MINUTES

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

Thursday, March 19, 2026
1:30 – 3:30 pm

In Attendance

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

Non-Voting Members: Stephen Bruno, Bryan Garcia, John Viglione

Members Absent: Brenda Watson

Others: Rebecca Baez-Castro, Alison Donovan, Mackey Dykes, Brian Farnen, Andrea Gustafson, Philip Jordan (from BW Research Partnership), Wengel Kifle, George Lawrence, Cheryl Lumpkin, Amy Mclean Salls, Benjamin McMillan, Sophia Nelson, Bernard Pelletier, David Plis, Ariel Schneider, Stacy Sherwood, Rudy Sturk, Marissa Westbrook, James Williamson

1. Call to Order

   - Bryan Garcia called the meeting to order at 1:33 pm.

2. Public Comments

   - None.

3. Review and approval of Meeting Minutes from the December 17, 2025 meeting.

Resolution #1

Motion to approve the meeting minutes of the Joint Committee for December 17, 2025.

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

4. Clean Energy Jobs Report

   - Philip Jordan from BW Research Partnership summarized the findings of the 2025 Clean Energy Jobs Report including the data sources, metrics and evaluation procedure, and the actual data. He noted that Energy Efficiency employment saw the largest single-year increase on record, growing by 3%, and then several metrics within that including Advanced Materials growth and High-Efficiency HVAC growth.

- Bryan Garcia asked how Energy Star will be impacted in the new data. Philip Jordan responded the label still exists and employers are still using it, and though they asked the DOE about the revision, they have been told that Energy Star may not be under immediate pressure of elimination and will continue. Also because it's a widely recognized standard and metric.
- John Harrity asked what jobs are counted when someone purchases an energy-efficient stove, for example. Philip Jordan responded that the factors nationally differ than those at the State level for Connecticut and that retail sales aren't counted for the state because the primary activity counted is the installation of the measures. However, the activity leading up to the point of sale is counted. He then gave a different example that would be included and noted that the data is based on the survey of construction firms across the country.
- Kathy Fay asked if jobs like those of people who work at the Green Bank are counted, or jobs in concierge services that help people get access to resources related to green energy. Philip Jordan responded that some of those types of activities are counted such as programs that operate within utilities, some government agencies, and some professional business services.

- Philip Jordan continued to summarize the findings of the Clean Energy Generation Sector employment, which grew by 3.7% and other metrics for different sources such as wind and solar. He summarized the findings for the Alternative Transportation sector employment and Clean Grid & Storage sector. He then reviewed the Gross Regional Product findings, in which Clean Energy accounted for 2.4% of Connecticut's total GRP. This data is partially covering what Kathy Fay's question was about as well as the Value Chain Employment, which Philip Jordan reviewed the findings of.
  - Melissa Kops asked how the study differentiates between professionals engaged in clean energy services versus those that aren't, and the same for construction, and Philip Jordan responded that determination is part of the survey and explained some of the questions the survey includes. Melissa Kops asked if the drill down data is available and Philip Jordan responded that a lot of the data is in the report which isn't shown in the preliminary slides.
- Philip Jordan reviewed the County Employment findings, in which Fairfield recorded the largest absolute gains, growing by 4% and accounting for 25.8% of statewide employment. He continued to summarize the Demographics of the study, noting that nothing is particularly surprising but that women are still underrepresented in the construction sector, and other data points. He summarized the Traditional Energy employment and Traditional Electric Power Generation employment findings.

5. Plan Coordination
   a. Update on FY 2026 and Input to FY 2027 Connecticut Green Bank Comprehensive Plan

- Bryan Garcia gave an update to the Green Bank Comprehensive Plan, including updates to the Multifamily Affordable Housing, supporting Connecticut's Clean Air Act with school bus electrification, and the Energy Storage Solutions program and overall investment in resilience for communities.
  - John Harrity suggested that the Green Bank's ACFR be sent to the Labor Committee due to the information about the jobs in the energy sector.

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

- Stephen Bruno summarized the update to the 2026 Plan which has been refiled with the 2025 year-end spendings and savings as well as some updates to Residential Programs and C&I Programs. He reviewed the overall spending for the three-year Plan.
- Marissa Westbrook summarized the 2025 Annual Legislative Report, highlighting the energy savings of over a million annual MMBTUs reduced and the annual energy savings that correlates to over $36 million.

6. Opportunities and Challenges – Healthy Housing

- Mackey Dykes reviewed the update to the SolarMAP+ program for Affordable Multifamily Housing, highlighting the Master Metered properties updates.
  - John Harrity asked how Unionville got their result for Annual Savings per Tenant and Mackey Dykes responded that it's the difference between tenant-metered and master-metered properties and then explained the difference.
  - Marissa Westbrook asked about the timing of the distribution of the solar credits and Mackey Dykes responded with the process and noted that the credits would not start flowing until after the tenant improvement projects have been funded, constructed, and are producing energy.

7. Update on the 2026 Legislative Session

- Brian Farnen summarized the updates to the most recent legislative session, which is a short session currently in progress, and highlighted the key piece of legislation that the Green Bank is following which is HB 5340: AAC Renewable Power Generation.

8. Other Business
   a. Brief Update: C&I – Government
   b. Brief Update: C&I – Small and Medium/Large Business

- Mackey Dykes summarized the progress to the Small Business Energy Advantage program. Stephen Bruno commented that the program is going well. Bryan Garcia added that the Green Bank is going to its Board of Directors soon to expand its partnership with Honeycomb Credit for the Green Liberty Notes to include project specific raises.

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

- Stephen Bruno reviewed the history of the Smart-E Loan which continues to do well. Marissa Westbrook summarized the Smart-E Loan program for the remainder of 2026, which is in the process of working through an MOU between the companies and the Green Bank. Stephen Bruno noted the changes to the Massachusetts Heat Loan which has a similar structure and how this pilot program will be doing things to mitigate those expensive costs and increase traction.
  - Stacy Sherwood asked if there is any consideration to offer the loan beyond HVAC efforts. Stephen Bruno said it could be but for now the team is prioritizing heat pumps so they are also able to monitor and manage the volume.

9. Public Comments

- None.

10. Adjourn

Upon a motion made by John Harrity and seconded by Lonnie Reed, the Joint Committee adjourned at 2:44 pm.