

State Energy Advisory Board  
 April Teleconference Call Minutes  
 April 21, 2011 3:30 PM – 4:12 PM

**TELECONFERENCE ATTENDEES**

**Designated Federal Officer (DFO):**

- Gil Sperling, STEAB DFO, Senior Management Technical Advisor, EERE, DOE.

<b>STEAB TELECONFERENCE ATTENDANCE</b>		
<b>BOARD MEMBERS</b>	Present	Absent
<b>Susan S. Brown</b> , Deputy Administrator, Wisconsin Division of Energy		✓
<b>Dan Carol</b> , Strategic Advisor/Organizational Consultant	✓	
<b>William Vaughn Clark</b> , Director, Office of Community Development, Oklahoma Department of Commerce		✓
<b>John H. Davies</b> , Director, Division of Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency, Kentucky Office of Energy Policy	✓	
<b>Cris Eugster</b> , Executive Vice President and Chief Sustainability Officer, CPS Energy	✓	
<b>David Gipson</b> , Director, Energy Services Division, Georgia Environmental Facilities Authority	✓	
<b>Philip Giudice</b> , Commissioner, Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources	✓	
<b>Ryan Gooch</b> , Energy Policy Director, Tennessee Economic and Community Development		✓
<b>Paul Gutierrez</b> , Vice Provost for Outreach Services, Associate Dean and Director, Cooperative Extension Service, College of Agriculture and Home Economics, New Mexico State University	✓	
<b>Duane Hauck</b> , Director, Extension Services, North Dakota State University		✓
<b>Elliott Jacobson</b> , Vice President for Energy Services, Action Energy	✓	
<b>Peter Johnston</b> , Project Manager, Clean Energy Technologies, Burns & McDonnell	✓	
<b>Maurice Kaya</b> , Hawaii Renewable Energy Development Venture	✓	
<b>Steve Payne</b> , Managing Director, Housing Improvements & Preservation, Department of Commerce	✓	
<b>Larry Shirley</b> , State Energy Office Director, North Carolina Department of Administration		✓
<b>Roya Stanley</b> , Deputy Director, Iowa Office of Energy Independence	✓	
<b>Janet Streff</b> , Manager, State Energy Office, Minnesota Department of Commerce	✓	
<b>David Terry</b> , Executive Director, ASERTTI		✓
<b>Steve Vincent</b> , Regional Business Manager, Avista Utilities	✓	
<b>Daniel Zaweski</b> , Assistant Vice President - Energy Efficiency and Distributed Generation Program, Long Island Power Authority		✓

**Contractor Support & Other DOE Staff:**

- Emily Lindenberg, SENTECH, Inc.

**Agenda Items:**

1. Task Force Reports and Updates:
  - a. Deployment Task Force

Phil Giudice

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|---|------------------|
| b. DOE/USDA Task Force  | Duane Hauck      |
| c. Weatherization Task Force  | Elliott Jacobson |
| d. SEP Task Force   | David Gipson     |
| e. Lab Task Force   | Roya Stanley     |
|   |                  |
| 2. Update from EECBG Meeting in Phoenix, AZ                               | Peter Johnston   |
|   |                  |
| 3. Update on Upcoming STEAB Meetings:                                     | Janet Streff     |
| a. June 7 – 9, 2011, in Washington, DC                                    |                  |
| b. November 8 – 10, 2011, HI or TN  |                  |
|   |                  |
| 4. Discussion on FY 11 Budget Proposed Cuts<br>With Regard to SEP and WAP | Janet Streff     |
|   |                  |
| 5. Public Comments  | Janet Streff     |
|   |                  |
| 6. Other Business   |                  |

