topics discussed included: the intersection of EE & renewable energy (RE); a presentation of the new State Energy Plan (SEP) process; an initiative to integrate small scale RE into the System Reliability planning, utilizing RGGI funding; and a presentation on overhauling RI RE procurement laws. The next joint meeting will be in the spring. Marion G. then asked OER's Danny Musher, who is the project manager for the SEP, to explain the process.

Danny M brought the Council's attention to a fact sheet and power point (attached) included in their briefing package, which explains the process. OER is working with the Statewide Planning Program (SPP) to update the SEP which was last updated in 2002. The plan will do a deep data analysis of the electric, heating and transportation sectors. The three steps that will be taken will be to: gather data; set goals; and recommend action. To set goals, OER is working with the SEP Advisory Council (AC), which includes about twenty members who represent different energy stakeholder interests. An RFP is being issued for a consultant to do scenario modeling. The next AC meeting is scheduled for December 20th. Jeremy N. asked if NGrid was represented on the AC. Marion G. said that Mike Ryan was the official point person and John Gilbrook was NGrid's transportation representative.

Marion G. said that OER was issuing an RFP to install 30 electric vehicle (EV) charging stations in RI. The State has also broadened its Master Price Agreement to include about 100 hybrids and EVs that will be available for the state to purchase. Citing the PEP, she said that the OER has joined USDOE's Better Building Challenge that looks to benchmark energy use in public buildings and has a 20% energy reduction as its goal.

OER is also working with Environment Northeast (ENE) & People's Power & Light on a plan to institute an oil EE surcharge. Jeremy N. asked if this proposal needed legislative approval. Marion G. said that it would involve legislation. Marion G. then pointed out that almost all RI sectors were converting to gas but the low income (LI) community. They can't afford to make the conversion. This means that Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) funding does not go as far.

OER is committed to putting stimulus funding into a Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) financing program. They will be using a Vermont model for implementation. If PACE does not pass this session, Plan B. is to establish a revolving loan program. She has met with Senator Whitehouse on this initiative and has a meeting scheduled with Senator Reed. Chris K. is working on a clean energy jobs report to document the economic benefits of clean energy. OER is also working with NGrid's Mike M. on a DOA office of the future.

Joe N. asked Marion G. about the delays in starting the LIHEAP program. She said that OER has been working on a smooth transition of LIHEAP from OER to the Department of Health & Human Services (HHS) as mandated by statute. She wants to have HHS's Sandra Powell meet with the Council.

A problem arose, however, when she discovered the soft-ware transition, which OER undertook to improve the system, was several months behind schedule. This resulted in a delay in sending out LIHEAP applications. To expedite the process, OER put all hands on deck and send staff out to assist the CAPS in getting out the applications. They also held twice daily conference call with the CAPS. They also gave the CAPs extra emergency administrative funds so they could work overtime on the problems. The program is now up and running and the upside is that she has now established a much

closer relationship with the CAPs. There will also more funding available when the weather gets really cold

Joe N. asked is the LIHEAP Project Manager is still Lewis Babbitt. He is, working under Financial Management Administrator Terry Brooks. Joe N. said that, in the past, Lewis B. had provided him with updates on the program. Marion G. thought it was an excellent idea to keep the Council updated on LIHEAP, even when Lewis B. goes over to HHS. OER will have a report prepared for the January meeting.

### **NGrid Data Dashboard**

NGrid's Mike M. was introduced to give this presentation on the progress and projections for the EEPP through October. He cited the hockey stick effect where many transactions get closed at the end of the year. As a result, the November and December numbers should be higher. On the electric data dashboard: the residential sector is at 60% of savings goal; the LI sector is at 56%; and the Commercial & Industrial (C&I) sector is at 43% for a total aggregate of 49%. On the gas side: residential is at 38% of savings goals; LI is at 48%; and C&I at 56% for a total aggregate of 48%. It takes around two months to compile all the data so you will see a January dashboard in March.

Paul R. asked if it was realistic to go from 38% to 100%. Mike M. said the projections are looking at about 86% of the electric goals and 80% of the gas goals. The conditions that impacted this shortfall are RI's current economic situation, the substantial drop in natural gas prices and the impact of recent storms on NGrid EE staff. Another factor is that the 2008 economic downturn has made potential customers wary of spending because of the uncertainty of the markets. This puts emphasis on the larger savings goals of the 2013 EEPP. Joe N. asked if this was like the Christmas syndrome for retailers where they do 50% of their business at the end of the year. Jeremy N. said that a lot of EE work gets processed at the end of the year. Chris P. says he sees this in the projects he has done at Brown. He also said that extra funding can come available at the end of the year for EE projects.

### **Consultant Team Scope of Work (SOW) & Budget**

Paul R. wanted Abigail A. to give a report on where the EERMC budget stood at the moment before the C-Team made their presentation. In 2013, the EERMC's 1.2% allocation of the 2% set aside for administrative costs from the Demand Side Management (DSM) Fund, will give the Council a budget of just over \$1 million. In addition, there is also \$80,000 left over from the 2012 Natural Gas Opportunity Report (OR).

Other non-C-Team expenses include: Dan Prentiss's legal fees, he has \$9,000 remaining in a retainer fund which should cover his expenses for 2013; the cost for printing and assembling the Annual Report; funding for members to participate in workshops; and possible funding for EE & SR studies the Council may commission. The \$90,000 line item for OER staffing will go away because they will receive .8% of the DSM



administrative funds as mandated by last year's legislation. Last year the EERMC budget was \$805,000. The C-Team looks like they will close out the year spending about \$627,000 out of their budget of \$700,000.

Marion G. said it was decided that the easiest way to deal with this is to follow the precedent set by the Renewable Energy Fund where NGrid wires the appropriate amount to the OER on a monthly basis. Abigail A. said that the budget subcommittee talked about conducting an evaluation of the C-Team. It would be a full Council evaluation using a survey form. This would occur in January.

Scudder P. said that the C-Team has prepared a work plan with two components, their regular work and two new pieces of work which are one-time transition tasks. He then passed out a ten page description of their SOW (attached). The 2013 work plan puts a big focus on Least Cost Procurement (LCP) and the oversight relationship with NGrid. They want to continue to support partnerships that have been developed in the community. They also want to provide training & resources to OER as it builds its team.

They will also work to build a stronger relationship between NGrid & OER in a collaborative process that is not antagonistic. The OER will have stronger oversight in the collaborative process, utilizing leverage and coordination to build EE capacity in RI. Scudder P. then displayed an organizational chart showing C-Team personnel. Mike G. said that the C-Team wants to have a strong core of experienced people to maximize individual expertise. C-Team members are adopting their expertise to RI to get a better understanding of local conditions. He then introduced Sam Huntington who will be joining the C-Team in RI. They also have a deep bench of experienced staff that can be brought in to address specific subject areas that concern the Council.

2013 C-Team tasks include: setting savings targets for the next three years, which is legislatively mandated; helping to train the new OER team; meeting with NGrid on a regular basis on 2013 EEPP implementation; and getting a early start to developing the 2014 EEPP. The total proposed budget is \$775,000 as compared to their 2012 budget of \$700,000.

Abigail A. wanted to make sure the Council was aware that last years total hours for the C-Team was 4,000 hours and this year it is 4,290 hours. She pointed out that all but 82 hours of the increase is going to OER transition. She asked if that was an accurate assessment. In the line item, 208 hours were going to train and support OER staff, and it is the primary driver for the increase in the C-Team budget. She wanted to make sure all Council members were OK with that. She does feel it is critical for OER to have a strong staff but she want to make sure that is the Council's goal for that piece of the budget.

Chris P. felt the Council should discuss it. The training of staff is important if the Council's goal is building EE organizational capacity in RI over the long term. It is an investment and the Council should maximize its benefits. We should make sure that all of the staff has this expertise. Let's develop this knowledge base in RI so VEIC won't

have to come down here so often. Chris P. wanted to make sure this investment in training happens.

Joe N. asked what is meant by .8% of the budget moving to OER. Chris P. said it was the percent of DSM administrative funds that the General Assembly allocated to the OER in last year's legislation. Abigail A. wanted to make sure everyone is aware of what is being proposed and that the budget is higher this year. Jeremy N. said that in addition to the budget there is also \$80,000 left over from the Natural Gas OR that is going to OER. Abigail A. reiterated that OER support is an issue that should not just be rubber-stamped and the discussion should be part of the record. This is something new the Council is doing. Joe N. said he did not have a problem with it. He just wanted to understand what was happening.

Abigail A. also thought there should be a discussion of the attachments which contain two additional budget pieces. The first task is to provide technical assistance on the RE side. The second task is to provide technical assistance for the implementation of the PACE program, which is an EERMC priority. Abigail A. said that the Council has endorsed commercial PACE and this is residential; but that they still support the concept and have supported it in the past. Mike G. then showed slides of the new RI C-Team office.

**Abigail A. made a motion to approve the 2013 C-Team scope of work and budget contingent on Public Utility Commission (PUC) approval of the 2012 EEPP. It was seconded by Paul R. and passed unanimously.**

#### **Preparation for the PUC Technical Session on the 2013 EEPP**

Abigail A. said that the hearing will be held on December 18th at 9:30 AM at the PUC headquarters. It will be a Q&A session on the 2013 EEPP. Abigail said that parties spent the morning working on their presentation. It will be SR in the morning and EE for the rest of the day. Scudder P. plans on attending. Jeremy N. said the format is that NGrid makes a presentation first and then each party to the settlement can make a statement. The commissioners will be asking question during the entire process. He expects stakeholders like Tec-RI and ENE will make statements.

Scudder P. said that the DPUC has become more actively engaged in the process and it has been a real step forward. He said that in some jurisdictions the regulators have been strong opponents of EE. In RI, with LCP, it is really important that they stay involved. Abigail A. opined that many of the commissioner's questions will revolve around the Combined Heat & Power (CHP) Plan and the new shareholder incentive package. Marion G., Chris P., Paul R., and Abigail A. plan on attending. Mike M. said it was great to have the support of all the stakeholders in the process because it shows RI is unified behind the plan.

### **Public Comment**

Charity Pennock of the New England Clean Energy Council introduced herself as the RI coordinator for this council. She will be working towards organizing RI companies to take advantage of her council's activities.

Jeremy N. asked if there will be any movement towards appointing the residential council member to replace Marion G when the legislature reconvenes in January. Marion G. said that there was movement on this front.

Paul R. said he believes the Council has a requirement to testify before the Senate Environment & Energy Committee sometime in February. He remembers doing it for two years in a row with Ken Payne. This is not the Annual Report. Marion G. said she would look into it. Chris K. said he does not believe that is still a requirement. Paul R. wanted to make sure it was not a requirement. Abigail A. said it would be good if the Council had an invitation, but she feels the Council should be proactive about this. They should ask to get on Committee Chairman Senator Sosnowski's agenda.

**Joe C. made a motion to adjourn. It was seconded by Abigail A. and passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 5:15 PM.**

Respectfully submitted  
Charles Hawkins  
Secretary Pro-tempore

## ENERGY EFFICIENCY & RESOURCE MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

**Minutes-December 8, 2011**

**Conference Room C, Second Floor, DOA**

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by Chairman Ryan at 3:30 PM

**Members Present:** Abigail Anthony, Joe Cirillo, Vic Allienello, Marion Gold, Dan Justynski, Chris Powell, Paul Ryan and Joe Newsome

**Consultant Present:** Scudder Parker, Mike Guerard and Sean Bleything

**Staff Present:** Pat McCarthy, Lewis Babbitt and Charles Hawkins

**Others Present:** Rachel Henschel, Jeremy Newberger, Michael McAteer, Karl Munzel, Danny Musher, Rachel Sholly, Chris Kearns, Peter Asen, Angela Li, and Jerry Elmer

**Acceptance of Minutes:** Joe C. made a motion to approve the November minutes, and it was seconded by Chris P. Dan J., however, said he wanted a chance to review the minutes before they were voted on. In the future he would like to receive the minutes before the meeting. It was agreed to put off the vote on the November minutes until the January meeting. **Dan J. made a motion to accept the minutes in draft form to be voted and delay a vote on the final minutes until the next month's meeting. It was seconded by Paul R. and passed unanimously.**

### **Discussion of the EERMC 2012 Work Plan & Budget**

The original 2012 budget was \$946,700. The VEIC/Optimal approved work plan budget was \$600,000 and they have been invoiced for a total of \$557,811 which puts them under budget. Dan P.'s legal fees come in at around \$10,000 and the OER staff support after all invoices are reimbursed should be \$90,000. The total spent this year has been \$658,000 which leaves about \$288,000 unspent.

