

Residential Ratepayers' Advisory Board
December 10, 2012 Meeting Minutes

Present for the Board:

Kenneth Mailloux
Thomas Moses
Amy Manzelli, Esq., Acting Chair
James Garrity
Thomas Cunningham
Deborah de Moulpied

Present for the OCA:

Susan Chamberlin
Stephen Eckberg
Donna McFarland
Christina Martin
Kimberly Therrien

Guests:

Heidi Kroll, Lobbyist and Policy Analyst at Gallagher, Callahan & Gartrell, P.C
Michael S. Giaimo, Esq., External Affairs for ISO New England

1. Introductions and Minutes of September 10, 2012 Meeting

Attorney Manzelli declared a quorum present and called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. Attorney Manzelli then asked the Board if there were any amendments to the minutes. Hearing none she asked for a motion to accept the minutes as drafted. Mr. Cunningham moved to accept the minutes, and the motion was seconded by Mr. Garrity. The Board unanimously approved the September minutes as drafted.

2. Presentation by Michael S. Giaimo, Esquire on ISO New England

Attorney Giaimo provided a regional update on behalf of ISO New England in the form of a PowerPoint presentation with an accompanying handout. Included in this presentation were the following topics:

- Background: ISO New England and Regional Power System
- ISO New England's Major Responsibilities
- Growth, Winter Outlook, Forecasting and Energy Efficiency
- Renewables and Interconnection Queue
- Transmission
- Challenges for Region
- Additional Information

Attorney Giaimo availed himself for additional questions or concerns via e-mail.

3. Process for selection of Board chair

Ms. Manzelli discussed the process for selecting the chair. Mr. Moses indicated that he wanted to make a motion to nominate two long-standing Board members that have acted in a leadership capacity previously. Mr. Moses nominated Mrs. Monier as the Board chair and Mr. Costello as the vice-chair. There was a second by Mr. Mailloux, but also a question by Attorney Manzelli as to whether he knew if they'd be agreeable to this since they weren't in attendance at this meeting. Mr. Moses confirmed that he'd called and spoken with them to let them know of his intentions and they were agreeable to take this on. The Board unanimously approved the chair and vice-chair nominations

4. Legislative Update – Jim Garrity

Mr. Garrity provided a hard copy of his 2013 legislative preview noting that this is still a very rough analysis of these legislative items. He briefly highlighted some of the items on this list as follows:

- 2013-S-0496-L – Thinks that the intent is to direct more money from CORE programs back to municipalities;
- 2013-H-0396-R – Potential impact that PSNH would then need to pay property tax on the scrubber and that in turn would be requested to be recovered through ratepayers;
- 2013-H-0585-R – Northern Pass related;
- 2013-H-590-R – Related to renewable; and
- LSR Unknown – Relative to NH Electric Co-op with details unknown.

ACTION ITEM: Ms. Chamberlin asked Board members to reach out to NH Electric Coop members to find out their concerns. She understands that a bill will be presented to try to have them go back under regulation. She has asked that all such information heard be reported back to her.

5. Case Update

Ms. Chamberlin offered to entertain any questions that the Board might have relative to the case updates. Mr. Eckberg noted that we are at “crunch time” and at the end of many dockets. In addition, he noted that parties to the scrubber docket are waiting for a discovery dispute to be decided on by the Public Utilities Commission.

Mr. Garrity asked for further explanation of DE 12-097 regarding purchase of receivables proposals. Mr. Eckberg responded that it has to do with choices in power, billing/payment issues and 3rd parties “purchase of receivables approach”. Suppliers propose selling to PSNH the accounts receivable created by the sale of energy. The PUC investigation is ongoing.

Mr. Cunningham asked about the return of funds in DG 12-131, the investigation into Maine/NH interstate cost allocation. Mrs. McFarland explained that four million dollars of over-collection will be return to NH ratepayers. It is being allocated to customers over a 12 month period.

Mr. Eckberg thanked Attorney Giaimo for his presentation noting that he’s probably aware that OCA joined in to object to the ISO’s budget. Ms. Chamberlin further explained to the Board that the Connecticut Attorney General’s Office investigated the ever-increasing budget of the ISO. The NH OCA joined the request to allow full review at the state level, because residential ratepayers pay for these costs in their electric rates.

6. Any other topics or issues that the Board wishes to discuss

Attorney Manzelli asks if there is any other business that the Board wishes to discuss to which there is none noted.

7. Opportunity for public input

Attorney Manzelli asks if there is any public input to which there is none noted. The question of the next meeting date arises. Mrs. Therrien proposes the next meeting date be Monday, March 11th at 10:00 a.m. Attorney Manzelli asks that Mrs. Therrien confirm that this date is acceptable with the two absent Board members, Mrs. Monier and Mr. Costello.

ACTION ITEM: OCA to check with Mrs. Monier and Mr. Costello on next proposed meeting date.

Mrs. Therrien also proposes to the Board dates for Monday's at 10:00 a.m. for the remainder of the year: June 10th, September 9th and December 9th, 2013. All present are agreeable to said dates at this time.

Mr. Mailloux made a motion to adjourn the meeting which was seconded by Mr. Garrity. The meeting was adjourned at 11:50 a.m.

The Board's next meeting is Monday, March 11, 2012, at 10:00 a.m. [Editor's note: Since the date of this meeting, the next meeting of the Board was changed to Monday, March 4th at 10:00 a.m. due to a scheduling conflict of the new chairperson.]