

STEAB TELECONFERENCE

Thursday, October 16th, 2014
3:30 - 4:17 PM Eastern Time

TELECONFERENCE ATTENDEES

Designated Federal Officer (DFO):

- Julie Hughes, DFO, Sr. 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	
David Gipson , Director, Energy Services Division, Georgia Environmental Facilities Authority		X
Philip Giudice , Chief Executive Officer, Ambri	X	
Marion Gold , Commissioner of Energy, Rhode Island Office of Energy Resources		X
Paul Gutierrez , Vice Provost for Outreach Services, Associate Dean and Director, Cooperative Extension Service, College of Agriculture and Home Economics, New Mexico State University		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
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 Julie Hughes and Frank Murray
- Weatherization Task Force
- QER Task Force
- States Needs Task Force

Public Comment Frank Murray

Sharing of Recent Board Member Accomplishments STEAB Members

- Frank Murray (FM), Chair of STEAB, opened the call by announcing the departure of Julie Hughes (JH) the DFO of STEAB from DOE. She is leaving to move to the Institute for Market Transformation. STEAB wished her well but the Board will miss her leadership and thanked her for her hard work over the last year as DFO.
- JH thanked the Board saying she will be heading up the policy program at the Institute. She will be staying in the energy efficiency world and hopes to cross paths with members again in her new role. She thanked STEAB for all of their hard work and for stepping-up and producing an amazing last year.
- JH and FM then asked for the US Energy Prod and Economic Competitiveness Task Force update from Chair Robert Jackson (RJ). She noted RJ, Ashlie Lancaster (AL), and Phil Giudice (PGD) were all in attendance at the DOE Small Business Voucher (SBV) meeting at headquarters in early October.
- RJ noted the meeting was a great opportunity to talk with lab staff and small businesses that were busy currently utilizing lab services. The Task Force was able to get the agency perspective of what the program will ultimately look like when it rolls out as a pilot. DOE indicated they are trying to build out a \$20 million pilot program providing specific services to small businesses in regard to validation, testing, and expert consulting services. Based on information shared at the meeting it appears that three to five labs that will participate in the program. He also said that at some point in early 2015 there will be a solicitation offered to all labs to be part of the program and then out of those applications three to five labs will be chosen.
- RJ went on to say that there was a discussion on what types of projects the labs thought they could handle and a few small businesses wanted global research services from the labs. They hoped the labs could determine what is currently in the marketplace and what issues have been solved globally already as that would be beneficial to help small business understand what technology is out there already. Out of that discussion it became clear that it would probably be part of the ultimate program. Additionally, the small businesses wanted one portal for applications, not multiple. DOE indicated for the program to be a success they felt they needed at least 700 applications to be submitted during the pilot stage.
- RJ concluded his comments noting one sensitive issue surrounded the Intellectual Property and would it be addressed in the voucher agreement or would labs create something separate. There were also talks about metrics for success and how the agency could lobby for additional funds in future years for the project. Through the whole discussion, AL and RJ pushed for the role the state would play in all of this and it did not seem as if the labs appreciated the unique services the states offer. The advantages were articulated as to what states could bring that would benefit the program, but again the labs were not appreciative of states being involved in what they saw as a lab and small business program. As STEAB

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RJ advised the Board should continue to push for a role for the states which was part of the original advice provided to EERE regarding this program.

- AL agreed with RJ's comments and made it clear that she doesn't feel the labs have the ability to ultimately measure the metrics of success for a program like this. States could do that reporting through PAGE. She noted about 15 businesses in attendance and only saw 9 different labs. On the cost share issues, STEAB talked about cost share being prohibitive if you are targeting small businesses. Ultimately, the group in attendance agreed on the idea that the small business themselves need to put in about \$1,000 in a match and if they couldn't they were not a viable entity and should not be eligible for this program. There was also additional discussion about the Small Business Tax Credit Act in New Mexico.
- PGD agreed with RJ and AL saying the ultimate program sounds disappointing because they are not getting states involved. He suggested STEAB write a letter that addresses the Board's disappointment and distances support for the program as it is defined now. He went on to say the design of the program feels like an insular DOE/lab program with DOE dealing with interested labs instead of actually creating a new set of relationships between labs and the business community. PGD reminded everyone that STEAB advised getting State Energy Offices (SEOs) involved to help liaise between DOE, labs and small businesses and discussed how the state would play a role in helping find business interests within the state.
- Maurice Kaya (MK) agreed with PGD's comments. He said STEAB provided this input to DOE about state involvement and a follow-up is appropriate under the circumstances as outlined by RJ, AL and PDG. He was disappointed that the proceedings have gone in a way where the value of the states has been ignored.
- RJ asked JH to please talk to Jetta Wong and Joyce Yang about this and ask if they plan to reengage states in the discussion.
- JH indicated she had chatted with Ms. Wong and Ms. Yang and they seemed positive the program, but it was important to provide feedback to DOE about STEAB's concerns.
- FM asked the Task Force to schedule a call for the following week so they could continue discussions and delve more deeply into these issues of state involvement and draft a formal response to DOE regarding the Small Business Voucher program.
- Elliott Jacobson (EJ) then provided a brief update on the events of the Weatherization Task Force. He noted the group will meet with other stakeholders in January after the Board meeting in Washington, DC to discuss funding concerns, and the release of the Weatherization National Evaluation.
- JH thanked EJ and told the Board that the comments made to Robert Adams at DOE about the evaluation were very helpful and the comments were much appreciated by DOE.
- Malcolm Woolf (MW) had no updates regarding the Quadrennial Energy Review (QER) Task Force. He noted DOE was working on wrapping-up the year one report which addressed transmission, storage and distribution. He felt DOE did a good job with outreach to states and regions and at this point until year two kicks off his Task Force is in a holding pattern.
- MW did say that one area where DOE did not address what STEAB had asked about and advised on was the need for state and local engagement on the outcomes of the year one report. He suggested his Task Force could reiterate that point as DOE begins working and thinking about the QER for year 2.
- David Terry (DT) of the states needs Task Force was not on the call, but JH noted the Task Force met and put together a document laying out recommendations to DOE in terms of Technical Assistance DOE could provide to states in anticipation of the 111(d) rule.
- JH 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, they moved on to the final agenda item.

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- JH asked William “Dub” Taylor (WT) about the Texas manufacturers that were recognized for their energy efficiency goals in the Better Buildings Challenge.
- WT elaborated saying 13 states were awarded State Energy Program (SEP) competitive awards. The challenge that remains is there were a lot of states that did not benefit from this funding award and STEAB has been clear in the past about the idea of the competitive awards and how it is an inefficient way of doing business. He wants STEAB to talk more about this and provide more feedback and comments on the process since the competitive award process is something DOE favors.
- FM agreed this was an area which STEAB could address with DOE again in FY 2015.
- FM asked if there was any additional business, or other items of note to share. Seeing as there were none, he thanked the members for their participation on the October call and adjourned the teleconference at 4:17 pm.

Teleconference minutes were scribed by STEAB contractor support, Emily Zuccaro