It was agreed to pay Dan P. a refundable retainer of \$12,000 for 2012 to be put into a client trust account. **Dan J. made a motion to authorize a retainer for \$12,000 to be paid for legal services from Dan Prentiss's law firm to be held in a client trust account. It was seconded by Paul R. and passed unanimously.**

At the last meeting it was agreed that a gas opportunity report (OR), similar to the previous electric OR but smaller in scope, should be undertaken. There is a surplus in the 2011 budget that can fund this report, but this will probably not be the case in 2012. Abigail felt the way to fund the OR, with this year's surplus, would be to put about \$188,000 into a client trust account that will be held by Dan P which could be drawn down in 2012.

Paul R. did not feel comfortable with this and asked Jeremy N. if there was any other way to segregate this money. Jeremy N. said that the only EE Program funds that can be carried over to the next year are for large C&I projects, per order of the PUC. Any carry over funds go back to be re-programmed. In past years the council has never used its whole budget. In 2012, however, the budget will be tighter and funds may not be available to fund a gas OR. Dan J. asked if there were any state restrictions on this type of transaction. No, these are ratepayer, not taxpayer money. Joe N. wondered why the funds can't just stay at NGrid. Jeremy said at the end of the calendar year anything that is unspent gets reprogrammed and re-budgeted. Dan J. asked if the report gets done for \$150,000 does the unused portion go back into the ratepayer fund. Yes. **Abigail A. made a motion to authorize NGrid to transfer \$180,000 to a client trust fund held by Dan P. for the primary purpose of doing an OR in 2012. It was seconded by Dan J. and passed by a 6-0 vote with Paul R. abstaining.**

Abigail said that the meeting was being recored on a digital recorder and proposed the Council purchase one so there will be a clean recording of every meeting. This recorder could be used for all energy forums that the council may chose to convene. It would also help with public information requests the council make get. **Abigail A. made a motion to authorize the \$1300 needed to purchase a digital recorder. It was seconded by Dan J. and passed unanimously.**

#### **2012 Consultant Work Plan (attached)**

The proposed budget is for \$699,910 with the breakdown of roles & responsibilities in the attached document. This budget is flexible and the consultant team will work closely with the Council to evolve specific areas of focus that may include: developments in the EE industry; economic conditions; and state and federal policy. A primary focus will be on behavioral programs; low-income customers; and codes and standards.

VEIC would like to develop behavioral programs that have savings projections of more than one year. Mike M. said the whole issue of behavioral changes is rather new and NGrid is excited about the challenge. Marion G. was interested in EE funding for homes that heat with oil to fill the void created by the end of the ARRA Deliverable Fuels Program. **Abigail proposed that the Council get more feedback on the work plan and take a formal vote in January.**

#### **Update on the 2012 LIHEAP Season**

Paul R. asked if LIHEAP was slated to be transferred from OER to Health & Human Services (HHS). He is concerned that OER functions may get spread out to various agencies. Chris P. wanted to know if there was a plan if LIHEAP relocates. Dan J. said that there are statutory responsibilities assigned to the OER. Pat M. said that by statute low income programs will be moved in its entirety to HHS with the rest of the OER left behind. Chris P. said that it sounds like the council will not have any review of LIHEAP. Paul R. disagreed saying the Council can still ask HHS to provide updates at meetings.

Chris P. wants to make sure the Council understands what its responsibilities are under LCP. The council needs to monitor these programs if it is the council's responsibility to know. Pat M. said that this LIHEAP season will be the same as last year. Joe N. asked if the expertise of OER will be moving to HHS. Pat M. said yes, the whole operation will move. Vic A. asked, with the changes in the contracts, who will be dispersing the primary grants. Paul M. said it would be the same as in previous years. Vic A. said there was confusion on how the grants will be dispersed this year. Lewis Babbitt of OER was introduced to address these concerns.

There have been no changes in funding since the last meeting, RI still has \$12M from the President's budget and there is movement in Congress to change that. The only major change from last year is how vendors will be getting paid. There is a concern about timely payments to vendors. The OER's major focus in the next two weeks will be to make sure that oil vendors get into the system. The commitments to oil vendors will go out. Lewis B.'s main concern is not starting primary oil grants before the real cold of winter hits. He wants to make sure OER has adequate crisis funding in February.

In a normal year, OER serves about 38,000 LIHEAP customers. So far this year, 11,000 have been processed. Joe N. asked if there were any LIHEAP propane customers. Yes, but it is an unregulated utility and OER's goal is to make sure all LIHEAP customers receive similar funding no matter the fuel type.

Dan J asked if Weatherization & LIHEAP were separate because they perform separate functions. The functions are different, but eligibility requirements are the same. If you are eligible for LIHEAP you are eligible for Weatherization. Paul R. asked if the ProCap problem will mean less people being processed in Providence. Lewis B. does not anticipate that being a problem. The RI Cap's Association has helped with the intake and Providence is already about 2,000 ahead of last year. The goal is to make sure Providence clients get the same service as everyone else.

Vic A. wanted to know how fast vendors will be reimbursed. How fast will invoices be turned around? Lewis B. said they can either send a fax or e-mail with the invoices to the CAPs. This needs to be monitored carefully. OER does not want to put oil vendors at risk. Pat M. said that a meeting with the Oil Heat Institute is scheduled for the next day to iron out these issues.

### **Gas Opportunity Report**

As was previously mentioned, at the last meeting the OER authorized VEIC to prepare a proposal to do a gas OR. Mike G. said there are aggressive gas goals in the 3 Year Plan, but the gas EE programs do not have the track record that electric does. What is achievable on the gas side? What are the best practices in other jurisdictions? Mike M. said that NGrid has 20 years of electric EE but it has only 5 years in gas EE so there is nowhere near the depth of experience. The manufacturing sector is a good place to look at greater gas savings opportunities. You also have to look at the building envelope. Jeremy N. said that if the council wants to broaden the scope of the gas OR it will need to

revisit the gas EE goals set in the 3-Year Plan. He recommends a narrower scope, however, and therefore feels the cost will be less than the \$180,000 allocated. NGrid is responding to Chris P. & Bill F's concerns about large C&I taking advantage of gas EE opportunities.

Chris P. wanted to know how the availability of LNG will affect gas system reliability (SR). LNG has kept the price of gas lower in NE. It has not always been that low. He is concerned about spikes if LNG becomes unavailable. Scudder P. assumed that VEIC will use the regional avoided cost for gas study. Chris P. would like to explore the peak gas load in the OR. Where is the market going for LNG? Will we see higher gas price spikes? Paul R. said that the problem is not as much the availability of LNG in January; but it is the ability of the system to move it. This is something an OR could study. Chris P. said most of the LNG is going to Japan and this could impact the supply. Scudder P. said they will look at this in the OR.

Dan J. asked about how fuel shifts are accounted for when looking at EE savings. Vic A. said that high EE oil burners can bring the same EE savings as gas. Oil customers today are using 33% less oil because of more EE equipment. Rachel said that federal oil standards are also driving increased EE. Joe C. asked about LNG going to Japan. Chris P. said that reports he has been receiving indicate that was the case and it could affect large C&I. Now there is a movement to export LNG from the shale gas deposits in Penn.

Abigail A. said the choices were to vote to authorize a sub-committee to get working on the OR now or wait until the January meeting to vote on it. Option one will get work started now. Paul R. felt that he would like to wait until January. Chris P. said he would rather the work start now. Abigail suggested giving preliminary approval and changes can be made and voted on in January. Mike M. said it would be good to get TechRI & other stakeholder input. **Marion G. made a motion to authorize the EE Program Plan sub-committee (Abigail A., Marion G., & Chris P.) to review and give preliminary approval to do a natural gas opportunity report prior to the January 2012 EERMC meeting. It was seconded by Dan J. and passed unanimously.**

#### **VEIC Monthly Report (Attached)**

**Chris P. needed to leave the meeting at this point.** VEIC finalized the cost-effectiveness study on the 2012 EE PP for the PUC technical session held in December. It confirmed that the plan is cost-effective using totals resource cost test (TRC).

Scudder P wanted to emphasize that customer-sided smart grid technology can be a helpful tool in the long run. It can track the EE in each household. It would be easier to document performance. He sees three advantages to smart grid: better management of the electric system; demand response; and long term behavioral changes. With the integration of gas & electric, RI could be a smart grid leader. It could maximize customer related benefits. Jeremy N. spoke about a NGrid smart grid pilot in Worcester that could be applied to RI. Scudder P. talked about the intersection of electric vehicles (EVs) and smart grid. Marion G. talked about two commissions that will look at EV's

Marion G. asked about the Green & Health Homes Initiative (GHHI). Mike G. mentioned a meeting he attended on this initiative this month. The timetable calls for the work to be completed by March. It is one of 14 pilots nationwide and it has done a great job of leveraging asbestos and lead money with ARRA funds. This allows contractors to do the weatherization work in a seamless manner. It is also increasing the labor force.

### **Public comment**

Marion G. introduced Danny Musher from the URI Energy Center who is partnering with ENE on a Renewable energy siting Partnership to develop an on-line data base using ARRA funds. It will be available to the public and will have an interactive map with consumption & pricing data. Dan J. wanted to know what metrics they were using. How will it help local decision makers to make a business case? Marion G. is frustrated about the lack of data on how EE programs are doing.

Paul R. spoke about Senator Reed & Snowe's efforts to increase the LIHEAP budget. Peter Asen from the Hosue Policy Officie wanted to clarify that in the 2012 budget LIHEAP will be moving to HHS on July 1, 2012. But this could change during this session.

Mike M. asked for an opportunity to briefly describe NGrid's new management structure (attached) that will emphasis a more local approach. NGrid will be organized by state with a president for each state, Tim Horan for RI. The strategy will include local go to people like Angela Li & Kathleen Livelli, from the residential group. Mike M. reports to Ed White, VP for Customer & Business Strategy. The new VP for Sales & Operations will be Terry Sobolewski.

The other area that is being expanded is vendor management. They will be better managed with more clearly defined goals. There will also be an effort to get more mature in the gas segment. Jeremy N. then displayed the new technical resource manual which is available for council members. Karl Munzel commented that he felt that the Council's annual Report should be printed by a local firm.

Abigail A. said that it would be beneficial to have outside experts do presentations at some of the meetings this year. She thought John DeGray, an expert in Cloud Technology, might be a good choice for an early winter meeting. Dan J. said that this is relevant on the C&I side and would like to hear this presentation. Joe C. asked if the meeting could start an hour earlier when this presentation is given,

Dan J. would like some feedback on what is happening with RGGI funds. He would like to have an update. What happened to the money? Jeremy N. cited Ken P.'s 2011 spending plan presented at the May 2011 meeting, which gave NGrid 80% for EE. It became official last week when it was posted by Secretary of State. Rachel said that NGrid has a report on the RGGI spending due in March and could brief the council on it at the next meeting. Dan J. would like that.



Joe N. made a motion to adjourn the meeting. It was seconded by Paul R. and passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 5:40 PM

Respectfully submitted  
Charles Hawkins  
Secretary Pro-tempore

## **ENERGY EFFICIENCY & RESOURCE MANGEMENT COUNCIL**

**Minutes-January 10, 2013**

**Conference Room B, Second Floor, DOA**

**Call to Order:** Chairman Ryan called the meeting to order at 3:30 PM

**Members Present:** Joe Newsome, Joe Cirillo, Abigail Anthony, Paul Ryan, Marion Gold, Vic Allienello, Dan Justynski, and Chris Powell

**Consultants Present:** Mike Guerard

**Staff Present:** Danny Musher, Lewis Babbitt, Ryan Cote, Chris Kearns and Charles Hawkins

**Others Present:** Jeremy Newberger, Michael McAteer, Rele Abiade-Ritter, and Kim Ziegelmayr

**Acceptance of Minutes:** Joe Newsome made a motion to accept the December minutes. It was seconded by Abigail Anthony and passed unanimously.