- Janet Streff (JS) opened the April Teleconference call by thanking the STEAB for attending the call. She began by thanking the members of the STEAB for a quick response to letter addressed to Secretary Chu regarding the SEP and WAP proposed funding cuts<sup>1</sup>. She noted it has been a tough few weeks for all involved, which the SEO and WAP directors are aware of. She also thanked Steve Payne (SP) for his work on the NASCSP side and Phil Giudice's (PGD) assistance on the NASEO side with regards to this issue. JS noted she heard from David Terry (DT) yesterday that there should be an announcement from Secretary Chu forthcoming, but there has been no announcement as of yet. The rumors, though, are that the news will be good, but asked if anyone else had a better update.
- Maurice Kaya (MK) noted he was on a call yesterday where the confirmation was made that the numbers look reasonably good compared to what the fear was for SEP and WAP, but no numbers were thrown around during that call and there is no other update he has at the moment.
- JS thanked MK for the news and mentioned she is cautiously optimistic for good news feeling maybe SEP and WAP were able to dodge another bullet with this. She said it felt good to be able, as the STEAB, to make a difference with regards to the DOE decision about these programs because of the work the group did drafting a letter, editing it and then submitting it for comments. Now DOE knows that STEAB is vested in these programs and cares about the work they are doing and the differences being made in the states.
- PGD noted he also did not have an update as far as NASEO was concerned but asked what Gil Sperling (GS) may know as he is closer to HQ and this issue. GS confirmed for the STEAB that the answers would be shortly forthcoming and unofficially confirmed that the damage to the budget was not as severe as DOE staff and others were told they would be. He did say the Secretary accommodated a lot of what was received by his office as responses and suggestions about these programs and there will be an announcement next week on what the future for these two programs will look like. This is good news for WAP and SEP, and members of the STEAB agreed with this assessment.
- JS then moved the agenda along to the Task Force Update portion. She asked PGD for an update on the Deployment Task Force and the recent meeting with EERE front office officials.
- PDG summarized for the group that on March 24, 2011, he and GS met with Dr. Henry Kelly, Dr. Kathleen Hogan and Colin McCormick at DOE HQ where PGD briefed the attendees on the white paper written by the Task Force and adopted at the February STEAB meeting in California. He highlighted the points of the paper and felt all members of EERE in attendance thought the Board made strong points about current and future deployment efforts. He felt the meeting went well and there was frank and open discussion surrounding all of

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<sup>1</sup> A copy of the submitted letter can be found as Appendix A, immediately following these meeting minutes.

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these topics. Engagement by Dr. Kelly and Dr. Hogan may be forthcoming as well because both of them made comments about working with the STEAB in the future to receive feedback on different ideas or potential organizational/priority changes from the states' perspective as they really now see STEAB as a resource for getting things accomplished and moving priorities forward.

- GS added a comment noting how there seemed to be support with some of the items being discussed, but the support was not universal. The biggest priority right now is deployment and that is Dr. Hogan's focus, while Dr. Kelly was really interested in engagement with the STEAB. He also let the group know there is a Monday morning meeting with EERE senior leadership and GS will use that as an opportunity to follow-up on how DOE and EERE can engage more closely with the STEAB's Deployment Task Force.
- MK reminded the group about meeting notes from this briefing which were sent out a few weeks ago, and those notes held more details about the conversation for those who were looking to delve deeper into this issue.
- JS thanked the Deployment Task Force and asked Duane Hauck (DH) or others from the USDA/DOE Task Force to provide an update on recent activities.
- Paul Guteierrez (PG) provided an update to the Board noting a few members of the Task Force were recently in Washington DC to attend a joint meeting between DOE, USDA, NIFA and CES to discuss moving Resolution 10-01 forward. PG said the meeting went really well and both the participation and representation on behalf of all groups was very good. There were next-steps decided which include the formation of a working group of DOE and USDA officials who will meet to discuss the development of a business plan based on the White Paper written by the USDA/DOE Task Force. This proposal, once written, will be brought to the attention of senior staff at both agencies to gauge the potential for a future collaboration. He concluded this summary by letting the Board know that the Task Force members also met with staff from Senator Bingaman and Senator Conrad's office, and the offices agreed that they would sign a letter to send to each agency in support of this initiative.
- John Davies (JD) noted that members of this Working Group include Mark Bailey, from DOE, and members of NIFA as well. PG agreed and stated the Working Group also set up a timeline for July 1, 2011 as a due date for the proposal/business plan, and the goal is to have both agency's leadership buy-in to this proposal by October 2011 which is Energy Month.
- DH thanked PG for the report on the activities and promised to keep the group posted on any future developments.
- JS asked Elliott Jacobson (EJ) for an update on the progress of the Weatherization Task Force. EJ replied that based on the previous conversation regarding SEP and WAP, it has been a very interesting and dynamic last few weeks while trying to understand the future of WAP and also, if there is one, trying to reconstruct the WAP budget. Stating that, he did say the Task Force held a couple conference calls and determined that currently the biggest need is for education for those within DOE to understand how to move forward with WAP in a successful way. The Task Force feels they need to better inform the correct people at DOE about what is really going on in the program, what is successful, what has been learned, what the best-practices are, and also inform them of the current and future needs. During one of the Task Force calls, members mentioned trying to have a break-out session at the June meeting where the Task Force can meet in person and perhaps bring in members of DOE's WAP program to discuss some of these issue and figure out why information about the program is not getting up to the Secretary level, or why the information he is getting is not the best and most current. SP agreed with this assessment and thinks this is the next-step for the Task Force.
- SP continued saying it would be helpful if someone at DOE or from the STEAB helps the Task Force understand moving forward how they can better convey to Secretary Chu the successes and understanding of WAP. He feels the Task Force also needs a better understanding of where the Secretary is coming from in terms of his views on the WAP program so that the Task Force can help change his mind or provide additional details and information to help the Secretary make the best decisions.

