

Institute for Sustainable Energy  
Board of Advisors  
**Draft**

Advisory Board Meeting: May 2, 2011

Members Present:

Arthur Diedrick, Chair  
Shirley Bergert, Public Benefits Taskforce Director, CT Legal Services  
Dana Kubachka, Dept. of Public Utility Control  
Rich Steeves, Office of Consumer Council and Chair, ECMB  
Bob Wall, Director, Energy Market Initiatives, Connecticut Clean Energy Fund  
Sean West, EH&S Project Manager, United Technologies

Staff: William Leahy, Director, ISE  
Laurel Kohl, ISE

The meeting was called to order by Arthur Diedrick at 10.01 am. A motion was made to accept the minutes of March 7, 2011 meeting by Rich Steeves. Motion seconded by Sean West. Accepted.

**New Business**

- a. **2011 Revised Work Plan** – The revised plan has been filed with the DPUC. The budget has been increased by \$60,000 and reflects several adjustments. The work with the CT Technical High Schools is on hold presently as their system is being restructured by the State. Trades curriculum committees have not met. \$40,000 was moved out of the Tech School project line and move toward the K-12 Facilities BOC Course. The ECMB would like to double the BOC attendance this year. This will be met by having both more courses and more students in each class section. The 6 day course is held on either one day a month or 2 days a month. Sessions this year will be held in Norwich/Groton; Wallingford; CREC/Hartford; Naugatuck Valley area; Southwest CT area. ISE is in the process of hiring 2 instructors to teach sections. Each instructor will hold CEM certification and have energy auditing skills.
- b. **2011 Revised Budget** – A question arose about the ISE university indirect cost. Bill Leahy explained that in the case of the ECMB budget, ISE applies 20% to the hired personnel line. This loader is based solely on ISE personnel costs. ISE is not charged rent or other overhead to the University, but does receive many services. Bill also explained that the overhead charged to other grants varies, from 25% to CCEF, to 45% for other grants, up to 69% for federal grants. The difference in cost is related to the variation in reporting required by each grantor.
- c. **K12 School Energy Management Course** – The data is back from the BOC study which shows that the attendees to the previous sessions show a significant energy savings after attending. The next sessions of the course will poll for planned actions and will measure what energy savings actions districts undertake as a result of the BOC course. The past

sessions did not conduct this poll and it is difficult to sort out what was planned, and what resulted from attendance. The next sessions will build on the BOC as an energy efficiency program, rather than just an education measure. It will also engage students, faculty and facilities in the energy savings measures.

The course has been rewritten to be a 5 day classroom sessions and one full day energy audit field practicum. The community colleges have expressed interest in the course to provide a certification. USGBC would also like to offer it as one of the 200-level LEED EB prep courses.

DPUC has a provision to have the course rewritten to apply to municipal staff. A concern has been brought up about who that personnel is---schools are more complex and generally have more skilled staff. Municipalities often have very few building staff and they are often more janitorial than systems-related. DPUC has also requested that the course be explored for healthcare facilities. This would apply not so much to the 23 critical care hospitals, as the many life care, clinic, skilled nursing facilities, and group homes. It is also possible the some hospital general staff would be served. ISE is currently researching the Healthcare BOC course.

The board members suggested discussing the course with Joel Gordes who has previously stated that the Insurance industry might be very interested in the course as a potential reducer of insurance costs.

**LEED for Existing Buildings**— ISE has been funded to work with 6 schools to place an energy dash board in the school. This will be linked to curriculum and programming that will help the building residents interact with the energy information.

ISE will also be working with the 6 Energy Dash Board schools to get them certified for LEED EB. This certification has an O & M focus (cleaning, grounds, pesticides, etc. ) Curriculum will also be added to the BOC course that address this certification. Bill is working to identify the 6 schools that will take part in this program. It is expected to take about a year to get the certification. USGBC has waived the processing fee for the 6 schools if they are in Title I areas (urban districts).

- d. **Building Code Survey and Training** – ISE has completed the first part of the contract to do the survey. The second part will be done in 2013 after the spring 2012 roll out of the new code requirements. The goal of the survey is to learn what parts of the energy code cause the most problems with compliance and to modify the code training classes to meet the inspectors' needs in this area. ISE is also working with the Safety office to create training for builders in applying the new energy code. Bill is working with Fred Wajcs and Roy Haller from the utilities, and the state builders association. It is expected that an intro to the course will be done at one of their monthly meeting, with follow training afterward. It is suggested to highlight case studies and green building practitioners

ISE is doing summer training in 2011 with 5 regional sections on each technology teaching code officials about how geothermal, solar pv and solar thermal work.

e. **CT Energy Education/ Keep CT Cool!** – It has been a challenging year for the contest this year with the snow days in January. About 15 teams are expected for the finals. Judging on two levels will occur on June 4 at Eastern Connecticut State University. Focus for judging is on what teams have done this year. Board members are invited to judge.

f. **Green Jobs Activities** – Work with Green Up Bridgeport continues. 330 students have completed the exploratory phase and are going on for further training and credentials. Many are also taking courses through the SOAR programs with the community colleges. All are taking the OSHA30 and HazWoper courses as these are required in the field. GE is doing a big construction project in Bridgeport and is requiring that all general contractors who work on the build go through Workplace for workers. This will give many of the trainees work experience.

ISE will be working on a report about the replicability of the program. Findings so far include that participants need to be screened well, and that attrition is high due to many reasons.

g. **Other** –Earth week was just completed, with ISE staff doing many talks and workshops. Bill did two sessions of LEED Green Associate intro for UI/CL&P staff with 40-50 at each session.

ISE will be working this summer on a video of Connecticut Green Schools. There are about 20 in the state with many new projects in bonding. 7 new buildings and 20 rebuild as new projects are coming in the near future.

Discovery School was just opened. This K-8 environmental magnet in Bridgeport has incredibly low projected energy costs—at 37000 BTU/Sq ft.

The board questioned what ISE’s leadership will be after Bill retires. Bill states that with state hiring procedures, there is no “heir apparent”.

h. **Next Meeting and meeting schedule**—The board made a motion by Rich Steeves, and seconded by Shirley Bergert to move the schedule to the alternate dates for the remainder of the year. The next meeting will be held on July 11. Other dates are September 12, and November 7.

Motion was made by Shirley Bergert to adjourn. Motion seconded by Dana Kubachka. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 11.22 am.

Respectfully submitted,  
Laurel Kohl  
Acting Secretary