



Draft MINUTES

Joint Committee of the CT Energy Efficiency Board and the Connecticut Green Bank Board of Directors

Wednesday, June 18, 2025
1:30 – 3:30 pm

In Attendance

Voting Members: Kathy Fay, John Harrity, Melissa Kops, Lonnie Reed, Becca Trietch

Non-Voting Members: Stephen Bruno, Bryan Garcia, Amy Mclean Salls

Members Absent: John Viglione, Brenda Watson,

Others: Joseph DeNicola, James Desantos, Richard Del Soldato, Mackey Dykes, Richard Faesy, Brian Farnen, John Figlewski, George Lawrence, Elizabeth Lodge, Cheryl Lumpkin, Benjamin McMillan, Nicole Palermo, Bernard Pelletier, Madeline Priest, Ariel Schneider, Stacy Sherwood, Eric Shrago, James Williamson

Unnamed Callers:

1. Call to Order
 - Bryan Garcia called the meeting to order at 1:32 pm.
2. Public Comments
 - None.
3. Review and approval of Meeting Minutes from the March 19, 2025 meeting.

Resolution #1

Motion to approve the meeting minutes of the Joint Committee for March 19, 2025.

Upon a motion made by John Harrity and seconded by Lonnie Reed, the Joint Committee voted to approve Resolution 1 as Amended. None opposed and Kathy Fay abstained. Motion approved unanimously.

4. Review of the 2025 Legislative Session
 - James Desantos summarized the most recent Legislative Session as relevant to energy policies and specifically the Public Benefits charge which ended as SB 4. Bryan Garcia added that Section 6 of SB 4, about the Renewable Tariffs, refers to Residential Renewable Energy

Solutions, the Non-Residential Renewable Energy Solutions, and the Shared Clear Energy Facilities tariffs.

- John Harry asked if the part of John Fonfara's bill that creates a waiver for him to become part of PURA was passed or not. James Desantos responded that he isn't sure at the moment but would look into it further and get back to him.
- Bernard Pelletier added that some of the Public Benefits Charge is going to be funded, that the Energy Efficiency Board charge was proposed to be bonded but that proposal was defeated, but other aspects of the Public Benefits Charge are being bonded. He then asked in regard to a provision for a federal non-bypassable congestion charge to come out of net metering was included in SB 4, if that is something that was recognized. James Desantos responded that yes but wasn't sure of the exact details and would look into that further and get back to him.
- John Harry praised James Desantos for his work and success in the legislature.
- Joseph DeNicola added a clarification between the bonding for a few expenses, including the EV chargers, and the storm costs and expenses related to advanced metering. They will be treated differently, they will be securitized, so they will be a separate line item but will remain on the electric bill.

5. Plan Coordination

a. Update on FY 2026 Connecticut Green Bank Comprehensive Plan

- Bryan Garcia summarized the progress to the Comprehensive Plan for the CT Green Bank, which is currently in recommendations to the Board for adoption of the FY26 Budget and Targets. He then reviewed the programmatic areas that the Green Bank will focus on.
 - John Harry asked if there are any communities that are up for tax increment financing. Bryan Garcia responded that there are, as it is a public finance tool that's been used before for municipalities to support economic development, and there will be a process implemented this year to gauge interest. John Harry asked if the Green Bank would be advising communities about how to proceed and implement the program. Bryan Garcia responded that it is likely
 - Kathy Fay commented that New Haven is finishing their Vision 2034 Plan and resilience and hubs are included in that.
 - Kathy Fay asked how much further the Green Bank would consider grassroots work and used the Neighborhood Housing Services as an example of building a strong resilience hub from grassroots efforts. Bryan Garcia responded that he took note of engagement with local community groups as part of the research on technical assistance.
 - Lonnie Reed commented that CIRCA has unfortunately been frustrating and thought interacting with communities could be utilized more effectively. Bryan Garcia responded that CIRCA has been talking to several communities about potential projects but any projects have to abide the statutory requirements of a District Master Plan before it can be presented or voted on, so there is a definite challenge to secure funding beyond the planning stage.

b. Update on 2025-2027 Conservation and Load Management Plan

- Stacy Sherwood summarized the 2026 Plan Update as the 2025 segment was finished last November. The goal is to have updated text posted on Energy CT's website for progressive review and then reviewed the following steps and timeline. She summarized the highlights of the DEEP Draft Determination to the 2025-2027 Plan.

- John Harrity commented that he liked the idea of develop on-site systems for using hydrogen in place of piping in hydrogen from elsewhere.
- Stacy Sherwood summarized the progress toward development of a plan to offer customers a coordinated C&LM, solar EV, and Battery Storage initiative.
 - Bernard Pelletier asked if there is an opportunity, or in place of offering direct rebates, to take some funds and pass them to the Green Bank to recreate something like the Heat Loan. Stephen Bruno responded
 - John Harrity commented that in regard to the public comment process to check with Commissioner Dykes to use video meeting technology to facilitate an increased turnout and accessibility. Stacy Sherwood responded that the meetings are entirely virtual.

6. Data Dashboard Discussion

- Stephen Bruno summarized that the Energy Efficiency teams have completed an RFP to redo the energy efficiency dashboards with a goal to combine the energy efficiency and the municipal dashboards and improve the UI and make them more meaningful. He reviewed the base concepts and wireframes for some of the different Energize CT webpages.
- Eric Shrago reviewed some of the externally facing dashboards for the Green Bank such as the Mapping Analysis for Your Area (MAYA) tool and updates planned for better functionality. He reviewed some of the internal dashboards for the Green Bank.
 - Bernard Pelletier commended the efforts to update and integrating the municipal dashboards. Eric Shrago thanked Bernard Pelletier and his team for the grand list data given a couple years ago which helped identify opportunities.
 - Becca Treitch commented that this timing of dashboard updates is an opportunity to collaborate as much as possible. Richard Faesy added that coordinated dashboards may be appropriate to include on the PMI metric list for the C&LM Plan and Green Bank. Bryan Garcia responded that he agrees it is a prime moment to have a more coordinated development and set up some follow up discussions.

7. Other Business

- a. Brief Update: C&I – Government
- b. Brief Update: C&I – Small and Medium/Large Business
 - Mackey Dykes summarized the updates to the Business Energy Advantage financing which was extended for another 3 years. Bryan Garcia added that both private capital and crowd-funded capital are being pursued. Stephen Bruno also noted there was a desire from some contractors and small businesses to raise the loan limit to \$200,000 or \$250,000.
- c. Brief Update: Residential – Single Family and Multi-Family
 - Stephen Bruno highlighted that the Energized Heat Loan expired and that it puts a lot of demand for heat pumps on the Smart-E loan so there is interest in exploring ways to dropping the interest rate of the loan. Eric Shrago responded that Bill Colonis reached out to Stephen Bruno recently and that conversation should begin soon.
 - Mackey Dykes summarized the updates for multi-family properties, including the efforts to pair Affordable Multi-family solar and storage with energy efficiency upgrades.
 - Bryan Garcia added that the Green Bank is also working with Honeycomb to do project-specific rates, potentially for community projects, and that more information may be available this coming fiscal year.

8. Public Comments

- None.

9. Adjourn

Upon a motion made by Kathy Fay and seconded by John Harrity, the Joint Committee adjourned at 2:40 pm.

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