### **Executive Director's Report**

Marion G. opened by saying that much of the Office of Energy Resources (OER) staff had been working on low income (LI) energy issues recently to ensure that the LIHEAP season opens on time. Applications have been sent out and the Community Action Agencies (CAPs) are now processing them. The move of the LI programs from the OER to the Department of Human Services (DHS) looks to be on scheduled for February. Terry Brooks, OER's Chief Financial Officer, will also be going over to DHS.

Marion G. said that Rachel Sholly will be joining the OER staff on January 13th and will take the lead in the RI Public Energy Partnership (RIPEP) USDOE competitive grant. She is familiar with municipal energy issues from her work with the EPA Climate Showcase Grant. She will be working with the OER's Ryan Cote who also has experience working with cities & towns through his work with the Energy Efficiency Conservation Block Grant Program. Rachel S. will also be working with RI Code Commissioner, Jack Leyden, and Department of Administration Policy Director Allison Rogers on building code and other green building initiatives.

Marion G. then passed out an article that suggested that although states had passed green building legislation, the ability to track the results of these efforts have been stymied. OER is participating in the USDOE Better Buildings Challenge to reduce energy use in public buildings by 20%. This is an unfunded mandate.

Danny Musher is working with URI Energy Fellows to refine the energy data base RIenergy.org. URI Energy Fellows will be responsible for maintaining the site. She is

also utilizing URI students to assist in benchmarking municipal and state buildings. Chris P. asked about LED certification for public buildings. Marion G. said that URI has been very clear in its intention to have all new campus buildings be LED certified. Joe N. asked if any progress was being made on nominating the residential ratepayer position on the Council that was vacated when Marion G. resigned to become Administrator of the OER. She said that progress was being made and the person nominated should be versed in both distribution system issues as well as residential ratepayer issues. Joe N. asked who was being considered. Marion G. mentioned four names and said that she has asked the state's diversity leader to participate in the process in an active way. She then introduced OER's Program Manager for LI Programs, Lewis Babbitt, to give an update.

Lewis B. said that the delay in beginning the LIHEAP Program was caused by a longer than anticipated migration of the new data system. The XML data file took longer to develop than originally planned because additional data files had to be included, edited and tested, due to the change in software platforms. This delay cost about 1.5 months, but milder than normal weather has helped mitigate the impacts. OER staff chipped in to assist the CAPs with printing, mailing and processing applications to help expedite the certification of clients. CAPs have been prioritizing the application process based on greatest need; which includes deliverable (oil & propane) clients whose tanks are less than 1/8<sup>th</sup> full and any utility shut offs. During the winter, gas/electric clients can not be shut off, so OER is prioritizing processing the applications of deliverable customers. The Henry Shelton legislation has resulted in a sharp drop in utility shutoffs. In this program clients need to stay current for three years and if they miss two payments they are removed from the program.

Last year LIHEAP assisted about 12,000 deliverable households. The average primary grant has gone from \$390 last year to \$590 this year. Confirmations and checks for the full amount of the grant awards are being mailed to vendors together; which speeds up the fuel deliveries and lowers overall cost. Chris P. asked if propane was part of the mix. He mentioned that industry is looking at propane as a by-product of natural gas and this is driving the price of propane lower. He feels that propane might be utilized in the future as a strategy for areas where you can't get natural gas. Vic A. said that more heating oil companies are taking on propane. They are building bigger storage facilities and bringing more propane into the State. He wondered if this is something that should be evaluated in the RI State Energy Plan (RISEP) that the OER is developing. Abigail A. said that Environment Northeast was doing the forecasting for the RISEP and propane prices, availability, and green house gas (GHG) emissions will be considered in the RISEP forecasting.

Joe N. wanted to know what the nexus was between LIHEAP and energy efficiency (EE). He wanted to know if LIHEAP homes were being touched by EE & weatherization. Lewis B. said the policy is to get as much weatherization as possible into LI homes to reduce fuel consumption. However, USDOE is cutting weatherization funding in their base programs. Going forward, the NGrid DSM programs will be the most secure weatherization funding. He said that OER uses 15% of the LIHEAP funding for weatherization. The funding sources for the OER Weatherization Program are: NGrid

EEPP funding-\$7 million; LIHEAP 15% Weatherization funding-\$3.4M; USDOE formula weatherization funding-\$1 million. This indicates a shift from federal to private DSM funding sources.

Joe N. mentioned a LI family he talked with, who after receiving LIHEAP assistance, had an energy audit done and they found out they could only afford light bulb replacement. Lewis B. said they should be able to access the Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP). LI families can access EE improvements, boiler replacement, and appliance replacement funding through their participation in LIHEAP for no charge. Joe N. said they were renters. Lewis B. said getting permission for weatherization work from landlords is one of the biggest challengers of the WAP.

The next step is to get NGrid gas grants to customers. With the winter moratorium in place on shut-offs, they are less of a priority than deliverable customers. However, it is the policy of the OER, to make sure that gas clients receive approximately the same assistance as deliverable customers.

After oil customers receive their primary grant they can access up to 100 gallons more as a crisis grant. The limit is two such grants. Other next steps include upgrades to the new software with a goal of easy use for CAP staff; and quicker processing of applications to meet demand. Long term steps include possible margin over rack for oil vendors and the possibility of the OER paying oil vendors directly.

Vic A. said that for twenty-five years he has advocated for the K-Factor which is the number of degree days in a given period divided by the number of gallons of fuel oil used in a given period. He feels this system benefits smaller vendors. You can serve more clients and it is more equitable to every client. Lewis B. said the new software system does have this ability build into it; but the hardest thing is getting accurate consumption data. Vic A. said this isn't true, every customer has consumption data. He can calculate consumption with all his customers. Lewis B. said LIHEAP has a lot of customers who frequently change vendors. That is where the difficulty comes in. Joe N. asked how many OER employees were going over to DHS. Lewis B. said the FTE count was seven. He said that he would be available to give the Council LI energy updates after he moves to DHS.

### **Key Takeaways from the PUC EEPP & System Reliability Technical Session**

On December 18<sup>th</sup> the PUC held a Technical Session on the 2013 Energy Efficiency Program Plan (EEPP) and the 2013 System Reliability Plan. After a short morning session, the PUC unanimously approved both plans. It was the first bench decision on an EEPP in a decade. The EEPP increased the State's EE budget from \$66 million to \$84 million.

Abigail A. came away with a few clear messages the PUC wanted to communicate to the group. One is that it is of the utmost importance to maintain the credibility of the EEPP if sustained support for the EE plans is to continue in the future. There is concern about

where the service benefit charge (SBC) is headed and the commissioners feel the ratepayers need to receive benefits for this increased spending. She also heard concern about NGrid staffing and whether they have the ability to spend the full EEPP budget. Overall she felt it was a good session and the PUC expressed enthusiasm for the plans.

Paul R. had two takeaways from the session. He observed that two of the three commissioners were lawyers, and his impression is that they feel the Council, by statute, has been given most of the power relating to EE and the PUC has become more of a rubber stamp for these EE plans. If the DPUC is OK with the plan, the PUC does not feel they can mess with it as long as it meets the statute's intent. He feels the PUC relies on the EERMC to evaluate EE.

The second issue, it that he feels the PUC is not happy that Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI) funds are going to renewable energy (RE). This came up because RGGI funding had disappeared from the budget of the EEPP. The commissioners did not seem to feel that RE met the statutory scheme of the RGGI legislation. Abigail A. said that since there is not a final RGGI plan, there was no one at the table who could give a clear answer about RGGI. Joe N. asked if this was discussed in the actual session. Paul R. said it came up during the session. Chris P. said it is similar to questions the Council has received about cost effectiveness.

Chris P. emphasized that this is an indication that the PUC wants to ensure that the cost of EE is below supply. This is critical component of the EEPP. He hears the same comments from TEC-RI members. They want to know the rate impact of increases to the SBC. It is important for us to communicate with TEC-RI that the Council is meeting the statute and doing their jobs.

Paul R. said that this was the fifth EEPP presentation the Council has made since it was established. He said that the relationship between the PUC and the Council has been one of positive synergy and there is now a comfort zone. He feels the Council has made great progress in the five years it has been in existence.

Joe N. wanted to bring the Council's attention to a visit that NGrid's Marie Meehan was organizing. She plans on hosting RI PUC Commissioners at one of two of the Deep energy Retro-fit sites here in RI, preferably DER projects located in LI neighborhoods. The RI PUC, its commissioners and staff, want to better understand the DER Pilot Program, its costs/benefits and overall performance to date. He felt this would be a good chance for Council members to see these unique projects. He also felt it would be a good chance to get some media coverage. Mike M. said that the PUC's Paul Roberti is very interested in the deep retro-fit concept. Joe N. said the visit is tentatively scheduled for Thursday January 31<sup>st</sup> from 1-2:30 PM. Joe N. asked Jeremy N. to make sure members of the Council are invited.

Joe N. also wanted to introduce Rele Abiade-Ritter, a key staffer for Senator Whitehouse who is attending the meeting to see how the Council works. She is the Senator's in-state

policy director and wants to identify ways that the Senator can assist the Council in its efforts.

### **Preview of Revisions to the OER and EERMC Websites**

OER's Ryan Cote was introduced to give this presentation. He said that the OER was in the process of revamping their website to make energy information more accessible and less outdated. He then displayed some of the graphs that will be included in the new site. He would like to include an energy price graph that is similar to the kind AAA uses for gas prices. There will be information on programs the OER is working on like the RIPEP. The site will also include an OER mission statement. There will also be links to other useful websites like the NGrid energy efficiency programs. Chris P. asked if the Council has a website. He would like a link to the Council site on the OER site. Ryan C. said the OER website has a live link to the EERMC website, which is also being revamped. With the OER site completed, the focus will now be on the EERMC site. Marion G. said that one of the OER's goals is to have all NGrid EEPP evaluations on the websites. Jeremy N. said if the OER needs past evaluations presentations they should talk to Rachel Henschel. Abigail A. would also like to see the C-Team monthly report on the website. Marion G. said they could also put a link to Senator Whitehouse's website. The OER logo will also be changed for the new website.

Marion G. then introduced Danny Musher to discuss the energy data base RIenergy.org. Over the last 4-6 months, URI fellow have been putting this data base together. The three main components of the website are: mapping tools; data and graphs on energy prices and other consumption data; and general resources for the public. Much of the data comes from ISO-New England (ISO-NE) and the US Energy Information Agency (EIA). Danny M. said much of this information will feed the development of the RISEP.

Joe N. asked how a website like this stays current. Does someone enter new data once a month? Danny M. said that the info comes from various reports from entities like ISO-NE and the EIA which update data every year. He felt that RIenergy.org could be updated in concert with the RISEP. This website is like a mini state energy profile. Marion G. said that RIenergy.org was an idea of Ken Payne who wanted to have a public repository of available data to aid in energy research. Additional funding has been sent to URI to maintain the data base. An URI energy fellow has been assigned the task of maintaining the website. Chris P. said this data could be really helpful, especially if it is going to be updated on a regular basis.

Joe C. felt that information on energy supply, inventory and capacity was missing. He cited the fuel tanks in the Port of Providence. He feels their capacity should be in the data base. Marion G. said that during the recent hurricane the OER, as part of their energy assurance duties, was responsible for inventory and supply of oil tanks and other deliverables. She said some of this capacity data is confidential. Joe C. said he does not want to lose inventory and cited a LNG tank in Exeter that many people are not aware of. This is not shown on any data base. Marion G said the nature of the industry has changed with more just in time inventory.

