

Institute for Sustainable Energy  
Board of Advisors

Board Meeting: December 11, 2006

Members present:

Arthur Diedrick, Board Chairman  
Bryan Garcia, Director, Energy Market Initiatives, Connecticut Clean Energy Fund  
John Mengacci, Undersecretary, Policy Development & Planning Division, OPM  
Shirley Bergert, Public Benefits Taskforce Director, CT Legal Services

Staff: William Leahy, Director of Operations, ISE  
Laurel Kohl, ISE, Acting Secretary

Guests: Michael Pernal, Vice President, Eastern Connecticut State University

The meeting was called to order by Arthur Diedrick at 10:25 a.m.

Arthur Diedrick requested that Advisory Board members consider the minutes of the October 10, 2006 meeting. A motion was made by Shirley Bergert to accept the minutes. The motion was seconded by Bryan Garcia. The motion carried. One member abstained.

Progress on Initiatives

CSU Green Campus Initiative

The Green Campus Initiative is progressing well. The Southern study was presented to the president and her cabinet in November. They are forming an Environmental Footprint and Curriculum Integration committee. The Western study had been delivered to their Facilities department and ISE is currently working with them on the recommendations. The study will be presented to Western's president by the end of the year. Eastern's study is complete and in review. They are currently meshing the recommendations with Eastern's 5 Year Plan. Central is just starting. Bill will meet with their staff on December 12 to launch the program work. Central has 3 MW of Combine Heat and Power that is about to go onto service.

Three Rivers Community College held a Green Campus conference at Mashantucket museum with students and faculty from 18 colleges and universities attending. Leahy was a presenter along with representatives of the Sierra Youth Coalition and the Student coalition for climate Change. ISE is partnered with Gateway Community College on a national grant to establish a Center of Excellence in Energy and Alternative Fuel Transportation. They will be supporting biofuels, photovoltaic and hydrogen technologies for small scale power production and transportation. The campus is a very good site for a Combined Heat and Power Plant or fuel cells.

Multi-Family Demonstration Project

The report on energy efficiency opportunities in multifamily housing is nearly complete. The study and analysis at one demonstration project, the Ogden House in Wilton, is completed. The ISE study model took a whole-building approach providing energy savings information for all fuels and utilizing multiple financing sources utilizing best practices from organizations that are performing Multifamily Conservation nationally. Findings are that both tenant organizations and building owner/operators need to be involved in project development. Financing for these

projects is very complex, with the potential for financing utilizing 14 different funding sources, including incentives, loans and tax treatments. ISE coordinated with the Utility engineer to identify how the project would be approached in a business-as-usual mode, and an alternate assessment looking at a whole-building approach. Business as usual would include 2 lighting projects at a cost of about \$60,000 and an energy savings of 1,000,000 kWh. The deeper whole-building approach identified a number of other savings opportunities with alternative incentives, including a back-up generator, PV installation and new heating system. The cost of the complete program would be \$600,000 and has a 6.6 year payback and saving savings of 4,750,000kwh. This is well within the means of the financing project (usually a 20 year mortgage) and will better meet the owners and tenants needs.

The whole-building approach is the most cost effective solution to meet the needs of tenants, landlords and management. The bundling of services has the greatest impact. The study also identified that due to the complexity in financing, incentives and tax treatment, there is a need for skilled caseworkers to manage these projects.

#### Building Code Training

Five sessions were completed with local building inspectors this fall. ISE has now completed workshops with 130 of the 178 state building officials in 2 years. The new state director for training from the Department of Safety was our presenter last year. It is possible that Energy Code Training may be added to the mandatory inspector training schedule in the future.

#### High School Energy Education

We have held 7 teacher workshops this fall and have 4 on the schedule already scheduled for spring 2007. Our web statistics are showing that we have more than 200 teachers per month looking at materials. In conversation with CEEF on our focus for 2007, we had originally discussed moving into the middle school sector with lessons. With input from UI, we have refocused our efforts to addressing the needs of students at the Connecticut Regional Technical Vocational Schools and technical programs in the community colleges.

#### 2007 ISE Workplan with CEEF

Our focus for 2007 with CEEF is a “work in progress” Among the highlights of changes:

Education: Expansion of the education committee of CEEF. Duties include assessing ISE and educational initiatives to promote CEEF programs. More members are now involved. UI is revamping their eeSmarts program after the 2006 evaluations. The initial proposal by ISE was to assess the needs of K-8 and provide similar programming to CT Energy Education with a web based delivery were not received well by UI. UI has hired new contractors for rewriting lessons and revise curriculum delivery in the state.

