Residential Ratepayers' Advisory Board January 22, 2018 Meeting Minutes

Present for the Board:

Claira Monier, Chair Tom Moses, Vice Chair Ryan Clouthier Matthew Kfoury Dana Nute Kenneth Mailloux Jim O'Brien Present for the OCA:

D. Maurice Kreis Brian Buckley Jamie Breen

Guest Speakers: Lon Huber, Consultant, Strategen Consulting, LLC. Paul E. Ramsey, Vice President Operations, Eversource Energy.

Guest: Patricia Martin

Ms. Monier called the meeting to order at 2:02 p.m. Mr. Kreis introduced Mr. Huber and Mr. Ramsey.

1. Minutes of November 20, 2017 Meeting

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

2. Election of Chair and Vice Chair

Mr. Nute moved to re-elect Ms. Monier as Chair for 2018, Mr. Moses seconded the motion. The Board members agreed unanimously. Mr. Nute moved to re-elect Mr. Moses as Vice Chair for 2018, Mr. Mailloux seconded the motion. The Board members agreed unanimously.

3. Lon Huber on net metering and distributed energy

Mr. Huber, who was in Concord in his capacity as consultant to the OCA for a series of meetings with the PUC staff and representatives of the electric utilities, gave the Board a description of his work experience with solar photovoltaics, including his development of a financing program for religious organizations, advising the Arizona Residential Utility Consumer Office (RUCO), and consulting for different Commissions and Consumer Advocates throughout the United States. He also answered some questions from meeting participants regarding the difference between Virtual Net Metering, Group Net Metering, and Community Solar.

4. Paul E. Ramsey on Eversource after divestiture

Mr. Ramsey made a presentation to the Board describing the activities, priorities and plans for his company as it completes the divestiture of its generation assets and fully becomes a restructured distribution and transmission utility. Key points that Mr. Ramsey presented:

- Safety-First and Always
- Reliability
- Distribution Automation
- System Operation Center
- Customer Satisfaction

- Customer Satisfaction Drivers
- 2016-17 customer experience improvements/2018-19 upcoming improvements
- 2018 Key Initiative Summary
- 2018 NH Capital Plan
- Seacoast Reliability Project
- ISO NE Reports
- Northern Pass Transmission
- Transmission & Distribution Asset Inventory

Mr. O'Brien left at 2:45 p.m. Mr. Huber and Mr. Buckley left at 3:30 p.m.

5. <u>Legislative Update</u>

Mr. Kreis discussed the following with the Board:

- <u>HB 317</u> prohibits the PUC from increasing the system benefits charge without legislative approval. Mr. Kreis noted that the bill passed the House by a two-vote margin and was moving on to the Senate with the endorsement of the Governor.
- <u>SB 577</u> Requiring the PUC to reconsider its order affecting the Burgess BioPower plant in Berlin. Mr. Kreis explained that the bill would authorize the PUC to provide additional ratepayer subsidies to the facility.

Mr. Kreis asked the Board if they had any input regarding these two Bills. Board members shared advice on how the OCA should approach these proposals at the State House.

6. Case Update

Mr. Kreis asked the members if they had any questions regarding the OCA activity reports provided them. The Board had no questions for Mr. Kreis.

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

Mr. Kreis asked the Board who they would like to speak with them at future Board meetings. Two suggestions were hearing from other utilities about their cyber security issues and how they deal with them, and if possible, having a representative from the Burgess BioPower Plant come down from Berlin, NH and speak with them. There was also discussion of whether or not it would be possible to go on a field trip for a Board meeting in the future – e.g., the control room at Eversource headquarters in Manchester. Mr. Kreis said he would look into the extent to which the public meeting provisions of RSA 91-A presented any impediments or limitations.

8. Public input

There was no public input.

Ms. Monier moved to adjourn. Mr. Nute seconded the motion, which was adopted unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 4:35 p.m.