

Institute for Sustainable Energy  
Board of Advisors

Board Meeting: August 1, 2005

Members present:

John Mengacci, Undersecretary, Policy Development & Planning Division, OPM  
Shirley Bergert, Public Benefits Taskforce Director, CT Legal Services  
Dana Kubachka, Dept. of Public Utility Control (representing Donald Downes)  
Emily C. Smith, Managing Director, Government and Corporate Relations, CT  
Innovations

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

Guests: David Carter, President, Eastern Connecticut State University

The meeting was called to order by Shirley Bergert at 10:18 a.m.

Shirley Bergert requested that Advisory Board members consider the meeting minutes of June 6, 2005. Correction was made updating the position title for John Mengacci. A motion was made by John Mengacci to accept the minutes as corrected. The motion was seconded by Shirley Bergert. The motion carried.

2005 ECMB Goals Progress

High School Energy Efficiency Curriculum: Laurel Kohl presented a handout of the structure of the program and a demonstration of the Sim City module. Sim City, is an interactive game software that will be used to model civic and energy planning strategies where students can address the many public policy issues, including; budgetary and environmental concerns of energy supply and cost and population growth. The second stakeholder meeting is planned for this week. ISE is planning to hold a focus group exercise with teachers attending the National Science Teachers Association in Hartford conference in October.

Green Campus: Three CSU Universities are in the process of surveys. ECSU and SCSU are about ½ done. WCSU's administration has just agreed to participate and there are plans to train a team of Western Roots and Shoots students to do walkthrough surveys this fall and winter.

Multifamily Program: Mike Schoeplein has been hired as Technical Coordinator for the Institute this past June to lead this program. He is planning two workshops in October to be held in the Hartford and Fairfield regions. HUD and CHFA have agreed to partner and participate in the program.

Building Code Training: The springtime series of conferences is complete. This fall we will prepare a video presentation and speak at the fall building inspector's statewide conference. It has been suggested that we might be able to reach more local building officials if we concentrate

next on residential regulations rather than commercial regulations as most local building officials in the state focus on residential. Among other suggestions that have been made by inspectors is that to achieve energy code compliance, the state should move to having Engineering sign off on energy code compliance on blueprints as part of the design process.

Connecticut Energy Efficiency Fund (CEEF): ECMB is promoting the name change from C&LM to CEEF and the new website [www.ctsavesenergy.com](http://www.ctsavesenergy.com) for public outreach on the efficiency and conservation programs. There will be a public presentation of this at the LOB on August 9.

#### High Performance Schools

This stakeholder project to develop state high performance (HP) building standards with CT Green Building Council and CT Clean Energy Fund is near completion. The draft report from the HP Schools stakeholders group will be circulated to the stakeholder group this fall. Legislation supporting High Performance Schools did not make it through the House of Representatives by end of session, although it had passed in Senate.

In addition, an inventory survey of energy use at existing schools is being sent out by ISE. There are 1026 public schools in the state. About 1/3 have returned survey information. ISE has also benchmarked 122 state schools using EPA Portfolio Manager. The survey data will be compared to the benchmark data for this study. Preliminary analysis shows that CT schools are considerably less efficient than national average.

#### CEAB and 2006 CT Energy Plan

ISE is developing the draft 2006 State Energy Plan for the CEAB. The exercise includes reviewing the goals and achievements of the past plans. The agreement with CEAB includes developing an interactive website and setting up workshops on refining plan initiatives and goals. The first workshop will be August 11 addressing clean energy. The first draft of the report is due to CEAB early October 2005 with public hearings in November. CEAB will complete the final plan for January 2006.

#### Regional CHP Initiative

ISE is working with the DPUC and Pace University Law School, UMASS Engineering School and DOE on Distributed Generation initiative relative to the CT Energy Plan and PA 05 1.

#### Biodiesel Pilot Project

ISE is setting up stack testing, cleaning the fuel tanks and other preparations in the start of this first large scale pilot of using biofuel in a stationary boiler in Connecticut. The project is funded by a SEP grant through the CT DEP.

#### OPM Benchmark Report

A report was completed for the state OPM benchmarking the State Vocational Technical Schools, the Courthouses and selected University residence halls. For the schools, benchmarking was used as a management tool as those schools do not fit the normal school energy use profile. Courthouse study shows that 11 courthouses out of 27 CT courthouses qualify for Energy Star award recognition. University residence hall study of sub-metered dorms at SCSC and ECSU

show 2 ECSU dorms eligible for national awards. The report will be shared with OPM and with the 3 involved state agencies.

#### Future Funding

Shirley Bergert stated that ECMB expects that funding from CEEF will be squeezed, with future projects needing to meet kWh cost/benefit tests. ECMB continues to treat ISE as a contractor, although with ISE's developing liaison with CEAB that view is in transition. Shirley has asked the ECMB board to consider having Bill Leahy sit at the ECMB table as a supporting consultant.

John Mengacci is working to have CEAB commit to a multi-year contract with the Institute for the development of the annual CT Energy Plan..

OPM intends to continue providing benchmarking grants called for in the CT Climate Change Action Plan.

The next ISE Board of Advisors meeting is scheduled for October 3, 2005 at 10 am.  
The meeting was adjourned at 11:56 am.

Respectfully submitted,  
Laurel Kohl  
Acting Secretary