

FINAL

**Light Board Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes**

2019 SEP 20 AM 10:08

Minutes of Meeting held on June 12, 2019  
Belmont Light Conference Room  
7:30am

Attending LBAC members: Chair Steve Klionsky, David Beavers, Travis Franck, Bob Forrester, Ralph Jones, Xiaoguang (Shirley) Wang

Belmont Light (BL) attending: General Manager Christopher Roy, Rebecca Keane, Aidan Leary  
Selectmen Roy Epstein was present

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

- Convened at 7:35am

**II. INTRODUCTION OF NEW MEMBER**

- New member Shirley Wang introduced herself and shared her background. The Committee went around the table and introduced themselves to Wang.

**III. CONTINUED DISCUSSION ON POSSIBLE REFINEMENTS AND UPDATES TO THE POWER SUPPLY POLICY BASED ON ARTICLE 8 VOTE**

- Roy proposed making changes to the Power Supply Policy (PSP) to bring it into closer alignment with Article 8 - specifically with respect to updating the Clean Energy Standard (CES) targets outlined therein, as well as clarifying definitions for how to meet the targets.
  - Keane would discuss the proposed procurement strategy for hitting the CES targets in the next agenda item, and stressed that this strategy hinged on claiming renewable sources that were not necessarily Massachusetts Class I or II RECs, but should still count towards Belmont Light's renewable supply (e.g. NYPA contract, Class I Rhode Island).
- The following changes were ultimately agreed upon by the Committee:
  1. Insert a carriage return on page 2 prior to the wording 'Consistent with a modest rate impact...?' to emphasize connection with the table.
  2. Switch columns 2 and 3 in the table on page 2.
  3. In the Belmont Light targets column, update the numbers to reflect the proposed REC procurement strategy up to 2022; for 2023 and onward put in 'TBD'.
  4. Fix any associated language referencing the table to be compatible with the column switch.
  5. Keane will propose language regarding the strategy for meeting the CES minimums with Class I RECs and then topping up with Class I or II RECs, or other renewable sources (e.g. NYPA), that are compatible with the REC procurement strategy presented subsequently.
  6. Capitalize 'Policy' throughout the document where applicable.

#### **IV. DISCUSSION OF REC PROCUREMENT STRATEGY AND RELATED COSTS**

- Keane gave a presentation outlining the strategy for procuring RECs in order to meet Belmont's renewable energy targets, as outlined in Article 8 and the just-revised PSP. The proposed strategy would allow for meeting the targets out to 2022, without impacting customer rates.
- Keane presented a table of expected MWh purchases, including Class I Massachusetts RECs up the CES minimum, followed by a mix of Class I/II RECs and other renewable power sources to bring the total up to Belmont's targets.
- Two scenarios (moderate and conservative) were shown, based on assumptions of projected increases in the price of RECs.
- Keane stressed the need for Belmont Light to have latitude for meeting the targets above the CES minimum, in the case of an unexpected increase in the RECs market.

#### **V. UPDATE ON LEGISLATIVE CLIMATE**

- Roy noted that Municipal Light Plants (MLPs) had largely been absent from participation in State-level policy development, however this was rapidly changing. He proceeded to highlight several pieces of currently proposed State legislation that could have an impact on Belmont Light.
  - Discussions with and within ENE/MMWEC/MEAM were ongoing, to figure out where the respective bodies stand on these pieces of legislation.
  - Several pieces of legislation included emissions targets, however Belmont Light's self-imposed targets were more aggressive.
  - Some aspects of the legislation had potential to impact the existing regulatory framework of MLPs vis-à-vis the State.
- MEAM had introduced a bill which set CES targets for all Massachusetts MLPs. Again, Belmont Light's targets were already more aggressive, but this legislation was notable for bringing all MLPs to an agreement on a set of targets.
- Three of the bills lumped in MLPs with Investor Owned Utilities (IOU), in terms of meeting certain emissions targets on route to a goal of net zero by 2050.
- Roy pointed out that the role of nuclear was a debated topic, as some communities counted nuclear towards their renewable supply targets while others did not.
- Roy expressed desire to bring greater awareness to the community about existing legislative efforts and how Belmont Light fits in; and to increase expression of Belmont Light's policies/initiatives to State representatives.

#### **VI. FUTURE MEETINGS**

- August 7, 2019 @ 7:30am.
- September 11, 2019 @ 7:30am.
- Phil Thayer requested that LBAC and the Energy Committee co-sponsor a public forum with invited experts, an event aimed at helping provide GM Roy guidance on identifying various sources for Power Purchase Agreements. Klionsky would follow-up with Energy committee Co-Chair Colton to discuss further the best format for such a discussion.

- Franck requested to report out on Energy Committee activities at an upcoming meeting.
- Beavers had spoken with someone from a battery storage company; would work to get him at a meeting to do a 'show and tell'.

#### **VII. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- March 6, 2019 minutes were approved unanimously.

#### **VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

- Adjourned at 9:34am.