

Residential Ratepayers' Advisory Board
October 24, 2022, Meeting Minutes

<i>Present for the Board</i>	<i>Present for the OCA</i>
Thomas Moses, Chair	Donald Kreis
Dana Nute, Vice Chair	Julianne Desmet
Ryan Clouthier	Maureen Reno
Claira Monier	

Guest Speakers: Sam Evans-Brown, Executive

Mr. Moses called the meeting to order at 2:10 p.m. No members of the public present.

1. Minutes of July 25th Meeting

Mr. Nute moved to approve the minutes. Ms. Monier seconded the motion. Board members agreed unanimously. Mr. Moses abstained as he was not in attendance for the July 25, 2022 meeting.

2. OCA staffing and recruitment issues

There has been a Director position open since September. Now the Legal Assistant position is open. Three candidates interviewed, hoping to hire for that position quickly.

3. Discussion of RSA 363:28 and OCA disagreement with Department of Justice (DOJ) re: court appearances

OCA intends to file a brief as the appellee this Wednesday with the New Hampshire Supreme Court. The DOJ has informed Mr. Kreis if he files a brief the DOJ will consider that an act outside the scope of Mr. Kreis's official duties for purposes of RSA 99-D. The DOJ uses RSA 7:6 as the basis for its position that the DOJ must file the brief on behalf of the OCA. The Board agreed with Mr. Kreis's position that the enabling statute allows him to act independently.

4. Presentation from Sam Evans-Brown, executive director of Clean Energy New Hampshire (CENH), about the intersection of their work with that of the Office of the Consumer Advocate

CENH is a non-profit advocating for Clean Energy in NH. Mr. Evans Brown presented information from Lazard's annual Levelized Cost of Energy Analysis. Data shows that renewables are cheapest supply-side energy and has been trending downward. Mr. Kreis noted that Lazard used to show the levelized cost of energy for energy efficiency on the some chart.. Now, the question is how do we deliver benefits for all ratepayers? CENH believes that subsidization of EV adoption by all ratepayers will save all ratepayers money. There was discussion regarding the Dunsky study re: net metering. CENH believes that the benefits to all customers far outweigh the costs. These measures save overall system costs, because they reduce electricity demand or load during peak periods – "teaching the duck to fly." CENH believes that if state adopted its guidance ratepayers would save. Explanation of a flexible load profile vs uncontrolled load profile and how it shifts usage to match peak output from solar.

Discussion following presentation: Mr. Kreis states that the Lazard analysis is an important document and that the Dunksy report demonstrated only a small subsidy to participants compared to the extensive savings to all ratepayers. Mr. Kreis said focus should be on ensuring everyone

that wants to net meter can, including renters and residents of multifamily dwellings. OCA and CENH also strongly support ratepayer funded energy efficiency.

5. Case Update:

OCA does not believe the PUC is applying the LCIRP (Least Cost Integrated Resource Planning) statute correctly. Mr. Kreis is drafting a bill re: LCIRP to address issues and improve the statute. OCA is optimistic that good things will come out of Eversource LCIRP case with a solid settlement moving things in the right direction.

6. Legislative Update: OCA priorities and concerns for 2023 session.

Wise to wait for the results of the election to determine what the OCA will pursue and how. A priority is to improve the LCIRP statute. Another is the data platform as it is Mr. Kreis's view that the PUC should be taken out of the management role. Also, the PUC's interpretation of HB 549 stating that the NH Saves must show 65% lifetime savings is an issue that needs to be addressed as it puts the weatherization programs in jeopardy, resulting in layoffs.

7. 2023 RRAB Meetings

Meeting dates: 1/23/23; 4/24/23; 7/24/23; 10/23/23

8. Adjournment

Mr. Moses moved to adjourn. Mr. Clouthier seconded the motion, which was adopted unanimously by the Board. The meeting was adjourned at 3:42 p.m.