**Sustainable energy Utility Advisory Board (SEUAB) Meeting**

**TUESDAY, JUNE 8, 2021**

**11:00 AM – 12:00 PM**

**Call to Order**

Vice Chair Millie Knowlton called a quorum of the Sustainable Energy Utility Advisory Board (SEUAB or Board) to order at 11:05 AM, June 8, 2021. This was a WebEx video conference call meeting.

**Roll Call/Introductions**

Roll call was taken, and the following people were in attendance:

**Board Members:**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Name** | **In Attendance?** | **FY 2021 Attendance Record** |
| Bicky Corman (Board Chair) | **No** | 8/9 |
| Millie Knowlton (Vice Chair) | Yes | 9/9 |
| Sandra Mattavous-Frye (Sarah Kogel-Smucker as proxy) | Yes | 9/9 |
| Cary Hinton | Yes | 9/9 |
| Donna Cooper | Yes | 9/9 |
| Eric Jones | Yes | 5/5 |
| Farrah Saint-Surin | **No** | 3/9 |
| Nicole Steele (Board voted to remove Nicole to create a vacancy) | **No** |  |
| Nina Dodge |  Yes | 8/9 |
| Richard Graves | **No** | 0/9 |
| Scott Williamson | **No** | 0/9 |
| Steve Burr | Yes | 9/9 |
| Marshall Duer-Balkind | Yes | 2/2 |

**Other Attendees:** Tommy Wells (Director, DOEE);Taresa Lawrence (Deputy Director, DOEE); Lance Loncke (Sr. Program Analyst, DOEE); Hussain Karim (DOEE); Ted Trabue (Director, DCSEU); Dave Epley (Associate Director, DOEE); Patti Boyd (Senior Technology Strategist, DCSEU); Lynora Hall (DOEE); Karen Sistrunk (OPC); Alex Lopez (DOEE); Angela Johnson (DCSEU); Pierre Van Der Merwe (DCSEU); Julia Field (DOEE); Asa Parker (VEIC); Jesse Smith (NMR); Lilia Abron (PEER Consultants, DCSEU contractor); Michael Frischmann; Michael Noreika (NMR); Tom Mauldin (NMR); Zoe Heller (DCSEU); Robert Stephenson; Tamara Christopher.

**Approval of Agenda**

At 11:05 AM Marshall Duer-Balkind moved to approve the agenda, it was seconded by Dr. Donna Cooper.

* All in favor, none opposed.

**Review & Adoption of Minutes (February, March, April, May) (Millie Knowlton, Dave Epley)**

Nina Dodge moved to approve the minutes for all four months with the condition that the minutes can still be edited upon further review. Cary Hinton seconded motion.

* All in favor, none opposed.

**Briefing on FY20 Performance Benchmarks Report (NMR, Lance Loncke)**

Tom Mauldin of NMR Group, Inc. presented on the FY20 Performance Benchmark Report prepared by NMR. In addition to the report’s analysis of the costs and benefits and tracked gross savings overtime, Mr. Mauldin noted that NMR’s methods included conducting telephone and web surveys with DCSEU customers to better understand customer satisfaction.

Overall, the DCSEU achieved the minimum targets for all five benchmarks: electric savings, gas savings, renewable capacity, low-income spend, and green jobs. The DCSEU achieved the maximum targets for all categories except for the low-income savings; this was the first year the DCSEU achieved the green jobs maximum target. Mr. Mauldin highlighted that the commercial custom retrofit program represents 49% of the entire portfolio’s tracked gross savings.

The report compared the DCSEU’s cost of saved energy to similar programs run by PECO (Philadelphia-area) and BG&E (Baltimore-area). Mr. Mauldin provided the caveat that it is not meant to be a direct comparison because of the different nature and scope of each entity, however, it is an indication that the DCSEU delivers cost savings at a lower cost than neighboring programs.

The report also utilizes the societal cost test (SCT) to reflect the full benefits of the DCSEU programs, comparing the SCT costs to SCT benefits. Overall, the cost-effectiveness testing demonstrates that the DCSEU is cost effective with numerous SCT benefits.

The next step is finalizing the FY2020 Performance Benchmark and Portfolio Evaluation report by June 30, 2021. Deadline for comments from the Board is June 18. Vice Chair Knowlton requested that David Epley remind the board two days before the deadline to submit any comments that would influence the NMR report.

