

Residential Ratepayers' Advisory Board
May 14, 2018 Meeting Minutes

Present for the Board:

Claira Monier, Chair
Tom Moses
Ryan Clouthier
Dana Nute
Kenneth Mailloux
Jim O'Brien
Matt Kfoury

Present for the OCA:

D. Maurice Kreis
Pradip Chattopadhyay
James Brennan
Brian Buckley
Jamie Breen

Guest Speakers: Joe Doiron, Deputy Director/State Energy Program Administrator and Chris Ellms, Energy Advisory/SEP Associate from the Office of Strategic Initiatives (OSI).

Ms. Monier called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. Introductions were made around the room.

1. Minutes of March 19, 2018 Meeting

Ms. Monier moved to approve the minutes. Mr. Mailloux seconded the motion. The Board members agreed unanimously.

2. Briefing from the OSI regarding the 2018 revised 10 Year State Energy Strategy

Mr. Doiron and Mr. Ellms gave the attached presentation regarding eleven goals in the State Energy Strategy and answered questions from the Board and the OCA. Some key points included in the presentation:

- The purpose of the document was to revise and improve the goals and energy policies for New Hampshire
- Continuing support for energy efficiency
- To protect New Hampshire's rights and policies at the regional level
- Nuclear generation is one of the largest generating sources in New Hampshire, it is an obvious choice for zero carbon energy
- Encouraging renewables, developing our own policies as a state, not necessarily mirroring other states

Mr. Kreis thanked Mr. Doiron and Mr. Ellms for their presentation, recognizing the importance of the revised Strategy for the State of New Hampshire's future energy goals. Mr. Kreis also reminded the Board that New Hampshire rate payers pay bills not rates. While it may be true that New Hampshire rate payers have among the highest electric rates in the U.S., he pointed out that New Hampshire actually falls in the middle, when the states in the U.S. are ranked from high to low bills. Participants also discussed the importance of properly defining the concept of cost-effectiveness.

3. Legislative Update

Mr. Kreis briefed the Board on the following Legislative bills:

- HB 1555 requires the PUC/OCA to advocate against regional or federal policies that are inconsistent with the policies in this state.

- SB 365, SB 446, and SB 577 all in various ways create or extend subsidies to biomass power producers.

Mr. Kreis also talked about ISO-NE filing a request to waive provisions of its tariffs in connection with Mystic Station in Massachusetts. The two largest units at the facility are collectively 1,700 megawatts of capacity, and rely on natural gas, but receive fuel as liquefied gas via boat rather than from the interstate pipeline network. The owners of Mystic claim they receive inadequate revenue from the competitive markets overseen by ISO-NE to remain in operation; ISO New England believes the plants should therefore receive cost-of-service rates, essentially guaranteeing cost recovery, in the interest of fuel security.

4. Case Update

- DG17-198 Liberty Utilities Granite Bridge
- DE 17-189 Liberty Utilities Battery Storage Program
- DE 18-061 Twin Pines Housing Waiver of PUC 303.02 re master metering
- DE 18-059 RiverMead Waiver of PUC 303.02
- DE 18-019 Keene Housing Waiver of PUC 303.02

5. Any other topics or issues that the Board wishes to discuss

There were no topics or issues that needed to be discussed.

Ms. Monier moved to adjourn. Mr. Kfoury seconded the motion, which was adopted unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 3:38 p.m.