

THE RI ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND RESOURCE MANGEMENT COUNCIL

Draft Minutes-April 3, 2008

Place: Department of Administration, Conference Room B

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Chairman Ryan at 3:30 PM

Sam Krasnow began a discussion of Docket 3931. The first meeting will be a pre-hearing conference. The PUC will take comments through April 23 and responses to the comments through May 7. They will hold a hearing on May 14.

Sam said that he saw the EERMC role as supporting the original concepts (of what?). He saw a need for a legal representation for the EERMC at the PUC. The EER needs to be a spokesperson.

OER will have separate representation. Andy Dzykewicz said that he intends to participate in the PUC hearing as the OER Commissioner.

Andy introduced Maureen (?), DOA Chief Legal Counsel, to clarify issues related to having the EERMC retain Dan Prentiss as legal counsel for Docket 3931. Maureen said that purchasing the services of an attorney requires (special? Specific? Attention). Is the EERMC a government entity? Yes, it was appointed with advice and consent of the Senate 37-2-70. Before a government entity procures the services of an attorney (ref. st to retain legislative counsel. Must fill out form and certify x, y, z. Must ? a letter of engagement. State specific area of expertise (may provide a brochure or curriculum vitae. DOA reviews (Maureen) sends to the Budget Office who sends to the Director who may send to the Governor's legal office.

The process has come under some scrutiny. Sam and Maureen talked. Sam thinks the status of the council is an open question. He thinks that there are things that the EEERMC can do with and without government (approval? Oversight?).

National Grid will retain their own counsel. OER will retain their own counsel. The funding for the EERMC comes from the ratepayers. The process has been competitively bid through and RFP. The VEIC policy and planning consultant attorney process may give comfort.

Paul Ryan saw no problem with submitting forms to DOA.

Andy brought up the question of who signs the contract.

Ron Geratowski said that a % of the SBC funds was for the hiring of the EERMC consultants but (?) does not say how to handle, whether it was necessary to do the state process. Grid signed the contract. The role is clear.

Andy said the question of can we... doesn't the SBC funding provision come out of the Deregulation Act.

Ken Payne sees section H not to exceed 2 % of such funds for consultants. Need a filing. The PUC approved the 2 % for the EERMC and they have not handed the \$s to the state.

Andy asked if the funds should they go through OER. Ken said no.

Andy said if he were National Grid he would not be comfortable writing a check. Sam said that (?) put in the phrase that EERMC sole is the director of the work and shall take precedence indicates two separate accounts the DSM administered by National Grid and the Renewables account administers by OER.

Ken Payne assumed there could be a difference of opinion between the EERMC and the OER. Make sure that the custody of \$s (dist co) EERMC and OER from another arrangement too easy to scoop. He said that the Assembly was not trying to create a quasi public agency with its own purchasing power, but the EERMC needed to be able to act on its own with agility. Whether the council is a state agency, Ken Payne thinks it is established in statute and the members were appointed with the advice and consent of the Senate but ...the EERMC moved and approved and put out an RFP.

Scudder said that it was clear that the funds were not taxpayer \$s.

Ken spoke about the Opportunities part of the Report. (The URI team scanned for non-utility scale renewable survey and identified commercially available technologies. They are looking at RI specific conditions, certain (wind field?) topographic, hydro dam sites, through DEM information. The work is going well and on schedule. Ken is working with a group of five energy fellows with whom he meets weekly. One of the things he would caution is the LCP statute standards for system reliability and LCP may be desirable but...Also Energetics proposal on DSM. He? Met with Energetics on the phone and will have more preliminary information for May.

Need CHP (quick? Separate RFP for (Chris Powell). Andy asked why URI would not do the CHP. Sam said that it had been separated out in February. The final piece of the EE opportunity report RFP many (rds?) John Farley was a participant. Phase 1 Technology potential with some economic potential. Phase 2 Onsite commercial facilities; residential phone surveys. Expect responses this Friday. Subcommittee same process using a score sheet. The subcommittee members are Sam Krasnow, Tim Stout, and Pat Condon.

Scudder said that (Renewables?), CHP and demand response need to be coordinated with LCP and proposed VEIC to do said coordination.

Andy wants to clarify the roles and responsibilities of the Executive Director in the bylaws. Paul Ryan did not see the need to hire an attorney to do the by-laws.

Scudder compiled the S943 Baa legislation in Word format and worked from that. He compiled draft updates/reports.

Andy said that this raises question about interaction of OER and EERMC since he already had Charlie do the same work for OER.

Refers to State Guide Plan, low income energy and plans renewable energy and plans. Reach out to housing Finance Agency.