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- Dan Carol (DC) agreed and asked if there was a way to include jobs in this larger discussion because he knows that right now job creation continues to be a hot-button topic and putting that into the discussion can help more strongly sell the program to the Secretary.
- GS reminded everyone that there is a fundamental policy issue on the table right now in terms of how to use the increasingly limited congressionally appropriated funding for DOE. He reminded the STEAB that they need to think about how to leverage the use of this limited money with WAP in order to create the most valuable opportunities available. There are a lot of good ideas, but it is essential to show DOE how to use this funding in a better way.
- JS moved onto an update from the SEP Task Force and David Gipson (DG) replied that there are strides being made and the group is in contact with Marty Schweitzer and are involved in the national evaluation network committee which is currently being set up. The Task Force will work with Oak Ridge National Lab to provide input into the SEP Evaluation and study moving forward. The current status is there will be a meeting in mid-to late-May where a presentation of the evaluation plan will be conducted and the Task Force will then be asked for feedback on the use of SEP information and other implications. DG mentioned he had heard, however, that many states are already being contacted for this study so he is concerned that the evaluation itself is already moving forward even though the Task Force has not yet been able to provide feedback.
- JS alleviated the concerns of the SEP Task Force by noting Minnesota was called about this evaluation and what states are being asked right now is not for information itself, but more of a general inquiry of whether or not the type of information being asked for is actually available and able to be pulled quickly. Additionally, JS heard that the meeting where the actual evaluation process will be outlined is slated to happen on May 25 – 26, 2011, but that is based on her understanding and the Task Force should confirm these dates. DG thanked JS for the clarification and that comment concluded his summary of SEP Task Force activities.
- JS turned the floor over to Roya Stanley (RS) the chair of the Lab Task Force. RS told the STEAB the Task Force had a call which resulted in a great discussion and the determination of next-steps. Currently, the first step moving forward is sending a letter to Lab directors asking them to share with the Task Force all of the information available about the types activities associated with deployment and commercialization efforts. RS said it would be fascinating to see what the Task Force is able to get their hands on once these letters go out. Secondly, the group discussed having STEAB representatives attend one of the Lab Director meetings held in DC with the DOE Secretary, and make sure that STEAB can be on the agenda for conversation, not a presentation, about the concerns the Board has regarding National Labs deployment activities and outreach structure. In advance of directors meetings, the Task Force may try to chat with Dan Arvizu, Director of NREL, as well as others to discuss some of the issues raised at the February meeting. RS feels these are the pathways to move forward on the quest to for better interaction with the lab and thus helping the labs better serve deployment and commercialization efforts moving forward. RS requested a copy of the letter be shared with JS for her review before it is sent out to the Lab Directors, and JS agreed to review.
- JS thanked everyone for their updates and asked Peter Johnston (PJ) for his update on the EECBG Sub-Committee meeting from March 16, 2011 in Phoenix, AZ.
- PJ told the STEAB the sub-committee meeting was a great meeting with a full agenda. There was a new member, Sara Stiltner, who replaced Christie Baumel out of Seattle, WA and it was great to meet her and have the northwestern representation. There were presentations at the meeting from a member of the PIMA Association of Governments who spoke about the new solar standards group and the electric vehicle program recently rolled-out in Tucson. Also, a member of the AZ Department of Commerce spoke about where the EECBG funding went in the state and what types of projects were involved. The afternoon consisted of tours of AZ's GIOS and School of Sustainability, as well as a tour of the RiverPoint Solar Park. PJ concluded by saying that recently he was made aware that Mark Johnson, Chair of the Sub-Committee, was leaving DOE and the replacement would be Ted Donat. PJ noted Mr. Johnson's leadership would be missed, but was excited for the upcoming June 15, 2011 meeting in Denver, CO.
- The Board then received an update on the upcoming June live Board meeting in Washington, DC. The next live Board meeting is June 7 – 9, 2011 at the Capital Hilton and additional information about how to book flights and hotel rooms would be going out in the next several days to all STEAB members. Additionally, the

