

State Energy Advisory Board  
 August Teleconference Call Minutes  
 September 15, 2011 3:30 PM – 4:05 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>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.

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**Agenda Items:**

1. Task Force Reports and Updates:
  - a. Deployment Task Force Phil Giudice
  - b. DOE/USDA Task Force Duane Hauck
  - c. Weatherization Task Force Elliott Jacobson
  - d. SEP Task Force David Gipson
  - e. Lab Task Force TBD
2. Update on November STEAB Meeting from Janet Streff  
November 15-17, 2011, in Knoxville, TN
3. Public Comments Janet Streff
4. Other Business Janet Streff

- Gil Sperling (GS) opened the September Teleconference call by thanking the STEAB for attending the call. He moved directly into asking about the Task Force updates and asked for an update from the Deployment Task Force.
- Phil Giudice (PGD) noted that overall there was not an update at this time, but he will be attending the Efficiency and Renewables Advisory Committee (ERAC) meeting in San Mateo, CA in late September and will have more information on the October STEAB call about any Deployment updates. He noted it was also possible that the new Assistant Secretary for the office of EERE may be in attendance at the ERAC meeting and if so, will introduce him to the STEAB as well.
- Duane Hauck (DH) gave the next update for the USDA/DOE Task Force. He said the State Energy Program (SEP) competitive awards have been announced and made and some of those awards were made to states who applied for money under the State Energy Program/Cooperative Extension partnership initiative. David Terry (DT) added that though awards were made, there have been no details released about the actual awards. John Davies (JD) commented that he know Nebraska, Wisconsin and Kentucky all received awards, and Susan Brown (SB) confirmed that was the case. DH indicated he has not yet seen anything officially released by DOE, but knows that 20 applications were submitted for this particular area of funding and even those states which did not receive funding will perhaps get some kind of ‘honorabile mention’ because the applications were still very strong. DH continued by saying the State Energy Extension Partnership (SEEP) is going very well and there have been several conference calls and engagement with the group by Mark Bailey and Anna Garcia of DOE. JD added that there is talk of also trying to bring NASEO into the meetings, and DT is working on this angle as well.
- Vaughn Clark (VC) finished up this portion of the update by noting Oklahoma applied for the SEP Competitive Award under the partnership with CES but the state did not win the funding. He indicated the office is still very excited about the possibility of partnerships like this and using the existing network to engage communities with energy education and projects.
- Elliott Jacobson (EJ) updated the Board on the latest work of the Weatherization Task Force. He thanked the Board for providing feedback and comments on the draft Resolution 11-01. He asked GS about the possibility of DOE officially asking for an extension for ARRA funding past the March 2012 deadline, but GS indicated that though DOE is working on something internally and engaging with OMB and the Hill, this issue is still yet to be resolved. EJ, SB and Steve Payne (SP) believe a resolution needs to go to DOE right away in order to effect any kind of change or assist with bringing more light and attention to this issue, but there was a question about waiting until the live November meeting to really discuss and then vote to pass the draft resolution. A question was raised if a resolution is the best way to convey this information, and VC mentioned that at the recent NASEO meeting states expressed concern that bringing the issue of remaining ARRA funds to light in Congress could affect the ability of Congress to fully fund the states with the requested amount in the upcoming fiscal year. EJ mentioned he had heard these same concerns, but GS

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reminded everyone that at this point Congress has already set their targets and DOE knows what is expected to come to them in terms of funding. He continued to say that the actual availability of ARRA funding has very little impact on those discussions overall, so in terms of this very narrow issue of an extension, Congress is already aware of the states with funds remaining and that DOE is interested in this issue. He also said that the STEAB has a role as a FACA to EERE to bring issues like this to light and provide comments and feedback to DOE, so if the Task Force wants to move forward in November, or with just a letter sooner than later, that is a perfectly acceptable action to take.