## 2013 EERMC Budget

Abigail A. said that members were e-mailed a rough draft of the budget on Monday. She wanted to go through a few of the changes. The draft budget is consistent with the C-Team scope of work and budget that was approved at last month's meeting. Item one is the C-Team budget of \$774,720. Item two is \$30,000 for technical assistance for the Property Accessed Clean Energy (PACE) legislation which will come from the Prentiss Trust which is left over from last year's Natural Gas Opportunity Report (OR). This is work done by the C-Team for both the Council and the OER. Item 3 is for RE consulting services which will also be paid for from the Prentiss Trust but it will come out of the OER budget. There is \$80,000 still left in this trust fund and the budget proposes that \$30,000 be spend on the PACE Program and \$30,000 for RE consulting. That leaves \$20,000 in the account.

Item 4 is for staff resources that previously came from the Council budget but will now be paid for from the OER budget. Small edits will be made to this line item. The budget for legal service is \$8,980 and it is the balance of the \$12,000 refundable retainer which was a 2011 set-aside. Dan P. thinks that is enough to get through 2013.

Item 7 is a reserve fund of \$250,980 which will support additional needed expenditures. In every year but 2011, if the reserve fund was not totally spent it went back to the ratepayers to help lower the SBC. In 2011, the council saw the need for a Natural Gas Opportunity Report, so \$180,000 was put aside to do it and the money was put into a trust fund with Dan Prentiss. She thinks the Council should be looking about other things on the horizon that the council any want to do with this revenue. This could include further EE studies or an energy forum. She would like members to sent suggestions about reserve fund spending.

Joe N. asked if calling it a reserve fund has been a problem. Abigail A. said there has been no problem with calling it a reserve fund, but she does not want to spend the money just for the sake of spending it. Unspent money goes back to the ratepayer to lower bills. Jeremy N. said the reserve fund is a function of the increased SBC charge. More SBC means more administration money to pay staff and work on programs. Abigail A. said the Council could designate that unused funds go to the ratepayers and make it clear in the budget.

Marion G. liked the idea of doing an energy expo and cited the successful 2008 Energy Expo that was held at the Ryan Center at URI, although the Convention Center was also considered. She said that expos are very time consuming to run and can be expensive. She said two reasons for the success of the 2008 Expo were free EE kits that the OER provided and the extensive advertising that preceded the event. She thought it could be a valuable event that could raise the Council's visibility. It could also be a good way to get Senator Whitehouse involved. Abigail A. said they could put a line item in the budget to allow for this. Marion G. said if the Council wants to do it they need to start planning now. Mike M. said NGrid did a similar event at Gillette Stadium with the Governor that

was a great media event. Dan J. asked if the Council would need to do an RFP for a dedicated event manager. He said you need such a manager to organize volunteers. Abigail A. said that they could establish a public education line item and separate it out into two parts; one going to an energy expo and the other to pay for member involvement in educational conferences. She can make that change in the budget.

Marion G. suggested putting Twitter on the EERMC website. She said that during emergency storm situations they can be the best way to reach people and cited Mayor Bloomberg's use of it during Hurricane Sandy. Paul R. said Brown used Twitter to get 90% of the student body to a night football game.

**Abigail A. made a motion to approve the work plan & budget as presented. It was seconded by Dan J and approved unanimously.**

Abigail A. mentioned a C-Team evaluation, that will e-mailed to members, to allow all voting and non-voting member to provide feedback on the council's consulting services. A short survey has been developed that is anonymous and the results will be correlated and given to Scudder P. Members will have two weeks to complete this survey.

**Paul R. made a motion to adjourn. It was seconded by Dan J. and passed unanimously.**



## **ENERGY EFFICENCY AND RESOURCE MANAGEMENT COUNCIL**

**Minutes-January 13, 2011**

**Conference Room C, Second Floor DOA**

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by Chairman Ryan at 3:45 PM

**Members Present:** Joe Cirillo, Paul Ryan, Joe Newsome, Chris Powell, Marion Gold, Abigail Anthony, Dan Justynski and Ken Payne

**Staff Present:** Charles Hawkins

**Consultants:** Scudder Parker and Mike Guerard (by teleconference)

**Others Present:** Karl Munzel, Katie O'Rourke, Jeremy Newberger (by teleconference), Brian Kearny (by teleconference)

**Acceptance of Minutes:** Paul Ryan made a motion to accept the December minutes. It was seconded by Joe Newsome and passed unanimously.

### **Executive Directors Report**

With some program redesign the OER should have sufficient staff to meet the remaining ARRA responsibilities which last until 3/31/12. There also appears to be sufficient staff to have a viable OER after ARRA expires. The biggest loss to the OER will be the departure of Dan Carrigg.

There will be a shift away from complex ARRA projects that take a long time to complete because of the transaction time involved. Reasons for this are: cash flow problems with municipalities that prevent up front funding; the requirement for NEPA review; and the negative effect the Portsmouth wind docket (D-10-126) has had on large renewable energy projects.

OER received USDOE OK to amend the SEP to include wastewater treatment plants last week and this program was announced with the Governor & EPA at a major press event. All jurisdictions are eligible for this funding not just those who were damaged by the flood. Emergency rules were filed. The plan for RGGI is to have a solid set of general rules and then have an annual allocation plan and do them concurrently

There is good news on LIHEAP. OER has been informed by HHS that it will have \$29.2M to spend this year, which is close to last years total. CAPs have been told that they can start processing crisis assistance grants. Chris P. asked how this would impact funds that went from WAP to LIHEAP. Ken P. said that WAP would be replenished. He also stressed the need to have roll-over funds available for the summer start of LIHEAP.

OER remains interested in establishing an analytical component so RI can have good energy info available. ARRA funding could be used to get it started. Paul R. asked if it could be housed at URI. Ken P. said yes, as well as other possible locations.

Joe N. expressed concern about RISE having exclusive control of energy audits and asked about NGrid's rebidding of this contract. He wanted to know if OER was involved. Ken P. acknowledged that the method of choosing who would do WAP work has evolved over time.

Abigail A. said that there were 11 contractors on the list to do follow-up work. Abigail A. and Marion G. will review the new vendor RFP that will be issued this winter to make sure there is more independent contractor participation in both non-low income & regular EE programs.

Joe N. asked about small businesses who wanted to do energy audits, and not just the follow-up work. How would they go about it? Brian K. said that under the current contract only the lead vendor can do audits. Mike G. said it is important that the RFP allow independent contractors to do audits because whoever does the audit tends to get the follow-up work. Only 10% of the work is currently being done by independent contractors. Joe N. wanted to emphasize that he is not arguing that RISE lose the contract; he just wants RI independent contractors to be involved in the program.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **PUC Decision on the 2011 EE Procurement Plan**

The PUC approved the 2011 Electric EE Plan by a 3-0. It will cost \$45.6M, up from \$31M last year. It will provide over \$178M in savings, 1.2 million MWhs of lifetime electric savings, and should yield 2700 job years of employment.

The Gas EE Plan did not do as well. The PUC voted 2-1 to not raise the DSM charge from .15 to .41. They cited the legislative cap on the gas DSM and felt it needs technical correction. Commissioner Bray said that if the Assembly can make a technical fix to the mandatory cap statute that there could be an expedited refiling and approval of the plan with full funding. Appropriate language is being drafted that would amend the mandatory cap statute. A stakeholder group, consisting of TechRI, NGrid EE vendors, and the job training community will be sending letters to Assembly leadership and committee chairs to urge passage of this amendment. If all goes well the law could be amended by late February.

At the hearing PUC told NGrid to revise their plan and resubmit a compliance filing that caps the funding at .15 by 1/21. This means that the gas EE plan will have to be scaled back by 67% if the technical fix is not successful.

A discussion then ensued about the Renewable Energy Commission meeting chaired by Rep. Ruggiero that consisted mostly of small renewable businesses. Interest has been

expressed in creating an overarching clean energy council that would include renewables in LCP along with EE. With the DSM expiring, EE is protected by LCP, renewables do not have that same protection. The renewable energy community would like to double the amount of the DSM that goes to renewables.

However, in the LCP Statue, SR is a component. Chris P. said renewables would have to pass a cost benefit test for LCP. Scudder P. suggested having David Hill of VEIC give the council an update on what is happening in the renewable energy market. Ken P. mentioned a working group on renewables convened by the RI Bar Association. where no consensus was reached. Abigail agreed that VEIC should be on the agenda for the next meeting to educate the Council on this issue. Paul R. said that the council has no statutory authority in the alternative energy field.

#### **Update on System Reliability (SR) by NGrid's Doug Smith**

A Non-Wires Alternative (NWA) Team has been formed at NGrid and has been meeting every two weeks for the last two years. They are studying use of demand side management (DSM) and distributed generation (DER) to defer the need for expensive upgrades to transmission & distributing. Other NWA include EE, energy storage, direct load control or a combination of the above.

RI is ahead of the game with the LCP statue and NGrid would like RI to be the first state to do a pilot that defers a T&D project. Going forward NGrid's policy will be to develop non-wires alternatives concurrent with the development of wires alternatives for major capitol projects. The NWA Team has participation from the following NGrid groups: Energy Products which includes EE, Regulatory, Transmission Planning, Distribution Planning, Distribution Asset Strategy and Policy, Smart Grid, Siting, and Load Forecasting. They are using some of their DSM budget to develop a planning tool to provide NWA costs and impacts. NGrid engineers, who only looked at wire alternatives before, are now looking at things in new ways.

Joe N. asked about the vulnerabilities of the system. Doug S. said that there is no immediate vulnerability but that they have to plan 5 years in the future because it takes 4 years to build things. Joe C. asked if you could use RI colleges as a pilot. Doug S., for example, said that Brown could build a CHP facility to defer building a substation. Hourly pricing will be another option in the future. Direct load control is also a NWA. Scudder P. mentioned the integration of LCP strategies with T&D.

Joe N. asked how SR relates to the low income population who can't afford heat or electricity. Abigail said this is a lower priced way that will reduce electric bills. Chris P. said that if you can defer a \$5M project it means lower electric bills for everyone. Doug S. said that research shows that low income people like options like hourly pricing and they share the benefits with other customers.

Four NGrid VPs are ready to sign a planning document to do a NWA analysis and then propose a pilot project. They will develop a screening tool with the help of VEIC by the end of the month and they go through RI to look for a possible pilot.

Abigail A. complimented Doug S. for helping to change the direction of NGrid to an area that is new to the utility industry.

### **VEIC's Monthly Report**

Scudder P. said that the fact that NGrid had 4 VPs working on NWA is a culture change that is not happening in other places. In the last month VEIC has been working on:

- Support for the 2011 EEPP and compiling a cost effectiveness study
- Strategy for gas EE pertaining to the DSM technical fix.
- Helping to develop a work plan for 2011
- Analyzing the savings claims from NGrid on 2011 plan
- Help develop the C&I Low Interest EE loan with EDC to leverage ARRA funding.
- Looking at standards for the 3 year planning cycle regarding LCP and SR and how decoupling and the incentive structure will work.
- Help the Council prepare the Annual Report. He recommended this be put on next month's agenda.

Paul R. thought that the PUC December ruling is a switch from DSM to LCP.

### **Discussion and Vote on the 2011 EERMC Budget & Workplan**

Paul R. said that with an increased budget the Council will be getting more attention. The Council then discussed the attached work plan and budget. The line item for the OER's staffing was discussed and it was agreed to increase it from \$80,000 to 90,000.

Abigail wanted to a make sure there were resources to do a real professional Annual Plan and have more copies printed. Paul R. thought the \$20,000 for legal may be a bit small. He felt that there may be more PUC dockets this year. Abigail said the Reserve Fund of \$182,000 could be used for contingencies. There was also talk of having more public forums this year because of the success of the June 5<sup>th</sup> URI event. The possibility of a low income forum was discussed.

