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.
(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