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fall meeting would be in November, either in Hawaii to review the integrated deployment efforts happening there, or would be in Tennessee for a visit to Oak Ridge National Lab and other sites in the state.

- JD commented that Tennessee recently hosted a sustainability summit and it was very unique and held at Oak Ridge. He noted how it was interesting that the lab itself had pulled the summit together to allow all of the southeastern states to attend and it appeared as if the lab would continue this program and maintain a relationship with the attendees moving forward.
- JS then moved on to the public comments portion of the meeting. Seeing as there were no members of the public currently on the call, she asked if either GS or the contractor support had received requests from the public to submit comments or speak during the call. Seeing as neither GS nor the contractor had received any requests, JS closed the public comment portion of the meeting.
- JS asked the STEAB if there was any new or old business to discuss. Seeing as there was none, she thanked the group for participating and ended the call at 4:12 PM on Thursday, April 21, 2011.

*The State Energy Advisory Board April teleconference call concluded at 4:12 p.m. EST.  
Minutes were scribed by Emily Lindenberg (SRA, International).*

# APPENDIX A



April 12, 2011

The Honorable Steven Chu  
Secretary of Energy  
U.S. Department of Energy  
Forrestal/S-1  
1000 Independence Avenue, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20585

Dear Secretary Chu:

The State Energy Advisory Board (STEAB) has watched the 2011 budget negotiations closely, and we are pleased that the Administration and Congressional leaders have reached a budget agreement for the balance of 2011. While Congressional action has not yet been completed, we understand that the agreement includes a twenty percent reduction from FY 2010 funding levels for programs within the Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, and that the specific cuts to be made will be left to your discretion.

**STEAB urges your continued support for the State Energy Program (SEP) and the Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP.) We understand that you are faced with difficult choices; however, we believe that SEP and WAP deserve your continued support.**

There appears to be an unfortunate and erroneous perception that ARRA funding eliminates the need for formula SEP and WAP funding in 2011. In fact, more than three-quarters of the states will exhaust ARRA funding before January 2012. 2011 funding is also critical to maintaining the technical assistance and program deployment expertise that SEP and WAP have fostered in every state and county in the nation. If 2011 funding is severely reduced or eliminated, it decreases the likelihood for funding in 2012 and does not address the gap in resources that would occur even if FY'12 funds are robust.

As you know, part of STEAB's charter is to identify and promote innovation. We believe SEP and WAP have been and will be important contributors to meeting the Administration's goals on energy efficiency, renewable energy and jobs. For example, WAP has provided the foundation on which DOE is building retrofit standards that will change the industry forever. SEP-supported projects like the solar shingle manufacturing and advanced battery storage businesses that the President visited this past year, show how deployment-oriented projects and programs help to extend the value of the research that the Board has seen developed in DOE's labs. Additionally, the President's "*Blueprint for a Secure Energy Future*" recognizes the important contribution these programs have toward improving our nation's energy efficiency and security.

STEAB is committed to working with you and your team to meet these important goals for a clean energy economy that will last far into the future. We believe that SEP and WAP are critical to the President's goals and should not be reduced any more than absolutely necessary; the Board wants to be fully engaged with you to develop long-term strategies to meet energy efficiency and renewable energy

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goals and to serve people most in need.

Therefore, we urge you to support funding for SEP and WAP at levels consistent with the 20 percent, across-the-board cuts in your EERE portfolio: \$40 million for base SEP and \$168 million for base WAP. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Janet Streff  
STEAB Chair