**Paul Ryan made a motion to accept the Work Plan & Budget as presented with an amendment to increase the OER staff resources to \$90,000. It was seconded by Chris P. and passed unanimously.**

### **Public Comment**

**Abigail A. made a motion to authorize the EERMC to send a letter to Assembly leadership supporting a technical fix that eliminates the .15 statutory cap. It was seconded by Paul R. and passed unanimously**

Abigail brought up the reappointment of Council members. She is filling out the rest of Sam K.'s term and needs to be reappointed this year. She is going to send a letter to the Governor's office to accomplish this. She also wanted to know who else needed to be reappointed. It was agreed that OER staff would research this for the council to see if Joe N. & Joe C. needed to be reappointed.

Abigail A. wanted to know if members wanted to set a time limit for meetings. Marion G. thought it was a good idea. After discussion it was agreed to try to end meetings by 6:00 PM.

Paul R. made a motion to adjourn the meeting. It was seconded by Marion G. and passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 6:10 PM.

Respectfully submitted

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Charles Hawkins  
Secretary Pro-tempore

**EERMC Proposed 2011 Work Plan and Budget  
January, 2011 DRAFT**

**1. Policy and Program Planning Consultant**

Until this role is rebid, the VEIC Consultant Team (Vermont Energy Investment Corp.) is the EERMC's Policy and Program Planning Consultant. The primary responsibility of the Consultant Team is to be a partner and project manager to help ensure all goals are met and tasks are accomplished for the EERMC to meet its statutory objectives and duties. The Consultant Team leverages similar work in neighboring states to offer some cost mitigation and efficiencies. Such support is factored into the proposed budgets.

The Consultant Team will provide critical services and support for EERMC priorities through the following roles and responsibilities:

- Coordinate EERMC member interpretation and understanding of utility efficiency, distributed generation, and system reliability program planning, policy development and implementation, and facilitate EERMC member participation in the planning and oversight process.
- Fully participate in the development of EERMC priorities and provide technical inputs and analysis as necessary to advance the EERMC's priorities.
- Assume overall responsibility for managing and coordinating the work of any additional technical consultants hired by the EERMC to support its objectives.
- Provide support on relevant PUC dockets, including direct testimony on behalf of the EERMC upon its request.
- Develop and review policies on a range of issues including, but not limited to, triennial and annual efficiency plan development and implementation; efficiency and system reliability standards development; energy efficiency savings targets; program budget and financing; cost-effectiveness; evaluation, monitoring, and verification; financing; and performance incentives.

Regular responsibilities of the Consultant Team include:

- Identify innovative approaches and improvements to program delivery, including: (1) gas/electric integration; (2) infrastructure development; (3) best practices and emerging technologies; (4) statewide education and marketing; (4) program designs that are both deeper (more savings per customer) and broader (reaching more customers); (6) evaluation, measurement, and verification; (7) financing; and (8) innovative delivery mechanisms and partnerships.
- Develop and review policies on a range of issues germane to the EERMC and provide summaries of policy analyses conducted so that stakeholder representatives can make decisions based on sound information.
- Provide technical support and representation with respect to relevant state and regional entities and policies, including the Rhode Island General Assembly and Executive branch, ISO-New England, the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI), and the Forward Capacity Market (FCM).
- Support the development of, and draft, the required Annual Report to the General Assembly on EERMC activities due on April 15 of each year.
- Draft recommendations and reports on energy issues as needed.
- Actively participate and provide expertise in regular monthly EERMC meetings, Collaborative Subcommittee meetings, System Reliability Subcommittee meetings, other related subcommittees that may be formed, and at technical sessions and hearings before the PUC.
- Provide independent assessment of utility reports and information, such as Energy Efficiency Plan quarterly and annual reports and program tracking data.
- Keep the EERMC apprised of developments in other states that could improve the quality of energy efficiency programs in Rhode Island.
- Monitor, facilitate, and report on the implementation and progress towards the goals of the 2011 Energy Efficiency Program Plan. This includes regular meetings with National Grid program managers, evaluation of pilot programs,

participate in the low-income best practices working group, and specific program area research and reporting.

- Monitoring and reporting on developments in innovative financing strategies.
- Monitor all energy efficiency funding available in Rhode Island, such as RGGI and FCM funds.

The Consultant Team will have expanded responsibilities in 2011. Additional tasks, issues, and responsibilities for 2011 include:

- Working with and on behalf of the EERMC in front on the PUC to support the passage of the EERMC's proposed natural gas and electric efficiency goals for 2012-2014.
- Working with National Grid and the Collaborative Subcommittee to develop the 2012-2014 Three-Year Energy Efficiency Procurement Plan for Rhode Island.
- Quarterly meetings with National Grid efficiency program managers assess the implementation of the 2011 Energy Efficiency Plan.
- Providing recommendations and assisting in the development of revised standards for Least Cost Procurement and System Reliability Procurement.
- Providing monthly verbal and written presentation of issues and work tasks from previous months as well as verbal and written summaries of upcoming issues to be resolved. All reports will also be provided electronically for archiving and historical record.
- Evaluating the impacts of decoupling and other recent legislation on energy efficiency.
- Supporting the development of state legislation or other strategies needed to ensure funding and coordination of energy efficiency offerings for oil and propane heat customers as well as to ensure full funding of least cost procurement for natural gas.
- Distributed resource planning, including oversight and evaluation of National Grid's system reliability procurement plan and potential pilot projects.
- Supporting discussion and providing recommendations with regard to how performance metrics are set, how evaluation, measurement, and verification tasks are identified and conducted, and the nature and level of reward for National Grid. Work with the EERMC to identify and conduct the proper role for the Consultant Team on evaluation, measurement, and verification.
- Support the development of a Rhode Island Technical Resource Manual to transparently document how energy efficiency measure savings are calculated, update, and reported.
- Support the development of residential and C&I energy efficiency financing strategies, including support on state legislative initiatives prioritized by the EERMC.
- Evaluating the long-term rate and bill impacts of energy efficiency on Rhode Island electric and natural gas customers.
- Conduct a detailed review and report on the cost-effectiveness of the 2012 gas and electric efficiency plans, and possibly the 2012-2014 plan, for submittal to the PUC.
- Working with National Grid to develop the 2011 Avoided Cost Study.

**Budget: \$600,000**

In light of the Consultant Team's expanded responsibilities in 2011 and the regular work required to assist the EERMC in meeting its statutorily defined objectives and duties, the EERMC will require the Consultant Team for approximately 4,000 hours. This work load is essential to ensuring that the EERMC fulfills its responsibilities and that the objectives of Least Cost Procurement and System Reliability Procurement are advanced. The following budget was proposed by the VEIC Consultant Team and approved by the EERMC through the end of June 2011 and has the ability to be extended by the EERMC

	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Total through June 30, 2011
Hours	700	850	1,550
Budget	\$120,000	\$150,000	\$270,000

**2. Staff Resources**

The Office of Energy Resources currently provides staff resources and supports the EERMC in providing an integrated, comprehensive, public, stakeholder-driven process to secure the economic and environmental benefits of energy efficiency and system reliability for Rhode Island electric and natural gas customers.

Expanded responsibilities in 2011 will include: improving and maintaining the EERMC website so that all EERMC minutes, reports, and materials are made available to the public, assisting the EERMC with press releases and other media opportunities, and helping the EERMC to coordinate conferences and topical forums.

The Office of Energy Resources will provide critical services and support for EERMC priorities through the following roles and responsibilities:

- Scheduling EERMC meetings and posting meeting details and agenda on with the Secretary of State as required by law.
- Providing space for regular monthly EERMC meetings and subcommittee meetings.
- Recording and transcribing meeting minutes.
- Assisting the EERMC with press releases and other media opportunities.
- Developing, hosting, and updating the EERMC website ([www.rieermc.ri.gov](http://www.rieermc.ri.gov)).
- Support in advancing the legislative priorities of the EERMC.
- Providing updates and reports on Rhode Island energy issues germane to the EERMC.

**Budget: \$80,000 (Not confirmed)**

**3. EERMC Annual Report**

R.I.G.L. §42-140.1-5(c) requires the EERMC to: “[s]ubmit to the joint committee on energy an annual report on/ or before April 15 of each year, commencing in 2008, regarding the activities of the council, its assessment of energy issues, the status of system reliability, energy efficiency, and conservation procurement and its recommendations regarding and improvements which might be necessary or desirable.”



In recent years, the EERMC Annual Report has included a summary and assessment of the following issues: least cost procurement, system reliability procurement, future opportunities for energy efficiency, and RGGI. The April 2010 Annual Report (for the period April 16, 2009 to April 15, 2010) includes a break-down of funding for energy efficiency and weatherization from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA). The Annual Report provides the results of the low-income, residential, and commercial and industrial energy efficiency programs and an analysis of regional greenhouse gas emissions trends and energy prices. The Annual Report also recommends long-term policies and strategies to advance the objectives of Least Cost Procurement.

The EERMC anticipates that the April 2011 Annual Report (for the period April 16, 2010 to April 15, 2011) to the General Assembly will be 30 to 40 pages in length and include similar information to the April 2010 Report. The budget for the Annual Report includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- Professional design services
- Printing (approximately 600 copies)

**Budget: \$15,000**

#### **4. EERMC Counsel**

Prentiss Law Firm represents the EERMC in regulatory proceedings and other matters. In 2011, Prentiss Law Firm will represent the EERMC in docket proceedings related, but not limited, to the energy efficiency savings targets, revisions to the Least Cost Procurement and System Reliability Standards, decoupling, and the 2012-2014 Three-Year Energy Efficiency Procurement Plan and any related annual plans for 2012, as well as possible an expedited re-review of the natural gas efficiency plan for 2011. The EERMC spent \$8,504 on legal counsel in 2008, \$13,331 in 2009, and \$8,689 in 2010. Given the heavy volume of proceedings already planned for 2011 there is likely to be a need for more hours of Prentiss Law Firm's services than in years past.

**Budget: \$20,000**

#### **5. Conferences and Forums**

On June 5, 2010 the EERMC partnered with the University of Rhode Island (URI) Energy Center, the Washington County Regional Planning Council, and the Office of Energy Resources to hold a free half-day forum for municipalities, schools, small businesses, non-profits, and residents on sustainable energy. This forum was attended by more than 200 people and show-cased state experts in energy efficiency and renewable energy projects. It included panels and opportunities to learn about successful on-the-ground energy efficiency and renewable energy projects, ways to take advantage of Rhode Island's efficiency programs, and networking with RI-based energy leaders and technical experts. Speakers included Senator Sheldon Whitehouse, Region-1 EPA

Administrator Curt Spalding, Kenneth Payne, Administrator, RI Office of Energy Resources, and Paul Ryan and Sam Krasnow of the EERMC.

In 2011 the EERMC will continue its on-going work to with diverse stakeholders to build support for and awareness of Rhode Island's energy efficiency and sustainable energy initiatives. The EERMC will partner with other organizations to plan and host at least two public events to raise awareness and generate discussion of energy efficiency and other energy issues and provide information on how to participate in, and benefit from, Rhode Island's energy initiatives. One forum will target a general audience and the second forum will target low-income and other hard-to-reach customers.

**Budget: \$25,000**

## 6. Reserve Fund

The Reserve Fund will support additional needed expenditures, as determined by the EERMC.

