Welcome, Introduction & Overview

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*Environmental Operations*

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Environmental Business Council of New England
*Energy  Environment  Economy*
Briefing on the New Hampshire Office of Strategic Initiatives

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Environmental Business Council of New England
Energy Environment Economy
New Hampshire OSI Briefing

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About OSI

• As of July 1, 2017, legislation went into effect that renames the Office of Energy and Planning (OEP) as the Office of Strategic Initiatives (OSI). OSI includes the division of energy and the division of planning. The previous OEP functions and staff of the office remain the same.
About OSI Continued

• OSI provides information, data and guidance to assist decision-makers on issues pertaining to development, land protection, energy use and community planning. We guide the state's future growth through public policy development, education, research, and partnership building.
The Energy Division Team

• Jared Chicoine, Director
• Joe Doiron, Deputy Director
• Chris Ellms, Energy Advisor
• Alexis LaBrie, Energy Analyst
Energy Division

• The Office of Strategic Initiatives operates several Energy Programs in partnership with both private and public entities to promote a sustainable, environmentally sound and least-cost energy future for New Hampshire.
About the Energy Division of OSI

- The Energy Division’s role is to:
  - Advise the Governor’s Office on energy issues and help craft energy policy
  - Administer state & federal programs related to energy
  - Provide support and advice to municipalities, ratepayers, and other stakeholders
OSI Programs

Energy
• US DHHS Fuel Assistance/LIHEAP
• US DOE Weatherization
• US DOE State Energy Program
• Emergency Response
• EIA Fuels reporting
• Energy efficiency & small scale renewables programs
• 100% federally funded

Planning
• Municipal Assistance
• State Data Center
• Floodplain Management
• Conservation Lands Stewardship
• CORD (Council on Resources and Development)
• Mix of federal, general, other funding
State Energy Program (SEP)

- SEP is a formula grant from USDOE
- NH OSI has 4 areas of focus:
  1. Building Improvements (Buildings)
  2. Energy Education
  3. Energy Program Support
  4. Transportation
LIHEAP
• Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program
• Funded by US Department of Health and Human Services
• Administered by Community Action Programs
• Average benefit is $658.00 per heating season
WAP

- Weatherization Assistance Program
- Reduce household energy use and costs in the homes of low-income persons through energy conservation improvements/upgrades to homes.
  - Insulation
  - Air Sealing
State Heating Oil and Propane Program

• Since 2001, OSI (OEP), has been part of SHOPP
• The Energy Information Administration (EIA) runs the program
• The purpose of the program is to track and monitors residential retail prices for heating oil and propane to determine the average prices for these fuels in New Hampshire
• OSI also monitors natural gas, electricity, wood pellets, cord wood, gasoline and diesel fuel prices
OSI Projects

- Coordination with State Energy Manager
- Competitive SEP Grants
- Volkswagen Settlement
- Governor’s Scholarship Program
- Committee Assignments
Coordination with the State Energy Manager

• Shared goals/objectives
• Regular monthly meetings
• State Energy Conference
• SEP Grant support
Competitive SEP Grants

• Wastewater Treatment Facilities
• Partnership with New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services
• 3 Year grant ending in 2019
• Extension
• Recent Application
Volkswagen Settlement

• OSI is the lead agency
• Collaboration with NH DES
• Currently finalizing the mitigation plan
• $30.9 Million settlement
Committee Assignments

• **CDAC**-Community Development Advisory Committee
• **EESE**-Energy Efficiency & Sustainable Energy Board
• **NDFC**-Nuclear Decommissioning Finance Commission
Governor’s Scholarship Program

- $4,150,000.00 for the GSP
- Financial assistance to eligible high school graduates or recent high school graduates.
- The student must be Pell eligible.
- Residency restrictions
- Non-profit institutions only
State Energy Strategy

- RSA 4-E:1 is the statute
- Current strategy was completed in 2014
- By law, OSI is required to review the 10-year state energy strategy every three years and consider any necessary updates.
SB191 of 2013

• “Development of a state energy strategy is necessary to ensure that the state’s energy policies and programs support the state’s economic, environmental, and public health goals.”

• “…recommendations for policy changes and priorities necessary to ensure the reliability, safety, fuel diversity, and affordability of New Hampshire’s energy sources, while protecting natural, historic, and aesthetic resources and encouraging local and renewable energy resources.”
Energy Strategy Context

• The Legislature asked to be more informed about the State’s energy future and to have a roadmap to help shape it.

• SB191 did not set a specific goal to work toward.

• The Strategy will help inform both public and private activities, and many of the recommended strategies will require legislation to be implemented.
2014 Strategy

• The 2014 strategy was divided into 6 chapters
1. Preface
2. Energy Overview
3. Grid Modernization
4. Energy Efficiency
5. Fuel Diversity
6. Transportation
7. Conclusion
Grid Modernization

- Open a docket on Grid Modernization to determine how to make best use of new technologies and design innovations
- Educate consumers about a smarter grid
Energy Efficiency

• Set an efficiency goal
• Address utility disincentives
• Improve coordination & design of existing efficiency programs
• Improve consumer access to financing
Fuel Diversity

Recommendations include:

• Raise ACP’s to help in-state renewables
• Increase class requirements to solar
• Stabilize RPS targets
• Encourage distributed generation
• Convert customers w/ access to natural gas
Transportation

Variety of recommendations including:
- Increase spending on EV infrastructure and adopt EV’s in state fleet
- Increase funding to DOT
- Expand mass transit and rail
- Ride share
- Community planning
- Reduce idling
Where We Went

- Berlin
- Concord
- Dublin
- Lebanon
- Portsmouth
- Wolfeboro
Written Comment Submissions

- This map represents the locations of all the people that sent in public comments.
- Citizens from 168 towns and cities submitted written comment.
Some of what we heard

• “I urge you to support the clean energy future we need.”
• “It is well-established that New Hampshire and New England are well behind the curve for energy infrastructure development.”
• “...businesses like ours are increasingly committed to utilizing renewable energy and energy efficiency.”
• “...our uncompetitive energy prices are a fly in the ointment of our economy.”
The Breakdown

2017 Number of Attendees
• Lebanon - 41
• Berlin - 3
• Concord - 38
• Dublin – 47
• Wolfeboro – 19
• Portsmouth – 53
• 201 Total
• Approx. 800 written comments

2014 Number of Attendees
• Lebanon – 13
• Berlin – 6
• Nashua – 26
• Laconia – 13
• Littleton – 11
• Portsmouth – 21
• Plymouth – 35
• 125 Total
• Approx. 150 written comments
Consultations

• House Science, Technology and Energy Committee

• Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee
Going Forward

• Update parts of 2014 plan that have become outdated
• Lay out clear, concise principles that can be applied to issues throughout energy policy
• Address priority issues
Addressing Significant Challenges

- High cost of energy
- Ensuring reliability and resiliency
- Protection of our natural resources
- Insulate New Hampshire from regional policies
- Energy efficiency
2017 Strategy

• Recommendations in the Strategy should be:
  - Specific
  - Measurable
  - Attainable
  - Realistic
  - Timely
  - Collaborative
Timeline

• We are currently in the drafting phase.
• Before the end of quarter 1, a final document will be released to the public.
• The final document will be posted on our website.
Questions?

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Introduction to the NH Department of Business and Economic Affairs

Taylor Caswell

Commissioner

New Hampshire Department of Business and Economic Affairs
Moderated Discussion

Moderator:
• Robert Varney, Normandeau Associates, Inc.

Panelists:
• Joe Doiron, NH OSI
• Taylor Caswell, NH BEA