

Residential Ratepayers' Advisory Board

April 11, 2016 Meeting Minutes

Present for the Board:

Claira Monier, Chair
Thomas Moses, Vice Chair
Ken Mailloux
Deborah de Moulpied
James Garrity
Dick Weaver
Ryan Clouthier

Present for the OCA:

Donald Kreis
Pradip Chattopadhyay
Nicholas Cicale
Jim Brennan
Jamie Breen

Guest Speaker: Paul Peterson, Principal Associate from Synapse Energy Economics, Inc.

Ms. Monier called the meeting to order at 2:02 p.m. Ms. Monier welcomed Mr. Kreis and mentioned she has heard good things about him.

Mr. Kreis thanked the Board for his appointment as Consumer Advocate and briefly described the history of the office and his work with it over the years. Subsequently he introduced Paul Peterson, who provides consulting services to the OCA in his capacity as Principal Associate from Synapse Energy Economics Inc.

1. **Minutes of January 2016 Meeting**

Ms. Monier stated she agreed with the draft minutes from January 25, 2016. Mr. Mailloux moved to approve the minutes, Mr. Garrity seconded the motion. The Board members agreed unanimously.

2. **Synapse presentation on New England Electric Grid Issues**

Mr. Peterson apprised the Board about the NEPOOL Stakeholder process and discussed current issues and future concerns. Issues highlighted were how ISO-NE currently conducts its planning, and how that process needs to better recognize developments in the energy efficiency and distributive generation fronts (Presentation Attached). Mr. Peterson also answered questions from the Board and the OCA. Mr. Moses recommended Mr. Peterson return in the future and give an update.

3. **Case Update**

Mr. Kreis briefed the Board on the status of several active dockets, including:

- **DE 16-241** Eversource Petition for Approval of Gas Infrastructure Contract with Algonquin Gas Transmission, LLC
- **DE 15-464** Eversource Petition for Approval of Lease Agreement between Eversource and Northern Pass Transmission, LLC
- **DE 15-459** NPT Petition to Commence Business as a Public Utility
- **DG 15-137** EE Resource Standard
- **DE 14-238** PSNH Generation Assets
- **DW 15-199** AWC Request for Change in Rates

Mr. Garrity asked if DE 14-238 is finished and if there had been a decision. Mr. Kreis stated that we were waiting for the decision to come down. He also informed the Board that the

decision could be appealed to the New Hampshire Supreme Court. However, the court could decline the appeal.

Mr. Kreis noted that he had changed the format of the case-related information provided to the Board in its meeting packet and asked Board members to think about any changes in how or what information the office is sending to the Board that would be more efficient in the future. He requested feedback at the next meeting.

4. **Legislative Update**

Mr. Kreis updated the board on the below bills currently at the Legislature:

- **HB 297**
- **HB 1116**
- **HB 1275**

Mr. Kreis added HB 297 to the list of OCA Legislative Updates, noting that it had been inadvertently removed when the bill was tabled in 2015. The bill concerns the privacy of customer-specific data collected by utilities and would, if enacted, be useful in clarifying and strengthening consumers' right to privacy.

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

Mr. Kreis apprised the Board of three upcoming rate cases. These cases involve Liberty Utilities Corp, Unital Energy Systems and Pennichuck Water Works.

6. **Public input**

There was no public input.

Ms. Monier moved to adjourn. Ms. De Moulpied seconded the motion. The Board voted unanimously to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 4:02 p.m.