Possible expenditures include but are not limited to:

- Expert witnesses and technical consultants on issues such as decoupling, energy efficiency financing, cost-effectiveness, performance incentives, bill impacts, and evaluation, measurement, and verification.
- Forums on special topics such as small business energy efficiency, residential efficiency financing, the Providence Green and Healthy Homes Initiative, and low-income best practices.
- Printed materials and other marketing efforts
- Other priorities that emerge over the course of the year as determined by the EERMC

**Budget: \$182,000**

### Draft Budget Summary

Category	Estimated Hours	Estimated Budget
Policy and Program Planning Consultant		\$600,000
Staff Resources		\$80,000
EERMC Annual Plan		\$15,000
EERMC Counsel		\$20,000
Conferences and Forums		\$25,000
Reserve Fund		\$182,000
Total Budget		\$922,000





STATE OF RHODE ISLAND  
**ENERGY EFFICIENCY &  
RESOURCE MANAGEMENT COUNCIL**

## **MEETING MINUTES**

**Thursday, January 9, 2014**

**3:30 - 5:30 PM**

Conference Room B

Department of Administration

One Capitol Hill, Providence, RI

- Members Present:** Abigail Anthony, Joe Cirillo, Marsha Garcia, Julie Gill, Marion Gold, Jennifer Hutchinson, Michael McAteer, Joe Newsome, Chris Powell, Paul Ryan
- Members Absent:** Dan Justynski
- Consultants Present:** Shawn Enterline, Mike Guerard, Scudder Parker
- OER Staff Present:** Chris Kearns, Rachel Sholly, Nick Ucci
- Others Present:** Karen Bradbury, Jeff Broadhead, Grayson Bryant, Nick Corsetti, Josh Craft, Courtney Lane, Angela Li, Sean Murphy, Jeremy Newberger, Sam Nutter, Belinda Wong, Chon Meng Wong, George Woodbury

### **1. Call to Order**

Chairman Ryan called the meeting to order at 3:29 PM

### **2. Approval of December Meeting Minutes**

Mr. Powell made a motion to accept the December meeting minutes as submitted. Mr. Cirillo seconded and the motion passed unanimously. This vote was made with a four-member quorum.

### **3. Executive Director Report**

Commissioner Gold announced that the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) has approved the 2014 Energy Efficiency Program Plan and 2014 System Reliability Plan. The Office of Energy Resources (OER) has reached out to the PUC to set up a technical session on the Total Resource

Cost test. There is already a session scheduled on February 12<sup>th</sup> on the 3-year targets, so perhaps the two could be done on the same day.

OER and National Grid have contracted with Peregrine Energy Group to work on the OER system reliability procurement solar distributed generation project. The goal is to explore the use of solar generation can be used in conjunction with current demand response efforts to mitigate load constraints in Tiverton and Little Compton. Danny Musher of OER is serving as the lead on this effort. Ms. Sholly will schedule a subcommittee call to discuss this work in more depth.

The RI Public Energy Partnership (RIPEP) has been making good headway. The RI State Bond Counsel has determined that state agencies do not need legislative approval to participate in National Grid's on-bill repayment program. This will allow state agencies to implement energy efficiency projects with no upfront capital. As a result, the Davies Vocational School project is now moving forward, with a projected 60% electric reduction. This will be the first RIPEP project and will showcase the benefits of RIPEP efforts, including the use of the on-bill repayment program. Discussions around barriers to implementing efficiency have been happening at monthly sector working group meetings. A RIPEP panel will be presenting at the RI League of Cities and Towns Annual Conference on January 30<sup>th</sup>. Vin Murray (South Kingstown) and Wayne Pimental (East Greenwich) will share recent successes in reducing municipal energy consumption. Ms. Sholly and Mike Skinner of National Grid will give an overview of RIPEP and how municipalities can get involved. Emerald Cities Providence is looking to expand their work to all municipalities. We are also working with them to figure out how to access and best utilize the City's portion of RI's Qualified Energy Conservation Bond (QECB) allocation (\$1 million).

The Energy Expo planning team has drafted a schedule of activities including a VIP kickoff event, energy seminars and a keynote speech. The kickoff event will ideally feature Secretary Moniz, members of the congressional delegation and Governor Chaffee. Ms. Sholly will give a more detailed update at the February EERMC meeting.

Commissioner Gold reported that Governor Chaffee has tasked the OER and the PUC to work closely with their counterparts throughout the New England states to explore and implement solutions to energy infrastructure challenges with the goal of providing more affordable, clean and reliable energy for the region. Mr. Ucci presented on the New England Governors Energy Infrastructure Initiative (presentation available upon request). He referenced the "New England Governors' Commitment to Regional Cooperation on Energy Infrastructure Issues", a statement released by the governors in December 2013 (see attached).

Mr. Powell asked if increased use of Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) would help mitigate these price spikes. Mr. Ucci explained that LNG shipments are moving away from the U.S. and towards other global market locations where commodity prices are higher. He added that LNG is an important peaking resource and there are small LNG storage facilities within the state utilized by the local gas distribution utility to peak shave.

Mr. Powell noted that Rhode Island does not control the pipelines and asked if there was a plan for addressing this. Mr. Ucci explained that OER and the New England Governors group are exploring how the states can help facilitate pipeline capacity expansion. Commissioner Gold added that OER would be happy to brief others on this in a more detailed way.

Commissioner Gold introduced Chris Kearns of the OER to report on the streetlights tariff. Mr. Kearns reported that the parties, including the OER with support from the EERMC consultant team, the Washington County Regional Planning Council (WCRPC) and the RI League of Cities and Towns have requested a 45-day extension from the PUC. They are currently looking at a smaller scale pilot program. The deadline is mid-February, at which time the PUC can expect to see a compromise among the parties. Jeff Broadhead of the WCRPC clarified that any municipality will be able to purchase lights, but the pilot program refers to the metering controls which will allow municipalities to track actual electric consumption on each light. Mr. Broadhead introduced George Woodbury, who has analyzed potential savings of converting to LED lights in addition to the savings from private maintenance. Mr. Woodbury was the author of similar legislation in MA. To date, 83 communities have taken advantage of this opportunity, saving about \$20,000 per year from simply owning their lights. RI has approximately 110,000 streetlights at a cost of about \$16.9 million per year. Streetlights are usually the largest utility bill in a municipality. If all RI municipalities purchased their streetlights, the total cost would be about \$9 million. If they were all converted to LED lights, the cost would be about \$45 million. Maintenance would be cut by more than 50%. Initial savings in first 10 years would be about \$7 million with LEDs. Energy savings would be reduced from about 65 million kW to 27 million kW.

#### **4. National Grid 2013 Results Snapshot**

Mr. Newberger gave a brief overview of 2013 energy efficiency program results. He noted that Grid is still processing the paperwork to be able to count results, but should they have a more complete report at the February meeting. Overall, Grid achieved 105% of its electric and gas goals. In the electric sector, commercial and industrial (C&I) sector reached 103%, income eligible (IE) achieved 93%, non-IE achieved 108%, with overall spending for electric measures at 107%. On the gas side, IE achieved 106%, non-IE achieved 116%, with overall spending for gas measures at 93%.

Mr. McAteer explained some key points regarding these results. The industrial side retrofit spending on the gas side was lower than expected. Grid's consultant, ClearResult, came through for the IE sector, focusing on the Department of Health and Human Services and Community Action Program agencies, and providing consulting services. The Home Energy Report initiative underperformed and Grid is looking into why this happened and how to mitigate it for 2014. They will provide more explanation for this at February meeting. Fortunately, Grid had a good cushion to offset this, for example, in the EnergyWise program. Ms. Anthony asked if OPOWER, the consultant which administers the Home Energy Reports initiative, insures their savings estimate. Mr. McAteer explained that OPOWER will in fact refund National Grid about \$100,000 because they did not meet their goal. C&I gas direct install measures were only 50% of the goal. We need to figure out what to do to shore up gas opportunities in C&I sector.

Mr. Newberger introduced Grayson Bryant, National Grid's new C&I electric program manager, who started in November 2013.

## **5. Vote on EERMC Budget & Consultant Team Work Plan**

The Council reviewed the draft 2014 budget and proposed consultant team work plan. Mr. Newsome brought up the idea of changing the name of the "reserve fund" so it does not appear that the funds are not being used. Ms. Anthony suggested that Ms. Sholly revise the budget to list possible uses for projects or activities under the reserve fund. Chairman Ryan asked if the Council pays some funds to the state. Ms. Anthony explained that the EERMC no longer pays the state because System Benefit Charge (SBC) funds go directly to OER and OER also provides in-kind services to the EERMC.

Mr. Guerard presented on the proposed scope of work (see attached). Mr. Newberger reminded the Council that OER has close to \$750,000 from the SBC fund and suggested that it might be better if the OER paid for the consulting services that it uses for training and support. Mr. Powell added that the budget committee discussed whether there were services that could be shifted from the consultant team to the OER and concluded that it may be a longer term goal to work toward. Mr. Guerard reported that the consultants have budgeted 248 hours or 4 hours per week for a total of \$45,900 to train and support OER staff. Mr. Newberger also asked the Council if it wants to distinguish between services to the Council versus services to the OER. Mr. Parker gave the example of the consultant team working with OER to submit the RIPEP grant proposal to demonstrate how the consultant team supports OER. Ms. Anthony agreed that this is probably not a one-year activity but felt that the Council may want to think about this for the long term. She supports this element of the budget and thinks it has provided an important and valuable service. She noted that if, in the future, there is a more adversarial relationship between the Council and the OER, it may be even more important to have the Council consultants work closely with OER. Chairman Ryan said that he was not hearing serious concerns from Council members on this issue. Mr. Guerard provided another example, noting that Mr. Kearns' work on the streetlight tariff has allowed less work to be done by the consultants. He also added that Mr. Ucci's presentation during this meeting covers important work that is beyond the consultant team's scope.

**Mr. Powell made a motion to approve the EERMC budget as prepared by Ms. Sholly and the budget committee, including the consultant team budget and work plan. Mr. Newsome seconded and the motion passed unanimously.**

## **6. Technology Trends for EE Planning: Cold Climate Heat Pumps/Mini-Splits**

Mr. Parker mentioned that this topic will affect many aspects of the Council's energy efficiency work, including discussions around delivered fuels, providing benefits to IE customers, counting efficiency savings and the technical potential of energy efficiency. He then introduced Shawn Enterline of VEIC to present on behalf of the consultant team (see attached).

Mr. Powell clarified that while air source heat pumps can provide heat, they still require a standard heating system to supplement. These systems make a lot of sense for homes that heat with electric. Mr. Powell added that there is a carbon footprint benefit with this technology and that this is not just a residential solution. There are plenty of opportunities in Rhode Island for a C&I version. Grid is already offering incentives for ductless mini-splits. In a related Grid pilot,

they are looking to determine whether an increased rebate for cold-climate heat pumps would be effective. However, they will need to grapple with the fuel switching issue as they try to build this into three-year planning. Mr. McAteer cautioned that there seem to be some performance and reliability issues with these systems as well as correct installation issues.

Mr. Craft announced that NEEP is hosting a webinar on this topic next week, information about which. Mr. Powell noted that the upcoming energy expo is a good forum to get this information out.

Mr. Newsome expressed appreciation for the very informative presentations at this meeting and requested that these keep happening. Mr. Guerard said these will occur at least quarterly.

## **7. Other Business**

Chairman Ryan reported that this year is an election year and perhaps three Council members are up for re-appointment. Commissioner Gold will follow up on this with the Governor to find out what he has in mind.

## **8. Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

## **9. Adjournment**

Mr. Newsome made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Mr. Powell and passed unanimously.

**Next Meeting:** Thursday, February 6<sup>th</sup> 3:30-5:30 PM; Conference Room B





## **NEW ENGLAND GOVERNORS' COMMITMENT TO REGIONAL COOPERATION ON ENERGY INFRASTRUCTURE ISSUES**

Securing the future of the New England economy and environment requires strategic investments in our region's energy resources and infrastructure. These investments will provide affordable, clean, and reliable energy to power our homes and businesses; make our region more competitive by reducing energy costs; attract more investment to the region; and protect our quality of life and environment.

As the region's electric and natural gas systems have become increasingly interdependent, ensuring that we are efficiently using existing resources and securing additional clean energy supplies will be critical to New England's economic future. To ensure a reliable, affordable and diverse energy system, we need investments in additional energy efficiency, renewable generation, natural gas pipelines, and electric transmission. These investments will also serve to balance intermittent generation, reduce peak demand, and displace some of the least efficient and most polluting fossil fuel generation, enabling the states to meet clean energy and greenhouse gas reduction goals while improving the economic competitiveness of our region.

