

STEAB TELECONFERENCE

Thursday, March 19th, 2015
3:30 - 4:06 PM Eastern Time

TELECONFERENCE ATTENDEES

Designated Federal Officer (DFO):

- Monica Neukomm, DFO, Sr. Policy Advisor, EERE, DOE.

STEAB TELECONFERENCE ATTENDANCE		
BOARD MEMBERS	Present	Absent
Jeff Ackermann , Director, Colorado Energy Office		X
Roger Berliner , Council President, Montgomery County Council		X
Tom Carey , Director, Energy and Rehabilitation Programs, New York State Division of Housing and Community Renewal	X	
William Vaughn Clark , Director, Office of Community Development, Oklahoma Department of Commerce	X	
Marion Gold , Commissioner of Energy, Rhode Island Office of Energy Resources		X
Robert Jackson , Director, Michigan Economic Development Corporation, Michigan Energy Office		X
Elliott Jacobson , Vice President for Energy Services, Action Energy	X	
Maurice Kaya , Hawaii Renewable Energy Development Venture		X
Ashlie Lancaster , Director, South Carolina Energy Office		X
Katrina Metzler , Section Supervisor, Weatherization Office of Community Assistance, Ohio Development Services Agency	X	
Andrew McAllister , Commissioner, California Energy Commission	X	
Frank Murray , former President and CEO, New York State Energy Research and Development Authority	X	
Steve Payne , Managing Director, Housing Improvements & Preservation, Department of Commerce		X
William “Dub” Taylor , Director, Texas State Energy Conservation Office	X	
David Terry , Executive Director, ASERTTI		X
Malcolm Woolf , Sr. Vice President, Policy and Government Affairs, Advanced Energy Economy	X	
Daniel Zaweski , 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	
Task Force Updates:	
- US Energy Productivity and Economic Competitiveness Task Force	
- Weatherization Task Force	Monica Neukomm and Frank Murray
- QER Task Force	
- States Needs Task Force	
- HUD Task Force	
Update on April Board Meeting	Monica Neukomm
Public Comment	Frank Murray
Other or New Business	STEAB Members

- Frank Murray (FM), Chair of STEAB, opened the call and welcomed members to the March teleconference call. He welcomed Andrew McAllister (AM) of California, newest member of the Board, and indicated he and STEAB look forward to AM's insight and recommendations.
- FM provided a brief update regarding the US Energy Productivity and Economic Competitiveness Task Force. While the Chair, Robert Jackson (RJ), was not on the call, FM noted the group will be meeting on a Task Force call before the upcoming April meeting.
- Elliott Jacobson (EJ), gave the Weatherization Task Force update thanking Monica Neukomm (MN), Designated Federal Officer (DFO) of STEAB, for working with Dr. Danielson and his staff in an effort to get the Assistant Secretary of the Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE) out to a Weatherization site. He reiterated his and the Task Force's frustration about the ongoing standards and certification efforts, as well as the fact that the Weatherization Evaluation has still not been released. The Evaluation was supposed to have been released in the beginning of the year but now EJ is hearing it will not be released until the summer. He asked the Task Force to please find a time in the next week where the group could meet and discuss next steps. Robert Adams of EERE will be invited to join that call in hopes of receiving an update on the Evaluation's release.
- Tom Carey (TC) and EJ both asked if the offer for STEAB to review the Evaluation before it is released to the public is still on the table. The reason is that STEAB wanted to engage with EERE on the evaluation results and be able to take information back to the states to answer questions upon release of the evaluation. Vaughn Clark (VC) commended those same discussions are ongoing within the National Association of State Energy Officials (NASEO) with regard to the State Energy Program Evaluation and its postponed release date.
- MN noted the offer still stands and EERE is currently working on the release date and more information will be made available in the coming weeks.
- TC then provided an update on the Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Task Force's activities. The group had their first meeting on March 5, 2015 where the group discussed possible focus areas and action items for FY 2015. That list was shared with the STEAB and TC wanted to know if members had additional topics to add or questions regarding the potential focus areas.
- Jeff Ackermann (JA) proposed the Task Force look at the interaction between disaster recovery and resilience efforts as there is a lot of HUD funding going towards that effort. Perhaps there would be a way to integrate energy efficiency practices into those efforts.