- David Gipson (DG) then updated the STEAB on the activities of the SEP Task Force. He indicated the letter which was sent out in draft form for the Board to review<sup>1</sup>. The letter addressed to Secretary Chu detailed the STEAB's support for SEP Reauthorization and urges the Secretary to support the reauthorization. He briefly reviewed the content of the letter and asked if the Board had any questions or comments to share. Dan Carol (DC) asked about the timeliness of the letter and indicated he would be very happy to assist with edits and additional distribution of this letter so it garners the most attention. DT responded that the sooner this letter gets out to the Secretary, the better. PGD noted the letter does not mention the success of the stimulus and asked if a paragraph about that should be included. DG said there is a portion of the letter which discusses the success of the program, and it can be found in the portion where the President is mentioned. DT told PGD he could see where this suggestion was coming from, but is concerned that if Congress was to skim this letter instead of read it in-depth, they may just take away the wrong impression. GS added that if SEP Reauthorization is linked with stimulus it could cause it to stall in Congress, so he advises to leave any mention of stimulus out of the letter.
- DG thanked everyone for their input and indicated he would work on the letter and make the edits which were indicated. He also asked the group to please continue to send him any comments or suggestions and a final draft would be sent out to the full Board at a later date for final consideration before going to the Secretary.
- The teleconference then turned to the portion where the upcoming November 15 – 17, 2011 meeting was discussed. A draft agenda is being developed and the Board needs to provide flight choices to the contractor support by October 19<sup>th</sup>.
- EJ asked GS about the status of new membership coming to the STEAB. GS responded that he was working no vetting potential new members and was drafting a memo to Secretary Chu which would go out later in the month as an official nomination memo. GS indicated he had received input from many different areas about potential new members and the vetting process was almost complete.
- GS moved on to the public comments portion of the meeting. Seeing as there were no members of the public on the call and seeing as no members of the public contacted GS or the contractor support, he then closed the public comment portion of the meeting.
- GS asked the STEAB if there was any new or old business to discuss. Seeing as there was none, he thanked the group for participating and ended the call.

*Minutes were scribed by Emily Lindenberg, contractor support for the STEAB.*

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

# Appendix A

## DRAFT LETTER: STEAB TO SECRETARY CHU ON SEP RE-AUTHORIZATION

Dr. Steven Chu  
Secretary of Energy  
U.S. Department of Energy  
1000 Independence Avenue, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20585

Dear Dr. Chu:

We write to express our strong support for the reauthorization of the U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) State Energy Program (SEP) in 2012. We urge your attention to helping secure SEP's continuation by addressing this important issue with Congress and particularly Senator Jeff Bingaman, Chairman of the Energy and Natural Resources Committee. SEP is the only cost-shared program administered by DOE that provides resources directly to the States for energy efficiency and renewable energy demonstration and deployment opportunities that they identify, and which support DOE's national energy goals.

With these SEP funds and the State and private resources leveraged by them, the 56 State and Territory Energy Offices target activities and manage strategic programs that support the private sector in increasing energy efficiency, developing renewable and alternative energy sources, promoting energy related economic development, and reducing reliance on imported oil.

Moreover, the President has noted the success of SEP several times over the past 12 months, highlighting technology innovation, on how State Energy Offices work with the private sector to "bridge the gap" from R&D to commercialization. Most recently, during his 2011 State of the Union address, he called out the owners of a Solar Shingle manufacturing company from Michigan – a project the State Energy Office selected for SEP funding. Earlier last year, at a major ARRA media event in Wisconsin, he visited the ZBB Energy's advanced battery manufacturing facility, which the Wisconsin Energy Office selected for funding under SEP. These deployment oriented projects and programs and dozens like them help to extend the great value of DOE's research into the market. Further, while not a driver of the project selections, these are also the types of clean economy examples that resonate with voters as they consider how their tax dollars are being spent (*See attached SEP Projects*).

All of the activities of the States under the program are conducted in support of strengthening America's competitive position and energy security. Examples of SEP-supported work in the States include:

- Fostering greater energy efficiency in manufacturing to retain jobs;
- Supporting private sector energy innovations through such means as business incubators and job training;
- Advancing cost-effective energy efficiency retrofits in public buildings (e.g., schools, state facilities) to reduce energy costs to the taxpayer;
- Implementing energy emergency plans to mitigate the economic and security implications of energy supply disruptions and related price spikes;
- Delivering public energy efficiency education;

- Conducting statewide energy planning to ensure states' indigenous energy resources are identified and economic development options are expanded; and
- Piloting innovative energy demonstration projects with the private sector and research institutions.

The states' ability to deliver extraordinary economic and energy programs under SEP has been demonstrated in every state. The conclusion of a study conducted by the Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL), an in-depth cost-benefit analysis of SEP, showed that each dollar of SEP federal funds yields \$7.22 in annual energy cost savings. Also, each dollar of SEP federal funds is typically leveraged by \$10.71 of state and private funds, making the federal money go much further than typical federal energy programs. This program has literally saved consumers and businesses billions of dollars.

Again, we strongly urge your action supporting the reauthorization of SEP for the benefit of the economies and citizens of all States, and for the continued partnership with DOE's R&D programs as states aid companies in moving emerging energy technologies into the marketplace.

Best Regards,

STEAB Board