ISE’s educational outreach will include seminars with CBIA, MAC, and the New Haven Alliance to improve energy understanding and the availability of programs. ISE is working with CL&P to improve their educational seminar power point presentation.

Green Campus: ISE’s outreach efforts will include all Connecticut Colleges and University, Region Vocational Tech high schools.

Multifamily: Efforts will include training Utility program administrators to transition them into active caseworkers on multifamily build and complex projects.

Code Training: One more set of sessions is planned. The Department of Safety has requested a workshop to train their staff and inspectors in the ResCheck and ComCheck software that is used to assess building efficiency and compliance to IECC standards. There will be piloted in the spring taught in a CSU location in a campus computer labs.

State Buildings: A law was passed last spring to have all state buildings projects (\$5 million + construction and \$2 million + renovation) built to standards equivalent to LEED Silver energy efficiency. A task force of OPM, DEP, DOS, DPW and ISE has just completed the Draft regulations and they are in review with the AG's office. The next step is legislative review. The regulations were written with the thought in mind that the state will pass Green Schools legislation in the spring session. The regulations were written to include the requirements for municipal buildings and schools, as well as the currently applicable state owned buildings.

A proposal is before CEEF for our requested budget of \$615,000. With 2006 budget carryover, the total budget requested is \$634,000. There is a placeholder in the CEEF budget for \$296,000. They have said that additional funding beyond that level will be based on restoring the fund and accessing AEI funds, and the budget may increase to \$500,000. Input from Shirley Bergert was that with possible expanded funding and recouping previously taken funds may increase disbursements.

Arthur Diedrick asked if CHFA had paid for any ISE work. He suggested that CHFA be approached asking for matching funds on our work to improve their energy efficiency standards.

It was put forth that ECMB continues to view ISE as a contractors with deliverables. This is especially the view from the Utilities and Environment Northeast. ISE strength would be to have a position of consultant and support program development for CEEF.

The need to have continuing stable funding for ISE was brought forth. Shirley Bergert feels that CEEF needs to contribute to ISE funding support. She also stated the need for more holistic conservation programs for residents with a whole building emphasis that addresses more than just lighting and a case management approach for customers. This would make programs more accessible, and more opportunities for joint CEEF and CCEF programs and financing.

The status of the CEEF funding was discussed with a focus on how decreased funding would affect ISE's staffing levels and goals. It was confirmed by Bill Leahy that if ISE funding remained at the \$296,000 level without additional CEEF funds the organization would need to find outside funding or reduce staffing. A discussion of ISE's rent and university overhead took place. ISE currently incurs \$70,000 year in rent for ECSU Foundation owned office, and have a 20% overhead, which is low by university standard. If we were to move to campus space, we would no longer have rent, but the university might need to increase the overhead rate. ECMB budget will be finalized in February and additional funds to CEEF would not be expected until June. ECMB is asking all programs to set up contingency budgets for either outcomes.

### 2007 Connecticut Energy Plan

The 2007 Connecticut Energy Plan is out for public review. January public hearings are expected the week of January 9th in Norwalk, 10th in Hartford at the LOB and 11th at Three Rivers Community college in Norwich. A new format was adopted this year which includes a focus on fuels, supply and demand, and recommendations. It also includes impact on low income populations and sustainable development. The plan was the work of a workgroup comprised of

representatives of the CEAB member organizations. The completed plan will be due to the legislature in mid-February.

Task Force Work

ISE has been active on two state legislative taskforces.

Leahy co-chairs a Fuel Diversity taskforce exploring alternative fuels, especially biofuel. It is examining the roles of grower incentive, production incentives to rework recycled oils and recommendations for incentives, tax relief and other credits for biofuel users.

The second taskforce is on Renewable Energy and is headed by Jessie Stratton and Joel Gordes.

Calendar for the 2007 ISE Board meetings was discussed. Meetings will remain at the first Monday of every other month:

February 5, 2007

April 2, 2007

June 4, 2007

August 6, 2007

October 1, 2007

December 3, 2007

The next meeting of the ISE Board will be on Monday, February 5 at 10 AM.

A motion was made by Bryan Garcia, seconded by Shirley Bergert to adjourn at 11:50 am.

Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Laurel Kohl

Acting Secretary