

State Energy Advisory Board
Teleconference Minutes
August 26, 2009, 2:00 p.m. - 2:22 p.m.

MEETING ATTENDEES

Designated Federal Officer (DFO):

- Gary Burch, STEAB DFO, Director of EE Projects Division, Golden Field Office, Denver, Colorado

STEAB ATTENDANCE		
BOARD MEMBERS	Present	Absent
Chris Benson , (<i>Board Chair</i>) Director, Arkansas Energy Office, Department of Economic Development		✓
Jim Arwood , Director, State Energy Office, State of Arizona	✓	
Henry ‘Ted’ Berglund , CEO and President, Dyplast Products (FL)		✓
Susan S. Brown , Deputy Administrator, Wisconsin Division of Energy	✓	
John H. Davies , Director, Division of Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency, Kentucky Office of Energy Policy	✓	
Roger Duncan , General Manager, Austin Energy – City of Austin (TX)		✓
Ryan Gooch , Energy Policy Director, Tennessee Economic and Community Development		✓
Paul Gutierrez , Vice Provost for Outreach Services, Associate Dean and Director, Cooperative Extension Service, College of Agriculture and Home Economics, New Mexico State University	✓	
Duane Hauck , Director, Extension Services, North Dakota State University	✓	
Elliott Jacobson , (<i>Board Secretary</i>) Director, Action Energy, Inc. (MA)		✓
Cecelia Johnson-Powell , Community Development Manager, Indiana Housing and Community Development Authority		✓
Peter Johnston , Project Manager, Clean Energy Technologies, Burns & McDonnell (AZ)		✓
Jim Nolan , Weatherization Director, Department of Public, Health and Human Services (MT)	✓	
Larry Shirley , State Energy Office Director, North Carolina Department of Administration		✓
Janet Streff , Manager, State Energy Office, Minnesota Department of Commerce		✓
Patricia Sobrero , (<i>Vice Chair</i>) Associate Vice Chancellor, Extension, Engagement, and Economic Development, North Carolina State University	✓	
David Terry , Executive Director, ASERTTI (VA)		✓
Steve Vincent , Regional Business Manager, Avista Utilities (OR)	✓	
Daniel Zaweski , Director, Energy Efficiency & Distributed Generation, Long Island Power Authority (NY)		✓

Contractor Support:

- Emily Lindenberg, SENTECH, Inc.

Public:

- No public representatives participated in this meeting.

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Call Agenda:

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|-----------------------------------|-----------------|
| 1. August Meeting with EE-1 | Gary Burch (GB) |
| 2. Update on Recovery Act Issues: | Gary Burch (GB) |
| A. SEP, WAP, Block Grants | |
| B. Davis-Bacon | |
| 3. Public Comments | Gary Burch (GB) |
| 4. Other Issues | Gary Burch (GB) |

Minutes:

1. August Meeting with Assistant Secretary Zoi:

- GB stated that four members of the Board met with Assistant Secretary Cathy Zoi and one of her assistants this morning, August 26, 2009, at 11:00 am, in her office at the Department of Energy (DOE); and the meeting lasted for 40 minutes. GB felt that overall the meeting went very well. He summarized that the intent of the meeting was to give the Assistant Secretary an overview of what STEAB is, and how it functions as a Federal Advisory Committee reporting directly to her office. It was emphasized that the Board is not program specific, as are the other advisory committees in EERE. Additionally, the Board discussed ways to enhance communications between STEAB and the Assistant Secretary's office, in an effort to keep the lines of communications open and maintain an ongoing dialogue.
- GB mentioned the Board asked the Assistant Secretary about her main focus areas for EERE. The four areas are:
 - i) Speed and scale,
 - ii) High impact innovation,
 - iii) Talent (with regard to personnel), and
 - iv) Capturing hearts and minds (this is an area where STEAB can readily assist her with capturing success stories and humanizing what the Board is all about with regards to transfers of technology).
- GB noted that the Assistant Secretary also made a point to speak about the "Funding Filters" she considers before signing off on major funding. There are three areas she uses as filters, and they are:
 - i) Leverage (the more leverage the better),
 - ii) Market Transformation (understanding an exit strategy for the DOE before attempting to launch a new program), and
 - iii) Leadership (doing something new).
- GB stated PS had invited the Assistant Secretary to the November meeting.
- PS contributed by saying how positive she felt the meeting was and how she agreed with GB on his assessment of the conversation. She feels the Assistant Secretary is very open to the Board and has a desire to create a more positive relationship and feels there will indeed be follow-up from Zoi's office with regard to the Board.
- JN posed a question regarding the Assistant Secretary's reaction to the meeting.

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- In response to this question, GB commented that the dialogue was very different than any they have had in the past. He made a point to note that Assistant Secretary Zoi apologized for her predecessor's lack of communication and promised to try her best to provide feedback and responses to the Board. She did mention, however, that where she continues to struggle, is with the reporting of success stories and humanizing these stories. GB emphasized that in order to assist her in this struggle, the Board and other entities like NASEO can help by creating PR which allows for the humanizing of successes stories to make the public become more aware it's not just "lab magic" or R&D, but put a "human face" on the successes. GB noted the key was to try to pull general interest into the conversation, rather than have the DOE push information onto consumers.
- JD posed the question about whether the Assistant Secretary or members of the Board had any concerns that came up during the dialogue.
- GB responded saying that the Assistant Secretary did not voice any concerns regarding the Board or its functions and mentioned that no one else expressed any concern or question after the conversation was over.
- PS agreed and expanded by saying the only question regarding the Board was to inquire if Board members actually attended the meetings and took their role seriously. PS responded to the question in the affirmative and highlighted the fact that all Board meetings are very well attended by the Board. PS made a point to mention the Assistant Secretary seemed pleased to hear STEAB was active and working together.
- GB expanded on the comment by saying the Assistant Secretary was pleased because she had seen other committees that are waiting around waiting to collect a stipend. He stated the meeting was a great way to show STEAB is active because the Executive Board was in her office essentially saying "how can we do more". GB concluded by saying the Board is off to a great start with the Assistant Secretary and her office.