New England ratepayers can benefit if the states collaborate to advance our common goals. The Governors therefore commit to continue to work together, in coordination with ISO-New England and through the New England States Committee on Electricity (NESCOE), to advance a regional energy infrastructure initiative that diversifies our energy supply portfolio while ensuring that the benefits and costs of transmission and pipeline investments are shared appropriately among the New England States. At the same time, we must respect individual state perspectives, particularly those of host states, as well as the natural resources, environment, and economy of the States, and ensure that the citizens and other stakeholders of our region, including NEPOOL, are involved in the process. The Governors are committed to achieving consensus as we move forward, consistent with laws and policies across the region.

The New England States believe that investments in local renewable generation, combined heat and power, and renewable and competitively-priced heating for buildings will support local markets and result in additional cost savings, new jobs and economic opportunities, and environmental gains. The New England States further believe that these investments must be advanced in a coordinated approach in order to maximize ratepayer savings and system integrity. We will continue to advocate at ISO-New England, NEPOOL, and elsewhere for greater integration and utilization of renewable generation; development of new natural gas pipeline infrastructure; maximizing the use of existing transmission infrastructure; investment, where appropriate, in new transmission infrastructure; and continuation of the inclusion of energy efficiency – and the addition of distributed generation – in load forecasting and transmission planning.

*continued...*

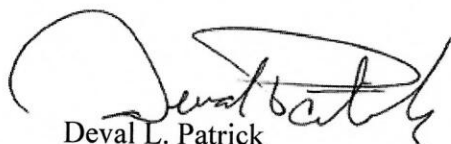
## New England Governors' Commitment to Regional Cooperation on Energy Infrastructure Issues

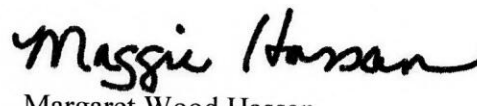
We have directed our appropriate staff to work together with NESCOE to ensure that we are taking all necessary steps to meet our common needs and goals. Our commitment to work together on energy infrastructure issues will be informed by recent regional energy infrastructure studies conducted by the States, ISO-New England, and other regional organizations. We believe that by working together we can expand economic development, promote job growth, improve the competitiveness of our industries, enhance system reliability, and protect and increase the quality of life of our citizens. Expanding our existing efforts will ensure that we are on a course toward a transformed energy, environment, and economic future for our region that offers a model for the nation.

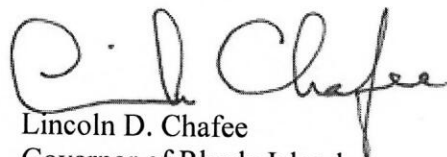
Signed,

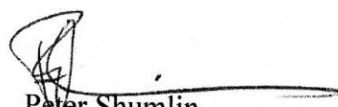
  
Daniel P. Malloy  
Governor of Connecticut

  
Paul R. LePage  
Governor of Maine

  
Deval L. Patrick  
Governor of Massachusetts

  
Margaret Wood Hassan  
Governor of New Hampshire

  
Lincoln D. Chafee  
Governor of Rhode Island

  
Peter Shumlin  
Governor of Vermont



To Energy Efficiency and Resource Management Council  
From VEIC/Optimal Energy Consultant Team  
Date January 9, 2014  
Subject 2014 Scope of Work and Budget

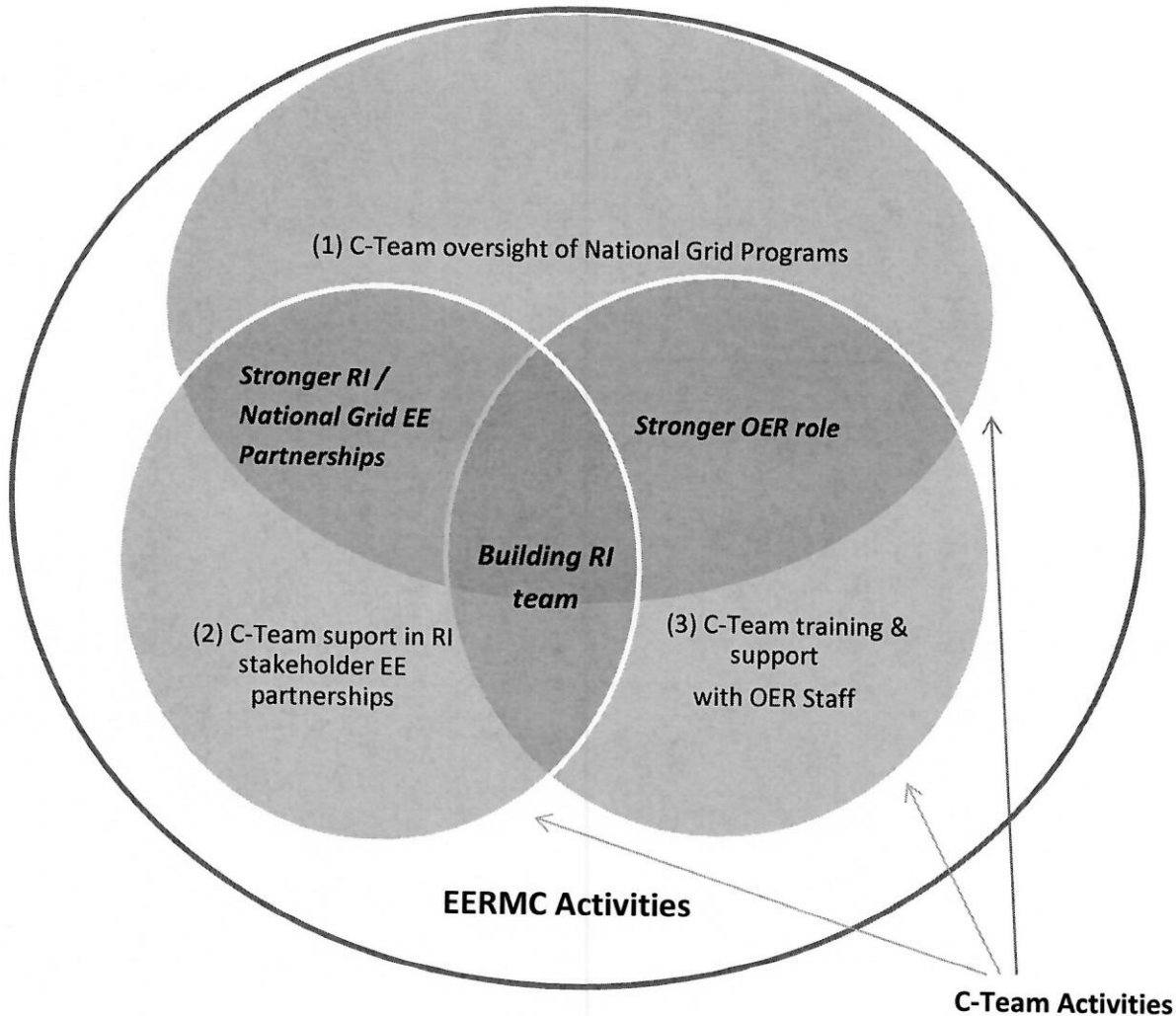
## Proposed 2014 Scope of Work

The VEIC/Optimal Energy Consultant Team (Consultant Team) is pleased to present this Policy & Program Planning Consultant Scope of Work for 2014 to the Energy Efficiency and Resource Management Council (EERMC). The Consultant Team has been working with the EERMC for five years now, and deeply appreciates the opportunity to continue serving the EERMC in support of its ongoing efforts. The EERMC has helped position-- and will continue to promote-- Rhode Island as a national leader in providing benefits to its residents, its businesses and its economy through Least Cost Procurement (LCP) and innovative energy policy generally. We particularly appreciate the ability to work with the EERMC in a partnership that reflects the underlying values of the VEIC and Optimal Energy firms.

This proposed Scope of Work builds on the content of the Consultant Team's 2011 proposal in response to the EERMC's bid solicitation for the role of Policy & Program Planning Consultant, which was awarded to the Consultant Team for 2012 with the option for two subsequent annual renewals. The primary Policy & Program Planning Consultant role has been, and is expected to continue to be, as a partner and project manager to help ensure all goals are met and tasks are accomplished for the EERMC to meet its statutory objectives and duties.

The base of work will continue to be the general support of the EERMC, including representation and activity reporting at all Council meetings; input on Council meeting agendas; working with EERMC Subcommittees; as-needed meetings with individual council members on specific issues or sector-related topics; and support on the development of the Annual Energy Report to the General Assembly every April 15. Consultant Team member(s) will also represent Council concerns at related meetings such as the DSM Collaborative Subcommittee and other stakeholder events.

In its 2013 proposal, the Consultant Team presented the figure below to illustrate and guide the approach it took in providing services in 2013. The services were grouped into three categories, and we propose to continue and expand on the 2013 accomplishments that have come from using of this approach.



The representation of these three areas in Venn diagram format emphasizes the inter-relatedness of the approach. It also seeks to provide a strong framework to help effectuate the Council's mission:

"Provide an integrated, comprehensive, public, stakeholder-driven organizational structure to secure for Rhode Island and its people the full supply, economic and environmental benefits of energy efficiency, conservation and resource management."

Specific objectives and activities related to these interrelated functions are:

1. The majority of our work will continue to be related to the design and delivery of the ratepayer-funded energy efficiency programs. This includes review and oversight of the Energy Efficiency



Procurement Plan (EPPP) implementation that National Grid conducts in Rhode Island, covering regular meetings with utility strategy staff; review of performance results and data; and research and input on actions designed to continually support savings goal achievement. Another key element is the development of the annual EPPP and System Reliability Procurement Plan (SRP), leading to the Council's approval. In 2014, additional tasks will be both the representation and defense of targets for 2015-2017 submitted on 9/1/13 by the EERMC to the RI PUC, and the ensuing development of the next Three-year Plan to achieve those targets. In addition to working closely with key National Grid staff, many of the activities above also include coordination with the DSM Collaborative Subcommittee, the OER and other key stakeholders.

2. A second area of work involves: 1) partnering with the EERMC to develop strategic relationships between the Council, National Grid and groups already working on energy efficiency in Rhode Island, and 2) identifying underserved sectors and energy efficiency opportunities in Rhode Island and proposing strategies to improve delivery of efficiency services. Examples of these successful efforts in 2013 to be built upon, and added to, in 2014 include:
  - a. The Alliance for Healthy Homes, which includes representation from the EERMC, Rhode Island Housing, Green and Healthy Homes Initiative, the RI Attorney General's office, and the Departments of Housing and Community Development; Health; Energy; and Human Services.
  - b. Emerald Cities, which is a coalition with the City of Providence, Brown University, Building Futures, the Rhode Island Building and Construction Trades Council, RI LISC and others.
  - c. RI Public Energy Partnership, managed by the OER through a federal grant, which coordinates activities of Municipalities, Water Supply groups, State Building operations and Schools through Working Groups, and ultimately facilitating participation in National Grid programs for energy efficiency.
  - d. The Farm/Agriculture sector, a traditionally underserved, "hard-to-reach" market, that began efforts to organize and better define opportunities to access energy efficiency and renewable energy upgrades with support of the Department of Environmental Management and the RI Farm Bureau.
  - e. Income Eligible Services is a sector undergoing transition due to federal funding cuts and other developments, and that has been historically challenged to be fully served in RI over the last few years. The Consultant Team will review national and regional developments, and work with key RI stakeholders and National Grid to determine better solutions to insure full service to this critical population throughout Rhode Island.
3. As identified by the EERMC, the need and value for a strong Office of Energy Resources (OER) in RI was clear. Accordingly, the Consultant Team was directed to provide some direct support in the form of training, planning, and guidance for new initiatives, and relevant specialized expertise to assist the OER. The Consultant Team proposes to continue this ongoing OER support, although with less emphasis on general training and support and more toward actions to help



achieve one of the EERMC's assigned "Power & Duties":

"Advise the commission of energy resources and recommend policies, standards, strategies, plans, programs, and procedures with regard to functions of the office of energy resources including but not limited to plans, strategies, and programs to:

