

# STEAB TELECONFERENCE

Thursday, February 20<sup>th</sup>, 2014

3:30 - 4:12 PM Eastern Time

## TELECONFERENCE ATTENDEES

### Designated Federal Officer (DFO):

- Jason Walsh, Acting DFO in place of Julie Hughes, Sr. Advisor, EERE, DOE.

STEAB TELECONFERENCE ATTENDANCE		
BOARD MEMBERS	Present	Absent
<b>Jeff Ackermann</b> , Director, Colorado Energy Office	X	
<b>Roger Berliner</b> , Council President, Montgomery County Council		X
<b>Tom Carey</b> , Director, Energy and Rehabilitation Programs, New York State Division of Housing and Community Renewal	X	
<b>William Vaughn Clark</b> , Director, Office of Community Development, Oklahoma Department of Commerce	X	
<b>David Gipson</b> , Director, Energy Services Division, Georgia Environmental Facilities Authority	X	
<b>Philip Giudice</b> , Chief Executive Officer, Liquid Metal Battery Corporation		X
<b>Marion Gold</b> , Commissioner of Energy, Rhode Island Office of Energy Resources	X	
<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	X	
<b>Robert Jackson</b> , Manager, Michigan Economic Development Office, Michigan Energy Office	X	
<b>Elliott Jacobson</b> , Vice President for Energy Services, Action Energy	X	
<b>Maurice Kaya</b> , Hawaii Renewable Energy Development Venture	X	
<b>Ashlie Lancaster</b> , Director, South Carolina Energy Office	X	
<b>Lou Moore</b> , Chief, Energy and Pollution Prevention Bureau, Montana	X	
<b>Frank Murray</b> , former President and CEO, New York State Energy Research and Development Authority	X	
<b>Steve Payne</b> , Managing Director, Housing Improvements & Preservation, Department of Commerce	X	
<b>William "Dub" Taylor</b> , Director, Texas State Energy Conservation Office	X	
<b>David Terry</b> , Executive Director, ASERTTI		X
<b>Malcolm Woolf</b> , Sr. Vice President, Policy and Government Affairs, Advanced Energy Economy		X
<b>Daniel Zaweski</b> , Assistant Vice President - Energy Efficiency and Distributed Generation Program, Public Service Electric and Gas Company, Long Island.		X

### Contractor Support & Other DOE Staff:

- Emily Zuccaro, SRA, International Inc.

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AGENDA	
Introduction of New STEAB Members	Frank Murray
Update on STEAB 2014 Engagement Plan and Danielson Response	Frank Murray and Jason Walsh
STEAB Task Force Focus and Direction: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Next Steps Based on Leadership Response to 2014 Engagement Plan</li><li>- Review Membership</li></ul>	Frank Murray and Jason Walsh
Structure and Topics for STEAB's March Meeting in Colorado	Frank Murray
Public Comment	Frank Murray
Other/New Business <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Feb 24th briefing from DOE on National Lab Impact Initiative &amp; Clean Energy Manufacturing</li><li>- Logistics for March meeting</li><li>- Discussion of dates for August meeting in DC</li></ul>	Frank Murray

- Jason Walsh (JW), acting as the Designated Federal Officer (DFO) of the STEAB in place of Julie Hughes who was on annual leave, opened the meeting on Thursday, February 20, 2014. He noted Julie Hughes was unable to make the call that day and he was standing in for her on this Board call.
- STEAB Chair, Frank Murray (FM), then moved into the agenda and introduced the new members, Marion Gold, Jeff Ackermann, and William “Dub” Taylor. He noted these new members were approved in early January and would be joining the Board in person at the upcoming March meeting in Golden, CO. Marion Gold (MG) thanked the Board for selecting her to serve and commented that in reviewing the STEAB Engagement Plan that many things she was working on in her state and that New England was working on were things that were mentioned in that plan and she is excited to see what STEAB does with these topics over the next year.
- FM provided an overview of the current status of the STEAB Engagement Plan noting he had an in-person meeting with Dr. Danielson several weeks ago. In summarizing his meeting he indicated how supportive Dr. Danielson was of the Engagement Plan and the topics outlined and recommendations made in the document. There is a written response from the Assistant Secretary back to the Board with comments and points of clarification, and Mr. Walsh mentioned he would check to see if that response had been sent out yet and would follow-up with FM and Julie Hughes when he had an answer.
- FM continued his overview of the meeting by noting Dr. Danielson reiterated his commitment to stay engaged with the STEAB throughout the year. Discussion over the timing and deliverable dates arose