Comments from the DCSEU AB included:

* Dr. Cooper emphasized that the comparison to neighboring programs cannot be a direct comparison and requires a caveat that explains this.
* Ms. Dodge requested that the graphics include electric and natural gas measurements in BTU in order to directly compare the electric and natural gas data.
* Ms. Dodge also asked if the societal cost benefits adjustments included the 5% “adder” discussed in 2020; Mr. Mauldin explained that there were no significant changes to the societal cost test analysis NMR conducted in this report compared to past reports. Dr. Lance Loncke further explained that in 2020 the Board discussed including “increased adders” for low income programs (from 5% to 10-15%) but there was no significant change in the findings with the adders. Dr. Loncke mentioned that they could add this to the report to document that the adders were included in preliminary analysis and did not result in significant change.
* Mr. Duer-Balkind wanted to note that the comparison of DCSEU to PECO and BG&E does not reflect poorly of neighboring programs and how they are performing, it just shows how the DCSEU is performing comparatively.
* Mr. Duer-Balkind requested to see a breakdown of the custom retrofit program by market segments given that the custom retrofit program is so important to portfolio savings. Mentioned that perhaps DCSEU could provide the information rather than requesting NMR to include it in the report. Ted Trabue further noted that the DCSEU can provide this market breakdown, but it will most likely not be included in the report before the deadline.

**DCSEU FY21 Q2 Performance Report (Ted Trabue, DCSEU)**

DCSEU’s Managing Director, Ted Trabue, gave an overview of the FY21 Q2 Performance Report. He noted that the FY21 Q2 report updates the DCSEU cumulative goals, which reflect data six months after the timeframe of the NMR report. The report reflects performance as of the midway point of the contract year.

The cumulative benchmark update shows that three cumulative benchmarks met the 5-year maximum benchmark targets (these benchmarks include total gas savings, total renewable capacity, and financial leveraging). The one benchmark that did not meet the maximum benchmark target is the total electric savings category, which is an area where the DCSEU will continue to focus. For annual benchmarks and contract requirements, Mr. Trabue noted that the DCSEU hopes to achieve 100% of the maximum goal for total low-income savings this year. (This is the one benchmark category that did not meet the maximum target, as previously noted by NMR.) Mr. Trabue also emphasized that the current Certified Business Enterprises (CBE) spending is primarily going towards Solar for All.

The commercial and institutional market update noted that revenue for the hospitality and leisure industry continues to be low after 15 months of the District-wide COVID-19 Public Health Emergency shutdown. Consequently, this sector is unlikely to spend money on energy efficiency projects because of their limited revenue.

The workforce development update highlighted that the DCSEU is running 15-20 contractor training sessions this summer, many of which were oversubscribed last summer. These summer trainings will continue over the next five years and have been well received by the CBEs who attend.

The Solar for All update explained that the goal is complete at least 110 (hopefully 120) single family projects this year. However, identifying projects has been a challenge due to the limited ability to visit homes (to assess shading and onsite conditions) during the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency. Mr. Trabue stated that the community solar program (Solar for All CREF) is doing well; once all 29 CREF projects are installed, the program should help 2000 residents reduce their annual energy bill by 15% over the next 15-20 years.

The marketing and communications update highlighted DCSEU’s continued partnership with Pepco and DOEE on programs to reduce residential energy usage and costs.

Time permitted only one question/comment from the Board: Ms. Dodge asked how the DCSEU work considers indoor air quality. There was no time to discuss so Ms. Dodge requested that this be put on the agenda for the next Board meeting.

**Actions taken by the Board**

* Approval of June 8, 2021 meeting agenda
* Approval to adopt the February, March, April and May Board meeting minutes with the condition that edits can still be made

**Actions for the next Agenda**

* The next regular Board meeting will be in September. There will be no regular Board meeting in July or August.
* NMR's FY20 report will be finalized on June 30; any comments from the Board are requested by June 18.
* The Board's annual report is due 90 days from the submission of NMR's final FY20 report, which will be September 30. Bicky will circulate assigned sections of the report and a summary of how we'll approach the drafting process.
* The Board will convene to finalize comments on FC 1160 once there is additional information from discussions between Pepco/SEU. This will likely be by the end of June; more information on scheduling will come via email.

**Adjournment**

* Vice Chair Knowlton adjourned the meeting at 12:00 PM, Karen Sistrunk seconded the motion.
	+ All in favor, none opposed.

*Minutes prepared by Julia Field, DOEE*