

**NH SB99 Energy Facility Siting Project  
Coordinating Committee Meeting**

Wednesday, November 13 (1:30—4:00)  
Location: OEP Conference Room, Johnson Hall, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
107 Pleasant Street, Concord

**Meeting Notes**

**Attending:**

- Meredith Hatfield, Brandy Chambers – OEP
- Senator Jeanie Forrester
- Rep. Suzanne Smith
- David Shulock, PUC
- Mike Fitzgerald, DES Air Resources
- Michael Wimsatt, DES Waste Management
- Doug Patch, Orr & Reno
- Rachel Goldwasser, Orr & Reno
- Susan Arnold, AMC
- Christophe Courchesne, CLF
- Jeff Hayes, North Country RPC
- Peter Roth, DOJ Public Counsel
- Tom Getz, Devine Millimet Law Firm
- Huck Montgomery, IBEW Local 409
- Janet Besser, New England Clean Energy Council (on the phone)

**Welcome and Overview of Today’s Meeting**

(see agenda)

**Focus Group Results**

The focus group portion of the project has been completed. The Committee was briefed on the preliminary results and provided the team with feedback on presentation and interpretation of the results.

- There was discussion on how the sticky dot polling was conducted and what the results meant; the team clarified that participants were simply asked “What’s most important to you?”—the importance may be either because participants think the status quo in a given area is good and feel strongly it should stay, or because they think that area needs a change.
  - It was noted that the citizens group had the most diverse sticky dot spread, which makes sense given the diversity of that group
- There were some questions on how the polling on “acceptable options” works; team explained that it gives a more complete picture than using just the “first choice” poll.

- For example, “first choice” might reveal that half of people want steak and half want shrimp, but using acceptable options could show that everyone is ok with chicken. This helps identify achievable solutions.
- On the presentation of results, there was a suggestion for changing the method of averaging across the focus groups to better account for the diverse makeup of the groups.
- There was also a concern expressed that the Status quo isn’t truly an option like the suggested changes... if 40% choose the status quo, that seems to suggest that the top choice is the status quo. But that’s not quite right, the more accurate analysis is that 60% of people want change, they just didn’t agree on *what* change.
- The team will think about and incorporate these comments in the final presentation of the results in the report

### **Citizen Workshop Design**

The team gave an overview of how the workshops will be conducted

- The CC provided suggestions for clarifications to some of the polling questions, in order to ensure that the polling is understandable and getting at the right questions.
- Team noted that while some of the options being polled on might not be perfect, part of this effort is to provide information so that the public discussion can be furthered and deepened.
- CC concurred that it was necessary to have greater clarification on the role of the Public Counsel, and differentiate it from public engagement.
- It was noted that many people appear before at SEC hearings with concerns about wildlife who think it should be given more weight in the process.

### **Final Report Outline & Overview**

The report is due on December 31<sup>st</sup>; CC will meet one additional time after conclusion of Citizen Workshops to review results and provide input to be included in the report.

- There was a question about what the recommendations in the report will look like. The team clarified that they will not be recommending specific changes. Rather, the report will identify areas of divergence and convergence. For example, if people agree that there should be a relative noise standard or that the SEC should be smaller, team will note that but will not suggest what the standard should be or who should sit on the SEC

### **Next steps:**

Not enough time before today to prepare Workshop polling questions, so will hold a webinar on 11/26 to get CC input.

### **Final CC meeting:**

12/19, 9:30am at OEP.