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and Dr. Danielson indicated some of the dates in the plan should be changed and pushed-back to accommodate a need for further research or discussion with DOE and EERE on these topics. FM noted he and Ms. Hughes would take a look at those dates once the letter from DOE on this plan was received; the Board could add any comments or changes to the Engagement Plan at that time as well.

- FM remarked that in his meeting with Dr. Danielson, he thanked him for the support EERE gave to the Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP) which allowed the Program to get significantly more funding than previously expected. He did note in this meeting that STEAB and the states remain concerned about the long-term liability of the program and that STEAB's Weatherization Task Force will continue working with DOE on this issue.
- Additionally, Dr. Danielson expressed to FM that he was interested in exploring with STEAB how the National Labs can be put to better use to promote economic development and bring new technologies to market. On that same note they discussed the need for better smart grid development taking place at the National Renewable Energy Lab (NREL). There are challenges surrounding smart grid technology with regional issues that states must address National approaches that could be developed at NREL or other labs must leave room for a more targeted regional approach. FM and Dr. Danielson discussed the possibility of arranging a teleconference call or webinar between the DOE staff at headquarters that are working on the smart grid issues. Staff could provide STEAB with an overview on where DOE currently is and where they hope to be with this issue, so states have an opportunity to weigh-in and provide comments and ideas.
- Coupled with the idea of having a smart grid discussion, FM noted Dr. Danielson wanted to have Jetta Wong and Libby Wayman who run the Lab Impact Initiative and the Clean Energy Manufacturing Initiative (CEMI) respectively, brief the Board on those two key initiatives. FM reminded the group that there is a call scheduled for this briefing by Ms. Wong and Ms. Wayman on Monday, February 24<sup>th</sup>, and hopes that the Board can provide recommendations and feedback on these two areas to DOE as the STEAB's comments were sought-out by Dr. Danielson on these key areas.
- Additionally, Dr. Danielson requested comments and feedback from STEAB with regards to the EERE budget allocations and suggested the Board have a call with the budgetary staff within DOE to gain an understanding of where funding stands and provide feedback on this issue. This is perhaps another webinar the group can look to schedule in the coming weeks.
- Finally, the last two items discussed between the Assistant Secretary and FM were (i) Secretary Moniz's commitment that DOE will work closely with states on policy and program implementation and (ii) EERE's development of an online portal for state and local governments.
  - Dr. Danielson spoke of having STEAB design a banner idea under which Secretary Moniz could unite his goal of increased state and DOE engagement. To FM's mind this was kind of like a marketing strategy ask more than a call for ideas or policy recommendations.
  - Secondly, EERE is working on the development of an information portal for state and local governments. The purpose is to create a single repository of information that state and local governments would find useful as a tool for energy efficiency and renewable energy information. Any feedback STEAB has about this site would be helpful for EERE.
- Overall, FM felt the tone of the meeting was very up-beat and positive, and it was clear to him that EERE and Dr. Danielson want to work with STEAB in the most productive and reciprocal manner. The next step is for FM to see the letter from Danielson that responds to STEAB's Engagement Plan and use that as a guide for final edits and changes to the plan itself. He will share a copy of that letter with the Board as soon as he receives it.
- Jason Walsh thanked FM for the thorough review of the meeting with Dr. Danielson adding that the STEAB's Engagement Plan outlined some immediate recommendations and Mr. Walsh wanted to speak to the Board about those.