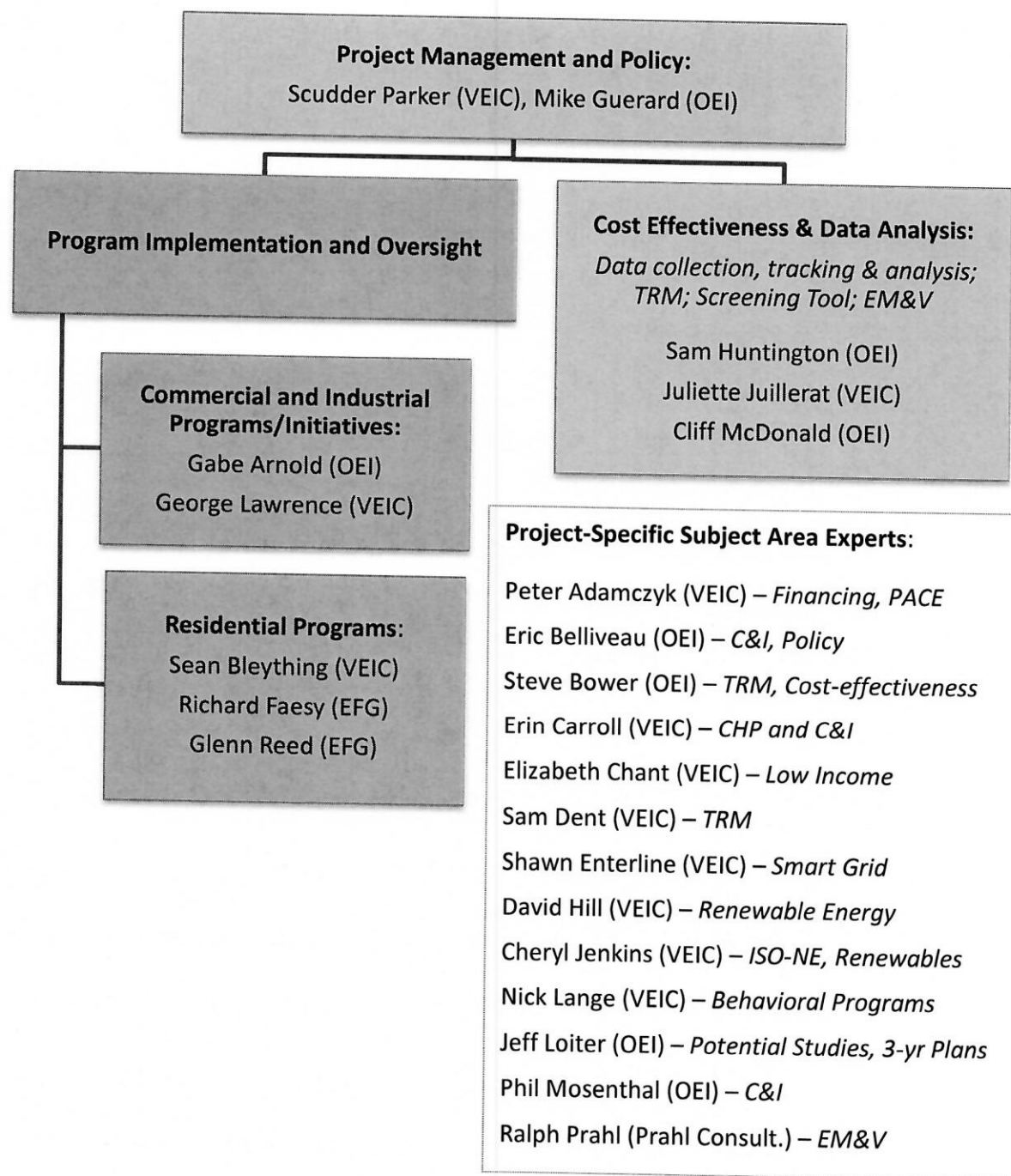
- (1) Implement cost-effective energy conservation and energy efficiency programs;
- (2) Promote the development of eligible renewable energy resources for Rhode Island;
- (3) Foster distributed generation of electricity and demand response;
- (4) Assist low-income households in meeting energy needs;
- (5) Coordinate the use of funds, resources, and programs from diverse resources to achieve the purposes of the office."

The Consultant Team proposes to link these three areas again during 2014, so that National Grid's implementation strategies improve and continue to develop in partnership with the stakeholders, organizations and expertise already available in RI. We believe that this will strengthen the infrastructure for effectively implementing LCP in the state.

The organizational chart below reflects the Consultant Team's ongoing commitment to providing high quality service and resources. The project's co-management by Scudder Parker and Mike Guerard puts the team's leadership in the hands of experienced professionals with an intimate knowledge of the industry, and most critically the specific causes and conditions that make Rhode Island an industry leader. Guerard and another key staff are based in a Providence office. A core team has been assembled over the years to provide the bulk of the "hands-on" work of program implementation oversight and planning support. Collectively, the group has decades of experience in all facets of the energy efficiency industry. For specialized areas of research, analysis and input, an impressive collection of industry experts covering a wide range of topics is also queued up. These staff can be brought to bear on specific projects on an as-needed basis, and provide critical expertise to the degree needed to support any of the EERMC priorities.



**Organizational Chart:**





The table below presents the broad subject areas and budget categories as anticipated areas of activity. The proposed core budget represents an approximately \$15,000 increase from 2013 (\$774,720 to \$789,810), although it should be noted the 2013 budget included two supplemental budget line items to focus on PACE and Renewable energy integration, at \$30,000 for each. Where appropriate, the activities related to these two areas will continue in 2014, but to a lesser degree, and as part of the core budget. While the proposed core work for 2014 continues patterns from previous years, the upcoming year presents the need for new and/or expanded services, which account for a moderate increase from the 2013 core budget.

These include:

- The legislatively required development and submittal of the next Three-year EEPP covering 2015 – 2017, due on September 1, 2014 to the RI PUC: This effort will require significant investigation of statewide, regional and national developments; data sourcing and analysis; negotiations; and reporting. The 2015 annual EEPP will then need to be completed in a compressed timeframe, adding challenges to this critical component of the EERMC's responsibilities.
- In support of the Three-year plan and ensuing annual plan for 2015, the EERMC has the opportunity to review and potentially propose modification to the "Standards for Energy Efficiency and Conservation Procurement and System Reliability." The Consultant Team is prepared to support the research and deliberations to identify enhancements to the Standards, including support of an associated Docket with the RI PUC.
- In 2013, two areas received added focus and attention. Based on the positive outcomes in both areas, it is proposed that the Consultant Team sustain and increase as needed this level of effort for:
  - support, training and coordination with the OER as it expands its role as a key player in Rhode Island's energy future
  - increased coordination and oversight of National Grid's investment of ratepayer funds, including monthly meetings with the Company's strategy groups.. It is proposed that with EERMC support, the Consultant Team will seek to further enhance this key function via agreement with National Grid on more comprehensive and timely exchanges of relevant data.
- Through RGGI funding and the initiative of stakeholder groups, a diverse range of working groups is formed or planned, including the groups Alliance for Healthy Homes, Emerald Cities, and an agriculture group coordinated by the RI Farm Bureau, and proposed RGGI-funded working groups for Delivered Fuels and Grid Modernization. The Consultant Team proposes to work actively with these groups to support their efforts that align with Council priorities. Related to these, and for other specific key aspects of the RI energy landscape, the Consultant Team would also support research and planning for integrating and leveraging broader energy issues with ratepayer funded efforts: Financing (PACE, HEAL, bonds, and other potential innovative financing concepts, as well as a close evaluation of existing vehicles, i.e. HEAT loan and C&I





On-bill Refinancing via a revolving loan fund); renewable energy linked to energy efficiency; Combined Heat & Power; solar thermal research and advanced heat pump technologies.

During discussions with the Council's Budget Subcommittee, a range of potential challenges and issues to be addressed in 2014 were flagged, including bill and rate impact analysis for natural gas, as a potential companion piece to the Division's electric analysis; CHP issues; and RI-specific energy branding/labeling. The exact scope and scale of these potential added pieces of work is not yet clear. The Consultant Team proposes that a separate budget line item for supplemental projects be created in the amount of \$60,000 as a contingency to support any work required on these, or other, assignments. The work will be Council directed, and only undertaken through clear task orders defining budget, timelines and deliverables, through coordination with the Budget Subcommittee. These supplemental funds will only be used as-needed, under the clear procedures of Council approval described above.

	Total Hours	TOTAL AMOUNT
<b>EERMIC Coordination, Support and Tasks; Sub-committee Participation &amp; Support; Research/Reporting</b>		
<b>Attend and support</b> each EERMIC meeting the 2nd Thursday of each month or as scheduled and general council support. -- Provide a brief verbal and written presentation of issues and work tasks from the previous month(s), and summary of upcoming issues. -- Propose and deliver relevant topic-specific presentations to support EERMIC deliberations and decision-making on priority issues. -- Assume overall responsibility for managing and coordinating the work of any additional technical consultants hired by the Council.	292	\$52,600
<b>Coordinate</b> Council member and OER staff interpretation and understanding of utility program planning, policy development and implementation, and facilitate EERMIC member and OER staff participation in the planning and oversight process.	68	\$12,600
<b>Attend and support</b> EE & SRP Collaborative Subcommittees-- Provide appropriate representation and subject-area expertise at Collaborative Subcommittee meetings.	136	\$24,920
<b>Support development and analysis</b> of Three-year Energy Efficiency Plan for 2015 - 2017 for 9-1-14 PUC filing	586	\$104,200
<b>Provide input, review/comment, evaluate</b> final quality and provide recommendations to EERMIC on 2015 EEPP and SRP filing ; write "Cost-effectiveness memo"; provide testimony at PUC Technical session on Plans.	540	\$96,960
<b>Provide technical support and representation</b> on relevant state and regional entities and policies, including the RI General Assembly and Executive branch, ISO-NE, RGGI & FCM, and federal entities about key energy issues and policies. Provide support on relevant PUC dockets, including direct testimony on behalf of the Council upon its request.	200	\$38,040



Support development of the Annual Report to General Assembly on Council activities due on April 15 , and other energy issues as-needed,	160	\$24,900
<b>TOTAL: EERMC Coordination, Support and Tasks; Sub-committee Participation &amp; Support; Research/Reporting</b>	<b>1,982</b>	<b>\$354,220</b>
<b>Monitoring, Facilitating and Reporting on Progress of Savings Goals and Commitments for Specific Sector and Program Areas in the 2014 EPPP</b>		
Monthly updates with National Grid Program staff; data collection and review; market infrastructure evaluation; internal coordination on performance results on monthly basis; prep and report -- Updates with individual council members and OER on status	1054	\$182,430
Participation on steering committees/task forces, i.e. RI PEP, Codes & Standards group; Multifamily; Income Eligible Services	234	\$43,820
<b>TOTAL: Monitoring, Facilitating, Reporting</b>	<b>1,288</b>	<b>\$226,250</b>
<b>OER support, best practices and stakeholder coordination</b>		
Subject area expert assignments, i.e. Develop & review policies on a range of issues including cost-effectiveness, coordination of financing/funding and implementation efforts, inter-relation and leveraging of renewables and e.e., addressing market barriers through innovative delivery, and related matters.	546	\$100,200
Training and support for OER staff, including topic specific areas-- PACE, renewable integration w/ ee, RIPEP	248	\$45,900
Stakeholder coordination and integration -- support and align efforts of entities involved in energy efficiency operating in coordination and/or supplementing utility program efforts, including the Alliance for Healthy Homes; Emerald Cities; Farm/Ag groups; and Delivered Fuels working group.	304	\$54,340
<b>TOTAL: OER support, best practices and stakeholder coordination</b>	<b>1,098</b>	<b>\$200,440</b>
<b>Total dollars for Core Work</b>		<b>\$789,810</b>
<b>Supplemental funding for Council-directed special projects, as-needed</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>\$60,000</b>
<b>Total Potential Budget Allocation</b>		<b>\$849,810</b>

The Consultant Team is honored to have been approved to continue this role, and will seek to maintain the highest quality of service to support the EERMC's objectives for the full benefit of all Rhode Islanders.