



MEMO

To: PECC

Fr: Shari Shapiro

Date: 12/5/14

Re: Minutes from 11/14/2014 Meeting

NEXT CALL: 12/17/2014 at 2:00 pm.

Dial-in Number: (712) 432-1212 Meeting ID: 599-337-537

NEXT MEETING: Mid-February 2015.

- 1) Utility Engagement and Stretch Code Presentation by Ian Finlayson, Deputy Director, Energy Efficiency Division, Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources.
 - a) Stretch Code
 - i) Over 150 munis have adopted the stretch code. Far exceeded expectations.
 - ii) Stretch codes were not originally a state initiative. Rather, it was the result of municipal outreach looking for exemptions to statewide code to increase energy efficiency.
 - iii) Stretch codes are part of MA's "green communities" program, which gave munis access to additional funding for municipal energy efficiency and renewable projects.
 - (1) You can be a stretch code community but not a green community.
 - iv) Provided training to both code officials *and the regulated community*.
 - (1) Direct training
 - (2) Circuit riders
 - (3) Technical assistance hotline
 - v) Homebuilders have become comfortable with the stretch code and see it as an advantage.
 - b) Utility Engagement
 - i) Utility engagement in energy code activities was started as part of MA's utility funded energy efficiency law.
 - ii) Utility incentives used to be tied to Energy Star Homes, but with Version 3.0, contractors hit a roadblock. Now, incentives are tied to stretch code.
 - iii) Energy code activities funded by utilities.
 - (1) Circuit rider and training programs are funded by the utilities.

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- (2) Hands on blower door and duct testing trainings are highly useful, but trouble with the TRC test for cost effectiveness. So, these are not yet funded by the utilities.
- c) MA Energy Code Compliance Study
 - i) PECC asked lots of questions about measurement and verification and results
 - ii) Massachusetts executed a survey of residential energy code compliance and a survey of commercial energy code compliance.
 - iii) Residential--4 metrics with different levels of compliance
 - (1) Depending on the metric, 17-95% compliance.
 - (2) Wound up using HERS metric and focusing on energy performance, as opposed to line-by-line compliance
 - (3) Compliance dropped to roughly 75% with 2009 codes. This gave utilities the goal of increasing compliance rates.
 - (4) Houses using HERS or RESCHECK had higher compliance rates than prescriptive paths.
 - iv) Commercial—Much more difficult to assess. Did a qualitative rather than quantitative assessment.
 - (1) Building envelope was the greatest determinant.
 - (2) Dedication of design and construction team to codes was the determinative factor.
- 2) Presentation on an opportunity to participate in research being conducted by the Consortium for Building Energy Innovation on municipal energy code implementation.
 - a) Shari briefed on the study.
 - b) Shari to distribute survey. PECC members to distro to interested groups.
- 3) Subcommittee Discussion
 - a) We discussed the participation and priorities for the Designer/Contractor, Utility and Public Outreach subcommittees, appointment of subcommittee leaders and division of follow-up activities.
 - b) The PECC decided to focus as a whole on two projects, one short term and one long term, as a group.**
 - i) Designer/Contractor/Owner training**
 - ii) Utility engagement**
- 4) Additional Engagement
 - a) Personal outreach to stakeholder contacts to increase meeting attendance
 - b) Set up monthly check-in calls