



Draft MINUTES

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

Wednesday, December 17, 2025

1:30 – 3:30 pm

In Attendance

Voting Members: Kathy Fay, John Harrity, Melissa Kops, Becca Trietch, Brenda Watson

Non-Voting Members: Stephen Bruno, Bryan Garcia, Bert Hunter

Members Absent: John Viglione

Others: Richard Del Soldato, James Desantos, Marriott Dowden, Mackey Dykes, Richard Faesy, Brian Farnen, John Figlewski, Patrice Gillespie, Ricardo Jordan, Cheryl Lumpkin, Amy Mclean Salls, Benjamin McMillan, Bernard Pelletier, Madeline Priest, Ariel Schneider, Stacy Sherwood, Marissa Westbrook, James Williamson

1. Call to Order
 - Brenda Watson called the meeting to order at 1:32 pm.
2. Public Comments
 - None.
3. Review and approval of Meeting Minutes from the September 24, 2025 meeting.

Resolution #1

Motion to approve the meeting minutes of the Joint Committee for September 24, 2025.

Upon a motion made by Melissa Kops and seconded by Brenda Watson, the Joint Committee voted to approve Resolution 1. None opposed and Becca Trietch abstained. Motion approved.

4. Joint Committee – Regular Meeting Schedule for 2026
 - Becca Trietch asked if the schedule was coordinated with DEEP and Bryan Garcia responded that he believes it was but can double check and make any revisions if necessary. James Williamson added that there was coordination to ensure the CTAC meetings and Green Bank meetings don't overlap.

Resolution #2

Motion to approve the regular meeting schedule for the Joint Committee for 2026.

Upon a motion made by John Harrity and seconded by Becca Trietch, the Joint Committee voted to approve Resolution 2. None opposed or abstained. Motion approved unanimously.

5. Plan Coordination

a. Input to FY 2026 Connecticut Green Bank Comprehensive Plan (Revisions)

- Bryan Garcia summarized the progress to the Comprehensive Plan including updates on the different programs and departments. He noted for the Open RFP Program the Green Bank invested in a thermal oxidizer for Bright Feeds, an organic waste processing facility and that the Green Bank is working with DEEP to support the deployment of electric school buses in Environmental Justice communities.

b. 2025-2027 Conservation and Loan Management Plan (Update)

- Marissa Westbrook gave an update to the progress on the current C&LM Plan which was filed on October 31, 2025, then DEEP held a Tech Session for it on December 2, 2025, and there are two more performance management goals in development for 2026.

- Brenda Watson asked what the one or two visit model is in relation to HES and HES IE redesign. Marissa Westbrook responded that there was a redesign process for the delivery model for HES and HES IE, though it is still under development. Amy Mclean Salls summarized the feedback process for the change and that the model will go to a two-visit model for IE customers and two-to-four-unit buildings in order to create a slower pace to give people opportunities to take on the different kinds of energy efficiency measures. She noted there is also a voluntary option for a different structure to get market rate. Becca Trietch added some clarification about the differences for contractors between a one-visit versus two-visit model. Melissa Kops added that the reason it is required for HES IE is because it's more in alignment with the WAP program. Amy Mclean Salls commented that that is part of it as well as other reasons, as there are many.

- Marissa Westbrook reviewed an update to the Smart-E Loan interest buy down pilot and Fall 2025 heat pump special offer. Amy Mclean Salls added that they have been working with Barbara Waters and that if the IRB reaches \$500,000 then they will look at it again and review the best rate to use after January 31, 2026.

- Brenda Watson asked if outside of the Smart-E loan a customer would be able to swap their system with a heat pump and pay that back on-bill. Amy Mclean Salls responded that she isn't sure, but it can be investigated. Richard Faesy responded in the chat that he does not believe there is an on-bill financing option for residential customers.

- Marissa Westbrook presented a pilot proposal of a joint offering to address residential and C&I projects to deliver more unified and comprehensive decarbonization audits or technical assistance and scoping studies. The pilot would be for 10 to 20 residential customers and about 10 C&I customers and would be similar to a comprehensive building assessment or an engineering study. She reviewed the budget and timing of the pilot program.

- John Harrity asked if new home construction could be included in advanced energy efficiencies like solar and heat pumps. Marissa Westbrook responded that there is a new comprehensive construction program that is under Amy Mclean Sall's purview. Becca Trietch added that DEEP has started a working group with the Dept of Housing and CT Housing Finance Authority to talk about how to ensure the financing work can coordinate better with energy programs. Richard Faesy added more clarification about the tiers within the residential new construction program, so higher tier homes may already be ready for net zero.
- Becca Trietch asked for the highlights of how Environmental Justice Communities can participate in these types of programs. Marissa Westbrook responded that as the pilot takes shape more the team can more closely examine how EJs can participate, though there is still more to do in terms of the pilot's development and implementation.
- John Harrity asked if low-to-moderate-income housing is being built with State support, if there has been any discussion about shared solar to address some of the energy concerns. Marissa Westbrook responded that in regard to shared solar, there is a version that does exist that construction companies administer, and she explained the details of that further.
- John Harrity suggested that there be a recommendation from the Joint Committee to the legislature about energy efficiency and new housing construction which should be supported. Melissa Kops responded that there's been a lot of lobbying happening to eliminate energy efficiency requirements with new housing projects and unfortunately those lobbyists are succeeding, so she suggested everyone push back more by reaching out to legislators. The group further discussed options for promoting energy efficiency within new housing construction and the fact that the Joint Committee may not formally participate in that form of lobbying, due to members' other commitments or possible restrictions. Bernard Pelletier stated that although the group cannot lobby legislators, if there was a debate to happen then the overall cost analytics show that energy efficiency results in lower costs.
- Marissa Westbrook summarized the Q1 2026 coordinated program plan including the sections for education, marketing, operations, and financing.
- Stacy Sherwood gave an update to the Energy Efficiency Dashboard that is in development to enhance transparency in program performance reporting and more. She reviewed the project roadmap and future timeline.

6. Healthy Housing – Update

- Mackey Dykes summarized an update to the Healthy Housing program, including the progress and status of specific properties.

7. Plans for the 2026 Legislative Session

- James Desantos summarized the upcoming legislative session which is a short one with many re-elections. He stated he expects it to be a reactive session and that the Green Bank is not proactively pursuing any legislative action.
 - Brenda Watson asked for clarification regarding the SBC bill being reintroduced. James Desantos responded that there were several pieces of legislation introduced in the 2025 legislative sessions and he expects those proposals to be readdressed.

8. Other Business

- a. Brief Update: C&I – Government

b. Brief Update: C&I – Small and Medium/Large Business

- Stephen Bruno summarized the SBEA program and stated that activity is still going well, and the team is constantly looking for ways to improve it.

c. Brief Update: Residential – Single Family and Multi-Family

- Mackey Dykes stated that most of the collaboration is through the Smart-E Loan but the team is continuing to try to expand the lender base.

9. Public Comments

- Kathy Fay asked regarding the pilot that Marissa and Amy discussed earlier, if that is intended to be implemented by HES contractors or not. Marissa Westbrook responded that it is still to be determined, and Stephen Bruno added that for C&I, companies went through an RFP process for technical assistance vendors.

10. Adjourn

Brenda Watson adjourned the Joint Committee at 2:39 pm.