

Electric League Code Committee Meeting Notes from 4/20/2011 Submitted by Greg Batie

Attendance:

Linda Howell	Electric League	Don Renibarger	Wood Harbinger
Greg Batie	Sparling	Bob Schneider	D.Hittle & Assoc. Inc.
Dan Steinert	McKinstry	Syd France	PSE
Tom Ripple	Siemens Industry	Tom Tomlinson	Cummins NW
Dick Becker	EES	Al Hewitt	Bussmann
Mark Gibbs	City of Seattle	Robert Fuhr	Power Studies
Bob Lloyd	City of Bellevue		
Jeff Fitzloff	UL (via phone)	Jim McDougal	Snohomish PUD (via phone)

Opening:

The meeting was opened at 7:35 AM by acting chairman Tom Ripple and introductions were made.

Previous Minutes:

Clarification to the meeting notes was submitted by Rick Allen. The changes in the Snohomish PUD Energy Efficiency Dept are they re-arranged the Commercial Kitchen Equipment and Residential EE departments. All the C/I rebate programs (Lighting Rebates, Commercial Kitchen Equipment Rebates and PC Power Management) moved to the Residential Dept, and the Residential Dept. was re-named "Community Energy Efficiency". The meeting minutes from the 3-16-2011 meeting were approved as amended.

Reports:

State of Washington - Bill Eckroth/ Tim Hingtgen (not present)

City of Seattle - Mark Gibbs

- A couple of people have retired; Bob McCormick was one of them. Tim Rasmussen is not a supervisor. Bob Johnson is now reviewing large projects with help from Tim Porter and Bob Hoyos.

Puget Sound Energy - Syd France

- Erin Chamberlain is leaving PSE. She was managing the pilot energy demand response program on Bainbridge Island. Program results were about 0.5 MW demand reduction. New energy resource plan draft is on the PSE website. Will continue to develop push for future demand response programs. Per Bob Schneider there is a projected peak demand shortage for next winter. I937 describes the requirements for renewable resources.

Snohomish PUD - Jim McDougal

- No changes to the energy rebate options available from SNO PUD. He will be presenting Energy Efficiencies for small to medium size Data Centers at the Powerful Business conference.

City of Bellevue - Bob Lloyd

- Workload is staying level and they are busy.

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- The Washington Cities tabled anything to do with the 2011 NEC. Waiting to see what the State of Washington does. Doug Erickson is representing L & I on the Washington Cities committee and is helping them to be consistent with the state code.
- 18 cities are currently members of the Washington Cities Electrical Code. They use Microsoft Live Meeting which saves travel time for members. Linda Howell asked for a demonstration of Live Meeting.

UL – Jeff Fitzloff (via phone) (www.ul.com)

- There will be a free webinar on May 10th on LED retrofits.
- There are (2) notices of products that are using unauthorized UL listing marks. A LED controller manufactured by RGB DMX model PX24500 and a Ground Rod model 834 4X41.

IEEE - Dick Becker

- Still nothing happening. Paul Corvell stepped down from the NEC code panel.

NEMA - Joe Andre (not present)

IAEI - Chris Porter

- Chris and Jeff Fitzloff are taught a code update course for the Electric League in April.

Energy Code Discussion

- City of Seattle - they will review sub-metering design as part of plan review.
- City of Bellevue - they have not had a project come through that included sub-metering.
- Chapter 16 includes requirements for energy generation capacity in new projects.

Other Issues

- Bob Schneider reported that they have been getting pushback from their Errors & Omissions insurance company not to sign contracts that will guarantee compliance with all applicable codes (i.e. LEED). Certification can be affected by how the owner uses the building.

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

- LED Street Lights luncheon on April 21st.
- May 19th Selective Coordination luncheon and class presented by Bob Fuhr.
- August 25th Golf Tournament at Echo Falls
- Upcoming 8 hour electric safety training course
- Power Business Conference on June 8th. 16 topics are being presented and attendees can attend 4 sessions. Conference is sponsored by the Utilities and focus is on energy efficiencies.
- Joe Andre has volunteered to present a discussion on the Washington State Energy Code with a focus on its effects on the electrical industry.

Old Business

- Letter was sent to Governor Chris Gregoire from the Electric League urging adoption of the 2011 NEC (requesting exemption from Executive Order 10-06).

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New Business

Selective Coordination

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- Bob Fuhr brought up an issue that plan review agencies are requesting a coordination study be submitted for review before a permit is issued. This is difficult to provide prior to bidding because the equipment manufacturer has not been selected.
- Bob Schneider said that the GA will not put projects out for bid until they have permits in hand.
- Greg Batie suggested that if coordination studies could be submitted as a deferred approval (similar to fire alarm shop drawings) that this would alleviate the problem of them being require prior to the projects being bid and the manufacturer selected. The inspection agency could hold up issuing an approval to energize the service or feeders until the coordination study was submitted and approved.
- Mark Gibbs was concerned that if they don't get the study at the plan review stage, then everything gets submitted at the last minute and there is more pressure put on the reviewer. City of Seattle will issue a "Get Started" permit that is good for 30 days and only allows work on branch circuits.
- The City of Bellevue will issue a "Walls Only" or "Slabs Only" permit to allow the contractor to get started on a project. They have threatened to stop inspections if contractor doesn't show progress to resolve issues.

Next Meeting: May 18, 2011

Adjournment 9:07