

Institute for Sustainable Energy

Board of Advisors

Draft

Advisory Board Meeting: October 4, 2010

Members present:

Arthur Diedrick, Chair

Sean West, EH&S Project Manager, United Technologies

Bob Wall, Director, Energy Market Initiatives, Connecticut Clean Energy Fund

Dana Kubachka, Dept. Public Utility Control

Michael Pernal, Exec. VP – ECSU

Staff: William Leahy, Director, ISE

Laurel Kohl, ISE

The meeting was called to order by Arthur Diedrick at 10:05 am. A motion was made to accept the minutes of the June 7, 2010 meeting by Sean West. Motion seconded by Dana Kubachka. The minutes were accepted with one abstention.

New Business

Second Quarter Progress

A report was submitted to ECMB on July 10, 2010. Highlights of the report included:

- Code Compliance—ISE is administering a survey to local building code officials on behalf of the Department of Public Safety concerning compliance with the existing energy code across the state. Code officials are being polled on their concerns and training needs.
- Green Jobs Taskforce—Bill gave updates on the two statewide task forces concerning the state's initiatives to train the energy sector workforce.
- PA 10-156—This bill includes the alignment of training programs in state's higher education systems that are teaching in areas of green jobs. The Ct Technical High School System, CT state universities and community colleges must have common naming and focus of courses with an agreed upon articulation between programs. This is required to start on October 1, 2010.
- Electric Vehicle Infrastructure—The Governor's taskforce for EV Infrastructure submitted its report to the Governor on September 1, 2010. Bill reviewed the highlights. Auto makers will only be selling the vehicles in select markets. Connecticut is in the second stage and is seen as a bridge between the NYC and Boston markets.
- K12 School Energy Management Course Review—ISE has completed a cost benefit assessment of this training pilot including a review of energy savings results from the 8 districts who participated in the pilot. Findings from Benchmarking comparisons pre-program and post-program are indicating that the 8 districts realized over \$2 million in energy cost savings.

ISE Funding

ISE is in the third year of a 5 year commitment with the ECMB which funds ISE programs at \$500,000 per year. ISE efforts have been well received by ECMB and DPUC with no significant open issues. A review of the 2011 C&LM plan is about to begin.

Budget

ISE's 2011 budget was presented to the board. There are small changes from last year. The board questioned the decrease in funding of the Green Campus initiatives. It was noted that ISE is now focusing on the state Community Colleges as the Universities have all signed on to the President's Climate Challenge and are working on formulating their carbon reduction action plans. It was also noted that the K12 School Energy Management course is funded at \$80,000 with 4 more sections to be started in 2011.

Grants

ISE continues to act as the Connecticut High Performance School "Circuit Rider" for the CCEF. The economy has slowed many building projects in cities and towns. ISE recently surveyed school districts. There are 30 K12 and 32 university schools projects in Connecticut that have registered under LEED with USGBC. There are 82 building projects still on the drawing boards with communities hoping to build some new school, but many renovation and additions over the next 5 years. Of these 23 projects have been funded by the General assembly, there are 5 new schools and 18 additions or major renovations. Bill will be attending the USGBC Green Schools Advocates meeting in Washington DC. There is expected to be a major push toward greening existing schools as they make up far more of the market than new building projects. USGBC is creating bundles of resources for schools through their newly formed Center for Green Schools.

ISE has received a training grant to instruct code officials in energy efficiency, green building standards and renewable energy technologies. This work will include regional workshops that includes how solar PV, solar thermal, wind and geothermal technologies work. The series will begin in late fall 2010 with hands-on training session starting in late spring 2011.

ISE has received a contract from CMEEC to support their electric providers with programs ISE does for CEEF participant's communities. These include offering benchmarking of municipal and school buildings, CT Energy Education and Keep Connecticut Cool programs, code training for participating towns, and a K12 Building Operators Course targeting CMEEC communities. This contract is \$30,000 for 2010-11.

ISE continues to work on the Green-Up Bridgeport project. This green jobs training is a 2 year contract at \$100,000 per year to develop training programs in green construction, building operations, transportation and sustainable landscaping. The second class graduated from the exploratory program this week. There were 120 in the first cohort and 100 in the second. Next steps include matching participants to commercial and community college courses and other training programs, including OSHA 10 & 30, HazWopper, building technologies, and brownfield/lead/asbestos remediation training.

Upcoming Events

Laurel Kohl is working with the National Science Teachers Association Conference that will be held in Hartford in October 2011. She is leading the Sustainability Education strand.

AASHE, Bill Leahy is presenting a session on financing renewable energy projects at universities and colleges at the Denver Colorado meeting.

Next Meeting

Planned for December 6, 2010.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:27 am by acclamation.

Respectfully submitted,
Laurel Kohl
Acting Secretary