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- One of the recommendations was that EERE get involved with efforts related to “evolving” utility business models. Mr. Walsh noted EERE absolutely agrees with this recommendation and believes it is a crucial area as distributed generation scales-up. Right now there are internal DOE conversations going on about how DOE as an agency can best add value to this discussion and national debate. Additionally, STEAB suggested EERE reevaluate the Technical Assistance Program (TAP) offerings feeling that TAP ‘is a solution looking for a problem’. EERE discussed this and they are open to specific suggestions from STEAB; EERE certainly wants to better understand the customer (states) and the user requirements in terms of developing and implementing TAP. Any ideas that STEAB wants to share with EERE would be welcome.
- Also, Mr. Walsh referred to FM’s mention of the state information portal and the goal of this site: consolidating information and becoming a one-stop shop for states and local governments to refer to in terms of resources. DOE would welcome engagement with STEAB if there is interest. He asked for the members to look at this site, share it with their colleagues, and provide thoughts and feedback to him about ways to make this better or more user-friendly.
- Finally, Mr. Walsh noted STEAB made a recommendation that DOE play an assertive role in helping states plan for the 111(d) ruling and designing options for cost effective compliance. DOE is looking at this opportunity, but there is a timing consideration with this issue. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is still very much in the development phase of this rule, and the due date for the design is June 1, 2014. DOE will probably step in to this process after the design is released. DOE will work with EPA to identify ways states can plan for compliance. The next deadline—after the June 2014 design deadline—is June 1, 2015 when the final guidelines will come out, and then a June 30, 2016 deadline for when states need to submit their implementation plans. DOE wants to work with STEAB on this, but would like to table the discussion until after the June 1, 2014 due date when there is something more concrete to engage with EPA on.
- FM thanked Mr. Walsh for his comments and candid thoughts about STEAB’s recommendations and moved on to the next agenda topic which surrounded the upcoming March STEAB meeting in Golden, CO. He reminded everyone to make their hotel and flight arrangements and to reach out to the contractor support if there were questions about logistics. Julie Hughes is working on an agenda and FM noted he hoped a draft agenda could circulate to the Board the first week of March and asked all the members of the Board to send in their suggestions for agenda topics via email to him and Julie Hughes.
- Elliott Jacobson (EJ) added that he would like to see a Weatherization topic added to the March meeting agenda. He noted the letter that the Weatherization Task Force sent to DOE thanking them for their support for the Program’s budget. He also mentioned that concerns remain about the new certifications and standards that are required by April 1, 2015 in the states. He would like to have time at the March meeting to talk about not only those concerns, but also the future funding for the program.
- EJ also noted that the Weatherization Task Force will be meeting in Washington, DC on March 5, 2014 during the NASCSP meeting to discuss the previously mentioned issues, as well as other funding issues and management details. He noted he will share the outcome of this meeting with the full STEAB during the March meeting in Colorado.
- FM then turned the call to the portion where the STEAB opens up the teleconference for public comment. He asked if there were members of the public on the line. Seeing as there were none, he then asked if members of the public had submitted comments to be read during the teleconference. Seeing as there were none, he then moved on to the final agenda topic which was regarding new business and old business.
- Robert Jackson (RJ) briefly covered a discussion that the Lab Task Force, now named the U.S. Energy Productivity and Economic Competitiveness Task Force, had the week before where they talked about issues of importance to the states and STEAB with regards to the National Labs. The discussion had

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mostly centered on better connecting the National Labs to the marketplace. RJ indicated the SETAB would be meeting with Bill Farris from NREL while the Board is in Golden, CO for the live meeting and that discussion will focus on using the Labs as catalysts for economic development. Additionally, RJ noted that Lab Director Dan Arvizu was invited to participate in the live meeting as well; if he is available to join his discussion will surround how states and other partners can better interface with the National Labs.

- FM then asked about the summer STEAB meeting and requested the Board members look at their calendars for the weeks of August 11<sup>th</sup>, August 18<sup>th</sup> and August 25<sup>th</sup> and send in to him, Julie Hughes and the contractor support an email indicating which of those weeks would *not* work for them if STEAB was to meet in Washington, DC. The Board is trying to book space and a venue in Washington, DC and needs to know what dates work best for the majority of the membership.
- FM asked if there was any additional business. Seeing as there was none he thanked the Board members for attending the February call, reiterated his welcome to the three new Board members, and noted he looks forward to seeing everyone in Golden, CO in March for the upcoming live meeting.
- FM adjourned the STEAB February teleconference call at 4:02 pm.

*Teleconference minutes were scribed by STEAB contractor support, Emily Zuccaro*