

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

Advisory Board Meeting: September 12, 2011

Members Present:

Shirley Bergert, Public Benefits Taskforce Director, CT Legal Services  
Dana Kubachka, Dept. of Public Utility Control  
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 Shirley Bergert at 10.00 am. A motion was made to accept the minutes of May 5, 2011 meeting by Bob Wall. Motion seconded by Sean West. Minutes were accepted.

**2011 Year to Date Report**

Bill Leahy shared the Year-to-Date report that will be submitted at the October Energy Efficiency Board meeting in New Haven. The following areas were discussed:

**Energy Policy**

**Code** - ISE has been doing work with the CT Energy Code, including a plan that will determine if CT Building Officials are in compliance with the code up to 90% by 2017 as required by law. The board questioned how that will be measured. ISE is working with the Department of Public Safety and the State Building Official on a strategy and plan. There will be audits done of 44 commercial structures, 44 residential structures built to the new code to assess compliance. The new code, IECC 2009 was adopted by CT and went into effect October 7, 2011.

**Green Jobs** The board discussed if real jobs have been created with the stimulus and other funding that has been spent on Green Jobs training and initiative. Bill related ISE's experience with the Green-up Bridgeport DOL pilot program. 500 individuals have been trained using the ISE-developed curriculum. About 175 people are in full time placements so far.

**CT Tech High Schools and SOAR** Bill Leahy has been acting as an advisory to both the CT Tech High School System and the Connecticut Community College's SOAR programs. The tech HS System are still in restructuring with the state budgetary issues and are not focused on curriculum enhancements at this time. The SOAR program has had many challenges with enrolment and working on having funding continued after the program ends on April 1, 2012.

**Connecticut School Construction Grant** funding is now available for heating system and building control system upgrades. This will assist many districts in improving energy efficiency.

**Energy Education**

**CT Energy Education and Keep Connecticut Cool** programs are continuing. CT Energy Education has shown good reach into schools. This year's KCC program was challenged for participation with the high number of weather cancellation days in January preventing team's from committing time outside of schools.

**NSTA** - Laurel Kohl is leading a Sustainability Strand at the upcoming national conference to be held in Hartford in October 2011. CT Energy Education will be represented in 5 workshops by Laurel and Laura Worthington.

**K12 School Energy Management** - Two sessions are now in process. There will be 4 other sessions started once these two are completed, including the Fairfield county, Wallingford, and Eastern Connecticut areas.

**Energy Certifications** - Bill Leahy is working with the Connecticut chapter of Association of Energy Engineers to provide both Certified Energy Manager test prep and a Certified Energy Auditor test prep program through their regular monthly meetings. Both certifications are in high demand in the state.

## **Energy Solutions**

**High Performance Schools** - School construction in the state has really taken-off lately. There are about 100 projects in various stages of development in the state that ISE is tracking.

**Green Campus**- More work is also going on in this area. DEEP is looking at funding energy efficiency projects in state buildings. Some of these could include projects at the state universities and community colleges. The program will be funded with a combination of bond money and Energy Efficiency Fund monies. The intent is to assist the Governor reach his 10% energy cost reduction goal mandated in PA 11-80.

## **Energy Information**

Bill Leahy provided the list of ISE speaking engagements, which includes about 76 in the year to date. The ISE websites have expanded to include the newly launched [www.CTGreenSchools.org](http://www.CTGreenSchools.org)

The board questioned how ISE demonstrates the value of its websites. CT Energy Info received 15,000 to 20,000 users each month. CT Energy Education is surveying its teachers about their use of the lessons provided by the site.

**Benchmarking** - ISE is currently producing a 5-year update of the "Energy Efficiency of Connecticut's Schools" report. This report will use Benchmarking from a sample of over 350 schools to determine school efficiency on a statewide basis.

**Workforce Development** - ISE completed a set of 5 training sessions for code officials on Geothermal Heating and Cooling with session held at five locations around the state. Upcoming code training sessions will include five workshops on Solar PV and Solar Thermal.

**Budget Information** - DPUC added 2 items to the budget list for the year. These include LEED for Existing Buildings (EB) training for six sites that will be chosen by ISE. In addition, ISE will be identifying six schools who will install energy dashboard that display energy information and

focus on personal choices that shape energy use in an effort to determine the potential for energy reductions from behavior modification.

### **ISE Board Composition**

The board members discussed how ISE could get the best representation from filling the vacant seats on the ISE board. With the combination of OPM and DPUC into DEEP, it was suggested that the seats be realigned. Dana Kubachka is leaving DPUC at the end of the month, and John Mengacci's seat for OPM had not been filled since he left OPM. How agencies are currently aligned was discussed. A representative from workforce was also suggested in light of ISE involvement in Green Jobs training. Ultimately Dr. Nunez's suggestion to the CSU Board of Regents is final authority.

The board also discussed a need for energy resource training for employees of state agencies. ISE has participated with staff training for state legislator in the past.

The next meeting will be held on November 7, 2011.

The meeting was adjourned by acclamation at 12:05 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Laurel Kohl  
Acting Secretary