

WESTCHESTER COUNTY BOARD OF LEGISLATORS

COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT & ENERGY

[joint with SUB-COMMITTEE ON ENERGY EFFICIENCY]

MINUTES: May 18, 2009

MEMBERS (E&E): Chair: Abinanti; Legislators: Harckham, Kaplowitz (Sub-Comm. Chair), Maisano, Myers, Nonna, Oros, Rogowsky

IN ATTENDANCE: STAFF: C. Crane, B. DeSoye, T. Bernard; GUESTS: B. Randolph, A. Neuman (CEO); S. Glass (COWPUSA); M. Colgrove (NYSERDA); M. Cruz, K. Dolan, K. Kristensen (NYPA); D. Hall (Pace Energy Center); M. Thielking (Bedford Energy Panel) [list of other attendees is on file]

Subcomm. on Energy Efficiency called to order at 3:10 pm.

Energy & Environment Comm. called to order at 3:15 pm.

Item(s) Discussed: **NYSERDA Programs & Incentives for Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy**

The meeting commenced with a presentation by NYSERDA on their various programs. The New York City office director, Michael Colgrove, and various program directors described existing programs to promote and incentivize energy efficiency improvements for businesses and residents in Westchester County. The NYSERDA NYC office's objective is to: 1) create a thriving energy efficiency marketplace; 2) provide credible, unbiased information on all energy-related issues, and 3) build consensus and facilitate collaboration among stakeholders. The NYSERDA Program offerings include: 1) Multifamily performance; 2) Existing facilities performance; 3) 1 to 4 family homes program; 4) Business partners program; 5) New construction program; 6) Technical assistance program; and 7) Energy Star products program.

Typical energy efficiency upgrades or new construction include an energy audit or assessment to identify all relevant energy improvements. Reimbursement is available if residents or businesses implement recommended energy efficiency measures or retrofits. Some retrofits are "pre-qualified" for reimbursement. NYSERDA periodically audits contractors that assess and implement improvements. All contractors recommended by NYSERDA are certified by the Building Performance

Institute (BPI). The NYSERDA New York City office only provides services for customers in Con Edison territory. NYSEG customers may be assisted through the NYSERDA Albany office.

Legislators expressed interest in additional meetings with NYSERDA to provide more depth on the various program offerings, such as residential improvements. Legislators also expressed interest in enhancing communication of these opportunities to Westchester residents and businesses. Follow-up meetings are desired to focus on specific opportunities (single homes, businesses, multifamily buildings) and/or to schedule larger events (e.g., half-day conference).

Upon the motion of Leg. Kaplowitz, seconded by Leg. Abinanti, the members voted to adjourn the meeting (all in favor).

The meeting adjourned at approximately 4:45 pm.
[audio recording of the meeting is on file]