

## NEEAC Meeting Summary - March 27, 2013

### **Attendees:**

#### EPA

Dale Perry  
Javier Araujo  
Julia Ortiz

#### NEEAC

Kelly Keena, chair  
Richard Gonzales, vice-chair  
Kiki Correy  
Ken Gembel  
Scott Frazier  
Angie Chen  
Caroline Lewis  
Diane Wood  
Kay Antunez de Mayolo  
Cara Gizzi

#### General Public

Casey Deitrich  
Eric Goode  
Elaine Andrews  
Jackie Ostfeld

### **Headquarters Update**

Javier gave an update on the research subcommittee applications. The federal register notice closed March 25. EPA received 35 applications for 20 positions. The next steps will be to assemble a review panel of EPA staff. The applications will be reviewed in the same manner as the applications for the NEEAC. The selection will be shared with NEEAC members as soon as it is available. It appears to be a diverse group of applicants from across the country. The evaluation should take about four to six weeks.

Dale then addressed the effects of sequestration on the NEEAC. NEEAC will be put on hold for the months of May and June. During those months, NEEAC members should not do any work. Hopefully, NEEAC will be able to reconvene in July when the budget is more certain. In order to work out how to

best pause existing project so they can be efficiently restarted in July, there will be a business meeting teleconference in April. Before the hiatus, there are five tasks EPA would like the NEEAC to complete.

1. OEE staff are drafting a scope of work for the subcommittee. It will be distributed to the NEEAC for review, and OEE will receive comments during the April business meeting.
2. Several studies and reports on EE have recently been published. Please review these studies and write up a summary in July. Kelly will put together a list, and the research group can select a few for everyone to review.
3. There will be a national-level stakeholder listening session in April. NEEAC was asked to prepare a report from that call for OEE staff to review during the hiatus.
4. NEEAC was also asked to create a workplan for July, including the dates of the calls, which stakeholder groups EPA should target for outreach, and anything else NEEAC would like OEE to do during the hiatus.
5. Finally, NEEAC was asked to draft an outline of the biennial report to Congress, including anything that they would like EPA to do during the hiatus. This would only be a draft outline.

There was a discussion of how to plan for the listening session in April, including the specifics of who to reach out to and how to do it, as well as a request for a debrief session after the call to review how it went and how to best move forward with the July calls. Dale agreed to share a list of about 15 stakeholder groups that OEE meets with regularly, and encouraged the NEEAC to invite any other groups they thought were important to the listening session. It was agreed that the call should be during EE Week, which starts April 15, and that after the call there would be time for stakeholders to e-mail their comments to EPA.

Dale asked if it was feasible to complete the work by the end of April. The group tentatively agreed, with reservations being expressed about the outline request in particular.

NEEAC requested an in-person meeting after the hiatus.

The work was divided between workgroups. The research workgroup will summarize the literature. The stakeholder group will plan the July listening sessions. There was discussion of giving the outline piece to a new workgroup, which would be responsible for assembling a draft for review.

Dale gave some background on the subcommittee. They will be asked to produce a recommendations report on EE and the economy as relating to the activities of the federal EE task force and the interagency working group on EE. It will be comprised of external stakeholders. The term for members is 1-3 years, and it hasn't been determined how long they will exist. In terms of how the subcommittee and NEEAC will interact, there will be four members of the NEEAC on the subcommittee.

Caroline made the point that it is important to have synthesis time to discuss the issues and the type of report to produce.

NEEAC accepted the tasks that were proposed and discussed the next steps.

### **Workgroup Updates**

The definitions workgroup will assist other workgroups in completing tasks by the end of April.

The research group will set up a call to discuss their work.

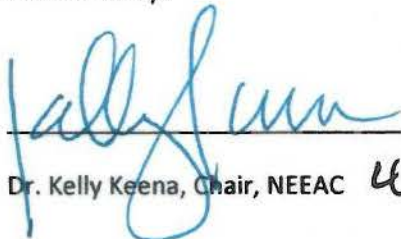
The stakeholder workgroup met earlier this week. They discussed twelve potential categories of stakeholders for outreach purposes. They are still discussing whether the calls should target groups or geographic regions. They also discussed the overall goal of the listening sessions, which is to take an inclusive pulse of EE in America. It was also mentioned that it's important to listen to each other on various issues to define the state of EE in America. Diane Wood asked if environmental justice groups would be included, and accentuated the importance of diversity in our outreach efforts. Richard said that if we do go with the target groups approach, we'll start with tribal and move on, since EPA has an existing tribal office and a network within that community. Overall, there will be a focus on inclusion.

**Public comment**

No member of the public asked to address the group.

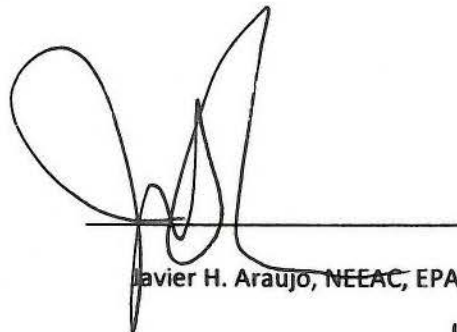
We hereby certify that, to the best of our knowledge, the foregoing meeting summary is accurate and complete.

Submitted by:



Dr. Kelly Keena, Chair, NEEAC

4-4-2013



Javier H. Araujo, NEEAC, EPA, DFO

4-4-2013