

**Electric League Code Committee
Meeting Notes from 2/17/2010
Submitted by Greg Batie**

Attendance:

Allan Toole	Power Plus	Linda Howell	Electric League
Greg Batie	Sparling	Dick Becker	EEL
Bop Fuhr	Power Studies	Gary Lydum	Hozack, Inc.
Al Hewitt	Bussmann	Bob Eugene	UL (via phone)
Joe Andre	NEMA	Syd France	PSE
Bob Schneider	D.Hittle & Assoc. Inc.	Tom Tomlinson	Cummins NW
Heath Warnock	GE	Cameron Clark	GE
Kristyn Clayton	SBCC	Arne Hales	Shaffer & Nelson
Rick Allen	Snohomish PUD (via phone)		

Opening:

The meeting was opened at 7:30 AM by Chairman Allan Toole and introductions were made.

Previous Minutes:

Minutes from the January 20, 2010 meeting were approved with the following clarifications:

- Paragraph C: Change to read: Is looking to fill John Wiggan's position in the Northwest.
- Paragraph E2: NEMA is NOT recommending re-torquing buss connections.
- Paragraph G11: Legislation was proposed to require vehicle charging outlet rough-in in all new homes, but this proposed legislation may not have passed.

Reports:

State of Washington - Not Present

City of Seattle - Mark Gibbs (report via e-mail)

- Friday, 2/12 was a furlough day and w/ 2/15 being President's Day our inspection scheduling was way behind today, 2/16. Hopefully, we'll be able to catch up tomorrow. The next furlough day will be 3/12, after that 4/9, 5/28, 7/2, 8/6, 9/3, 10/8 & 12/23
- There seems to have been a good deal of water damage incidents during this past year. These have occurred primarily to busway, but also to service gear.
- Our plans examiners are still quite busy. We have up to 30 plans for which review has not yet started. Some of those came in as far back as January. We have another 69 plans for which we are waiting on corrections.

City of Bellevue - Bob Johnston

- Not much has changed from last month's report. The work load is staying pretty constant and there aren't any plans at this time for any more layoffs.
- As far as I could find out, the council is still studying the proposed City ordinances and hopefully will vote for approval sometime this month. This includes the Washington Cities Electrical code.
- WE are starting to review photovoltaic (PV) systems. The first ones are for residential systems. The building department reviews all electrical components and a structural analysis. They have seen 3 PV projects so far.

City of Tacoma - James Hellman (Not Present)

Puget Sound Energy – Syd France

- With the warm weather in January their revenues are down (45 to 50 million). Question of the day is what should be done with the tariffs filed for 2010 and 2011 with projected 31-33 MW energy savings due to conservation. Due to the reduced revenues they have had to reduce their projected energy savings from 3-5 MW's up to 10MW's.
- Per Bob Schneider the snowpack is down which could affect the available energy this summer.

Seattle City Light - Uzma Siddiqi (Not Present)

Snohomish County PUD - Rick Allen

- They are presenting a Building Operator Certification course starting March 10th. Meets once a month for 8 months. The course will cover electricity, HVAC, efficient controls, and indoor air quality. Cost is \$1375 for the full course. See:
<http://www.snopud.com/Site/Content/Documents/ci/BOC210RegSpring.pdf>
- Rick reported that there was a situation where a lighting designer proposed an energy conservation project and gave the information to an electrical contractor for pricing. The lighting designer submitted the proposed project and cost to the client based in the pricing information received from the electrical contractor. The lighting designer was fined \$500 for submitting a bid to perform electrical retrofit work, even though the licensed electrical contractor was actually going to perform the work. The WAC code that was cited was 296-46-915B. It was suggested that language may need to be added to the WAC code to clarify the difference from an energy retrofit proposal and a bid for electrical work.

UL – Bob Eugene (www.ul.com)

- UL Regulatory Services is proud to present - UL Connect, a mobile smartphone application for AHJ instant access to UL's Certification information and Regulatory Support, including the code correlation database. For those interested in loading the application on an iPhone/iPod, visit Apple's App store. For Blackberry users, simply type in www.ULConnect.com in your web browser.
- Underwriters Laboratories Inc. (UL) announced recently that it has acquired Luminaire Testing Laboratory (LTL), based in Allentown, PA. LTL is an independent testing laboratory that provides performance testing of lamps and luminaires and is one of five laboratories approved by the Department of Energy (DOE) for ENERGY STAR® qualification testing for LED lighting products. The acquisition bolsters UL's leadership in the lighting industry, which is a strategic market for UL. More information can be found at:
http://www.ul.com/global/eng/pages/corporate/newsroom/newsitem.jsp?n=ul-acquires-luminaire-testing-laboratory_20100204074700

IEEE - Dick Becker (<http://www.ieee-seattle.org>)

- The next IAS meeting is next Tuesday in Bellevue about mitigating harmonics.

NEMA - Joe Andre (www.nema.org)

- Joe was in California for the utility certification meeting to discuss requirements for alternative energy source production metering to prove alternative energy sources are actually producing energy. May be up to a year before new standards are available.

IAEI - Christine Porter (www.psiaei.com)

- The 2010 Tri Chapter Meeting will be held at the Embassy Suites Hotel in Tuckwila on March 12th & 13th. On Friday they will have two educational sessions covering electrical requirements of the State Energy Code and how they will impact installations and enforcement (to be presented by Joe Andre and Kristyn Clayton). The afternoon session will be about the installations and inspections of Wind Generator Systems and PV Systems. The Saturday session will cover the electrical requirements for swimming pools, spas and hot tubs, fountains, and hydro-massage tubs. The afternoon session will be a preview of the 2011 NEC and how the upcoming changes may impact the electrical design and installations as well as enforcement of the code.

Washington State Energy Code - Kristyn Clayton

- Energy Code changes are still alive. One piece of legislation that would not allow the energy code to proceed is likely to be vetoed by the governor. There is an 80% chance of having a new energy code in 2010.
- Seattle Energy Code meetings are taking place. Seattle proposals are much more restrictive than the State Energy Code.

Electric League - Linda Howell (www.electricleague.net)

- On April 22nd Bob Fuhr will be presenting at the Electric League luncheon information on Arc Flash studies with an opportunity for a 4 hour in depth class after lunch.
- On May 20 at Snohomish PUD there will be a seminar on new tidal and geothermal renewable energy sources.
- June 17th Kristyn Clayton will be presenting the State Energy Code - where the rubber hits the road.

New Business

Discussion on NEC 240.100 regarding overcurrent protection for feeders connected to a medium voltage transformer.

Next Meeting: March 17, 2010.

Adjournment