2. Update on Recovery Act Issues:

A. SEP, WAP, Block Grants

- GB began the discussion talking about how the staff at the Golden Field Office (GFO) is moving as fast as they can with the resources they have at their disposal. He reiterated that staffing remains an issue of concern; the office does not have as many hands as they would like in order to facilitate the movement of the money. GB commented that he and his staff are working intensely at the GFO to get new staff in, find a place for them at the office, and provide training. He concluded by saying that though they are moving quickly, they can only move as fast the process allows them to move.

B. Davis- Bacon

- GB had no updates on the Davis-Bacon Act but pointed out that if EJ had not been traveling and was able to be on the call, EJ would have had an update to share with the Board. GB did mention progress is being made in Massachusetts because just within the last week, EJ was able to facilitate a Davis-Bacon resolution. In MA, the hourly wage bracket being focused on encompasses current workers that are already doing weatherization work. GB noted it was an improvement from a month ago.
- Jim Nolan (JM) commented he believes the logjam has been broken with Davis-Bacon. Every day he sees more and more wage surveys that are approved by the Department of Labor (DOL). Even though his home State of Montana hasn't seen improvements, his State has all the information they need to proceed, and his State is proceeding. He ended his comment by giving kudos to the DOE and others for keeping this moving.

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- GB asked if there were additional questions on this topic. There were none, so the meeting moved to the next agenda topic.

3. Public Comments

- GB inquired if there was any member of the public on the call who would like to make comments. GB also stated that no requests for public comment were received for this teleconference. GB concluded this part of the meeting and closed it for public comment.

4. Other Issues

- GB turned the floor over to PS to discuss details of the November meeting.
- PS told the Board that the November meeting will be held at the State Club which also functions as the North Carolina State University Alumni Center. She reiterated that if Assistant Secretary Zoi can attend, she proposes the Board arrive at 4:30 pm on Monday the 8th in order to be present for a tour of the Solar Center Program. PS proposed the Assistant Secretary give a speech with a reception to follow at 6:00pm that evening, and hopes to invite 200 people. This, she noted, all depends on whether the Assistant Secretary comes and if the University and other public and private partners can raise the funding for the reception. PS went on to say there are many other activities planned such as exhibits showcasing what is happening at the University and with their partners, hosting tours, and visiting the SAS Campus where there is a large Solar System where another Board member, Larry Shirley, works. Those activities would take place on Tuesday. PS concluded by saying the rest of the time at the University will be the Board Meeting and that she hopes to discuss the work and successes of private and public partnerships, and she hopes many of their partners can attend the meeting.
- GB thanked PS and wanted to note that the Board may want to arrive on Monday, November 8, 2009, early enough should Assistant Secretary Zoi attend. If she does attend, her scheduled activities might begin as early as 4:00 pm on Monday.
- A question was asked regarding the booking of travel arrangements. Sentech answered by telling the Board an email would go out within the next two weeks covering all the details about room booking and flight arrangements.
- GB ended the conversation about the meeting by concluding the Board may not have an idea about Assistant Secretary Zoi's attendance at the November meeting until very shortly before, which could lead to some logistics questions. It may just be best for the Board to shoot for arriving on Monday afternoon in case she does attend.
- Also mentioned by GB was news of the annual STEAB Nomination Package submitted early in August. According to GB, the package is making its way through the concurrence chain and was just signed by Assistant Secretary Zoi and is on its way to the Secretary of Energy for approval. For the edification of the Board, he did note that per new standards, this is a composite package containing information about the entire Board, even though only some of the Board is being nominated. He feels that because the package has already moved its way out of Zoi's office, it shows there are positive feelings regarding STEAB.
- GB asked if there were any additional general questions or comments.
- JD spoke up to enlighten the Board about a National Clean Energy Summit. It was the second of such meetings and the focus dealt with creating good jobs in the new economy by accelerating the deployment of clean energy and energy

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efficiency, advancing energy independence, and ensuring long-term prosperity. For more information, there is a website at www.cleanenergysummit.org, on which is captured the dialogue of attendees such as Assistant Secretary Zoi, former Vice President Al Gore, T. Boone Pickens and Secretary Chu.

- JN commented on an e-mail he received from a lobbyist in response to the State Conference Committee's appropriations, in which language was drafted to propose marking up \$35 million to be carved out of the \$220 million for Weatherization Assistance Programs. The \$35 million would go to pilot programs he feels would be of questionable value, at first glance. JN asked about what the politics of this decision was. GB responded that he had not heard of this e-mail, but to send to Sentech so the e-mail could be passed around to the Board.
- SB confirmed what JN stated by noting she too had received e-mails about this. Her e-mail was from NASCAP.
- PG gave an FYI that a new Congressman Harry Teague from New Mexico is co-hosting, with the State, an Energy Conference Summit; and they were able to get Secretary Chu to attend and felt that this could be a very interesting summit and wanted the Board to be aware.
- GB closed discussion and ended the Teleconference and thanked everyone for their attendance.
- The next teleconference call will be at the same time (2:00 p.m. EST) on September 23, 2009.

The State Energy Advisory Board June teleconference call was concluded at 2:22 p.m. EST. Minutes were scribed by Emily Lindenberg (SENTECH, Inc.).