

CONSUMER ADVOCATE
F. Anne Ross

ASSISTANT
CONSUMER ADVOCATE
Kenneth E. Traum

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE



OFFICE OF CONSUMER ADVOCATE
21 S. Fruit St., Suite 18
Concord, N.H. 03301-2429

TDD Access: Relay
1-800-735-2964

Tel. (603) 271-1172

Fax No. 271-1177

Website:
www.oca.nh.gov

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ENERGY PLANNING ADVISORY BOARD
STAKEHOLDER FORUM

The Energy Planning Advisory Board, which was created by the Legislature in 2004 "to discuss energy policy and planning at the state level and develop strategic planning for the state's energy policies," will be holding a Stakeholder Forum on June 23, 2006, in Room 304 of the Legislative Office Building beginning at 9:00 a.m. The purpose of the forum is to identify key energy issues for Legislative and Executive action in order to combat in the present the effects of dramatic increases in energy costs and to develop for the future a state energy policy premised on the fundamental goals of security, affordability and sustainability.

The Advisory Board will be soliciting comment from, among others, regional organizations, such as the New England Independent System Operator and the Northeast Gas Association, electric distribution and transmission companies, local gas distribution and pipeline transmission companies, propane and fuel oil distributors, competitive electric and gas suppliers, public interest organizations, business associations, and members of the public.

The Stakeholder Forum will concentrate on concrete recommendations for Legislative or Executive action. Accordingly, in order to focus the forum, commentators will be asked to submit, by June 16, 2006, background material on their organizations and detailed explanations of their positions. An agenda will be constructed based on the number of parties expressing interest. Oral presentations should be structured around a brief statement of the problem as seen by the commentator and a set of concrete proposals for addressing the problem, which will be followed by questions from the Advisory Board.

The Stakeholder Forum will be followed by a Facilitated Discussion among the members of the Energy Policy Advisory Board on June 29, 2006. The anticipated product of the Facilitated Discussion is a report to the Governor, the Senate President and the Speaker of the House setting forth recommended action items for legislation and executive implementation.

Anyone interested in participating in the Stakeholder Forum should contact Kim Smith at the Public Utilities Commission at 271-2442 or toll free at 1-800-852-3793 by June 16, 2006.

This press release is issued by the Energy Policy Advisory Board, of which the OCA is a member.