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- Andrew McAllister (AM) asked members of STEAB if in their role within their state if any member had engaged in direct conversations with HUD. The reason being Governor Brown of California recently signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Secretary Castro to work on various project areas within multi-family financing, data, benchmarking and other areas.
- TC asked if AM could share that information with the HUD Task Force as these are relevant themes to what the Task Force is interested in. EJ and FM agreed with TC and would like to see what California has in place as those are areas of interest for their states of Massachusetts and New York as well.
- FM provided the States Needs Task Force update reminding the group that a letter was sent to EERE on January 9, 2015 but the Board was still awaiting feedback from Dr. Danielson.
- Malcolm Woolf, Chair of the Quadrennial Energy Review (QER) Task Force, indicated that year 1 of the QER is complete and the report is currently with the White House for review. There will be a delay with its issuance since the White House is editing the document. Also, there is some discussion between DOE and the White House about the QER focus for year 2. DOE wants to look at electricity, distributed generation and end use, while the White House has a different take. Based on this MW expects the year 2 kick-off to happen in the Spring or early Summer.
- EJ conveyed his concern with the QER is actual program implementation. The QER highlights areas where there is room for improvement and policy or programmatic changes, but is worried DOE will not put forth a plan to address those areas identified.
- MW agreed with EJ saying it is clear the QER is more focused on shaping conversations and identifying leaders in business or in policy making, but very light on actual implementation. STEAB has been concerned about this and the Board recommended that the Office of Energy Policy and Systems Analysis (EPSA) staff an implementation vehicle/office with the intent that in year 2 they would be implementing year 1 recommendations, while also working on the year 2 report.
- MN then turned the discussion to the upcoming April 28 – 29, 2015 live meeting in Austin, TX. She thanked Dub Taylor (DT) for all of his hard work identifying potential site visit opportunities and speakers for the meeting. The hotel is the Hilton Garden Inn Austin Downtown/Convention Center. Details will be forthcoming about booking hotel rooms and flights for the meeting. The brief agenda will be Tuesday morning STEAB business and a speaker or two, then an afternoon on Tuesday of tours around the Austin area. Wednesday will be all presentations and discussion. MN has reached out to Jetta Wong to come and discuss her role as the Acting Director of the new Office of Technology Transitions, as well as to the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Transportation and for Renewable Energy. She hopes that they will be able to join the Board in person, but certainly will be available via teleconference.
- MN asked MW if it would be useful to have someone discuss the current state of the QER, and MW replied that it would be, but only if there was additional clarity on the year 2 focus within the next month.
- MN told the STEAB the site visits for the Austin meeting were chosen based on Board feedback. The two sites that received the most votes were the Mueller/Pecan Street site and the Weatherization site.
- DT continued saying the Mueller/Pecan Street site is an old airport redevelopment two miles from hotel. Austin Energy's Green Building Program, one of the most aggressive in the country, incorporates national LEED standards, and as a result Mueller's designs are resource-efficient, use non-toxic and recyclable regional materials and help maintain and improve air and water quality. There the Board can visit the Austin Energy District CHP Energy Plant, the Pecan Street/Pike Powers Commercialization Lab, and the most environmentally innovative HEB grocery store in Austin.
- He went on to say the Weatherization site is the Guadalupe/Saldana Net Zero subdivision. It is a project of the Guadalupe Neighborhood Development Corporation (GNDC) to provide affordable housing to low income residents of Austin. GNDC has partnered with Austin Energy and the Austin Community Design and Development Corporation to make Guadalupe/Saldana a net zero energy development.
- FM, TC, EJ and others said the site visits sound interesting and are looking forward to the upcoming Board meeting.

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- MN noted that during the day on Wednesday, April 29th, the Board will be meeting with staff from Austin Energy and ERCOT to hear about what is occurring in the realms of demand response, transmission, energy efficiency and vehicles. The meeting will likely wrap-up between 2 pm and 3 pm on Wednesday for those who would like to fly out that afternoon.
- EJ then asked MN and FM about the status of the new STEAB nomination package, and MN replied it was moving through EERE concurrence and she expected it to be approved before the April meeting.
- MN then moved on to the Public Comment portion of the agenda. She asked if there were any members of the public on the call. Seeing as there were none, she then asked if there was additional business or new business to discuss.
- Seeing as there was none, she thanked the members for their participation on the March STEAB teleconference call and that she is looking forward to seeing the members in Austin, TX next month.
- Members thanked MN and DT for their help with the Austin agenda, and the STEAB March teleconference call adjourned at 4:06 pm.

Teleconference minutes were scribed by Emily Zuccaro, contractor support for the STEAB