



Stakeholder Group Meeting Summary

Monday, December 14, 2015
8:30 AM–10:30 PM

Michigan Public Service Commission
Lake Huron Conference Room, First Floor
7109 West Saginaw, Lansing

Stakeholder Group Members Present

Lauren Donofrio (co-chair and nonvoting ex officio), Michigan Department of the Attorney General (AG); Michael Moody (co-chair and nonvoting ex officio), AG; Jim Ault, Michigan Electric and Gas Association; Liesl Clark, Michigan Energy Innovation Business Council; Brandon Hofmeister, Consumers Energy; Chrissy Beckwith, SEMCO Energy; John LaMacchia, Michigan Municipal League; Jeff Stoutenburg (alternate for Greg Bergtold), The Dow Chemical Company; Andrew Vermeesch, Michigan Farm Bureau; Jean Redfield, NextEnergy; George Andraos, Ford Motor Company; Greg Poulos, EnerNOC; Kwafo Adarkwa, ITC Holdings Corp.; Dan Dundas, Senate Majority Policy Office; Jill Steiner, The Cadmus Group; Laura Chappelle, Energy Michigan; Greg Clark, Indiana Michigan Power

Steering Committee Members Present

Valerie Brader, Michigan Agency for Energy (MAE); Mary Maupin, Michigan Department of Environmental Quality

External Support Staff Present

Julie Metty Bennett, Public Sector Consultants (PSC); Eric Pardini, PSC; Terri Novak, MAE; Rich Sedano (remote), The Regulatory Assistance Project (RAP)

Other Attendees

Dave Isakson, Michigan Public Service Commission (MPSC)

Informal Meet and Greet

Prior to the start of the stakeholder meeting, participants were given the opportunity to speak with their fellow stakeholders during an informal meet and greet.

Welcome from the Co-chairs, Introductions, Review Agenda, Review and Take Comments on Meeting Notes

Next, stakeholder group co-chair Lauren Donofrio welcomed participants to the meeting. She thanked stakeholders for their attendance and asked them to briefly introduce themselves.

After introductions, Ms. Donofrio explained that due to a last minute schedule change the group would discuss the vision statement and recommendations for demand response (DR) before discussing the remaining stakeholder group meeting topics and schedule. Prior to moving into the agenda, Ms. Donofrio asked stakeholders for comments on the November 16 meeting summary. There were no comments or suggested revisions. Ms. Donofrio noted the summary would be made final and posted to [the project website](#) hosted by MAE.

Review and Finalize Vision Statement and Recommendations for Demand Response

Project manager Julie Metty Bennett thanked Ms. Donofrio for her welcoming remarks and proceeded to direct stakeholders' attention to the document "Stakeholder Group Vision Statement and Recommendations for Demand Response". She explained that following the small group exercises on November 16, the project team reviewed stakeholders' input and developed a list of recommendations based on their discussions. She invited stakeholders to review these recommendations and offer their suggestions for revisions. Stakeholders' feedback has been recorded in a revised version of the recommendations document and is available in the [Stakeholders' ShareFile folder](#). Stakeholders have been asked to review this version and submit feedback to the project management team by COB Wednesday, January 6, 2016.

Once any additional stakeholder comments have been incorporated, the group's final recommendations will be shared with the Roadmap Steering Committee.

Discuss Remaining Stakeholder Group Meeting Topics and Schedule

The next item on the agenda was for stakeholders to discuss how they would like to proceed with the remainder of the Energy Roadmap process. Valerie Brader, Executive Director of MAE, explained that the steering committee wanted to engage stakeholders in this discussion since the group was set to conclude their work on DR. She added that despite the expectation that there would be more certainty around the future of energy policy in Michigan when the group wrapped up with DR, the direction of energy policy changes is still uncertain. With this understanding, the steering committee presented a list of three options for stakeholders to consider, and a description of these options can be found in the [Stakeholders' ShareFile Folder](#). These options included the following: continuing work on aspects of energy policy not likely to be impacted by legislative changes; pausing stakeholder group meetings until energy legislation is finalized (expected early 2016); or to continue meeting as planned, but once the energy policy landscape is more defined, the group could devote their efforts to topics in the legislation where more discussion is needed.

Stakeholders' discussion of these options is summarized below:

- ❖ Q: Would altering our current schedule impact our ability to utilize grant funds?
- ❖ A: We would likely be able to utilize current grant funding under any of the scenarios described, any modifications to the schedule would impact how and when resources are used. We won't need to give money back, but we want to make this work as productively as possible. If we continue to meet at this rate we would be fine to work through June of next year.
- ❖ Q: Would we need to/be able to get an extension from the Department of Energy?
- ❖ A: No, extension would not be an option. We would need to utilize the current funding during the prescribed grant period. If we needed to extend our work we would likely have to find additional or new sources of funding.
- ❖ Q: There is a risk of taking a hiatus and losing some of the group's momentum. Do we believe we will be able to pick up where we left off? How much more can we do until there is legislation?

- ❖ A: There is a risk that we lose momentum. There are topics that the steering committee believes we can work on in the interim, if the group chooses. Next, we would begin to work on distribution system planning (DSP), which the Commission has requested in its recent order in Consumers Energy's rate case. After this, we would begin discussions related to DR rate design.

Recognizing that there is uncertainty around the fate of energy policy in 2016, the group determined that the best course of action would be to put their meetings on hold until February 2016. If at that time there is energy legislation, then the steering committee will meet to discuss what the next steps are for the stakeholder group. Stakeholders agreed to this approach.

Wrap-up and Next Steps, Next Meeting Monday, February 22, at 8:30 AM

To conclude the day's stakeholder group meeting, Ms. Bennett thanked everyone for their attendance and explained that the project team would be in communication with stakeholders regarding finalizing recommendations for DR and the updated meeting schedule. She informed stakeholders that the January 25, 2016, meeting would be canceled and the next meeting will be held on Monday, February 22, 2016.