

MEEA Policy Insider: Efficient News

February 6, 2017

The Midwest Energy Efficiency Alliance's Policy Team is actively tracking policy developments in a number of states within MEEA's footprint. The MEEA Policy Insider captures the latest activity within each state and provides MEEA's most recently developed resources to aid members in their own outreach, education and advocacy initiatives.

This issue contains updates on policy activity in the following states. Items noted with an asterisk have immediate advocacy opportunities.

- Illinois*
- Indiana
- Iowa
- Michigan
- Missouri*
- Ohio*

At the end of the document you will find a section titled "MEEA's Events and Resources," which contains MEEA's latest webinars, written resources, staff contact information and upcoming events.

Illinois

Legislative

Governor Rauner signed the Future Energy Jobs Bill ([SB 2814](#)) into law on Wednesday, December 7. See MEEA's [blog](#) for details on the new Illinois law. A summary of the legislation was also [presented](#) at the January 24 meeting of the Illinois Stakeholder Advisory Group (IL SAG).

Regulatory

Effective January 17, Governor Rauner appointed [Sadzi Martha Oliva](#) to a five year term as a commissioner on the Illinois Commerce Commission (ICC). Pending confirmation by the Illinois Senate, she will be the first Latina to serve as a commission on the ICC. She replaces former Commissioner Ann McCabe.

Given the passage of SB 2418, the utilities will need to refile their plans for the next DSM planning cycle before the end of the second quarter of this calendar year. The new filings will cover a 4-year DSM planning period as stipulated in the legislation that will begin January 1, 2018.

The IL SAG is meeting regularly to discuss issues related to the implementation of SB 2814. Topics include transitioning programs run by the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity to the utilities by the end of the year, the formation of a low-income working group, and opportunities for market transformation programs.

On February 27 from 9:00 am – 12:15, Chairman Sheahan of the Illinois Commerce Commission is hosting a policy session on the future of evaluation, measurement and verification. It will be held at the ICC, located at 160 North LaSalle Street, Chicago, IL. MEEA is assisting with the planning of this event. Contact Julia Friedman, MEEA's Senior Policy Manager, at jfriedman@mwalliance.org for more information.

MEEA Activities

MEEA staff will continue to monitor any trailer bills or regulatory efforts to implement the Future Energy Jobs Bill, including attending IL SAG meetings. MEEA staff will be reaching out to Acting Commissioner Oliva to introduce MEEA, our work, and offer our organization as a resource to her work.

How to Get Involved

The IL SAG is open to the public. All interested parties can attend, or dial-in to, the meetings occurring on a weekly or bi-weekly basis. A calendar of meetings can be found on the IL SAG [website](#).

Indiana

MEEA Activities

MEEA commissioned Cadmus to complete an economic impact report on energy efficiency policies in Indiana. The report is available [here](#).

Iowa

Executive

On December 21, the Iowa Economic Development Authority, the Iowa Department of Transportation and the Iowa Partnership for Economic Progress released the Iowa Energy Plan. The plan and executive summary are available to download on the Iowa Energy Plan [website](#). Read more about the State Energy Plan's release on [MEEA's blog](#).

Michigan

MEEA Activities

MEEA commissioned Cadmus to complete an economic impact report on energy efficiency policies in Michigan. The report is available [here](#).

Missouri

Legislative

[Missouri Senate Bill 190](#) was pre-filed on December 7, 2016. The Senate Commerce, Consumer Protection, Energy and the Environment Committee held a hearing on January 25. The bill contains a few items related to energy efficiency including a proposal to modify the Missouri Energy Efficiency Investment Act (MEEIA) to expand the definition of "demand-side program" to include combined heat and power technology. It also proposes a revision to the way in which eligible industrial customers can notify the utilities of their choice to opt-out or opt back in to demand-side management programs. Lastly, the bill would repeal the existing law that prohibits electric utility customers from participating in utilities' demand-side programs if they receive either low-income housing or historic preservation tax credits.

Regulatory

The Missouri Public Service Commission (MO PSC) issued a notice of rulemaking hearing for the Commission's proposed amendments to the Missouri Energy Efficiency Investment Act, case number EX-2016-0334. The MO PSC submitted the initial filing to the Secretary of State on December 28, 2016. The proposed changes correspond to rules CSR 240-[20.092](#), [20.093](#) and [20.094](#). A wide range of changes to MEEIA are included in this proposal

ranging from the establishment of a statewide energy efficiency collaborative to adding non-energy benefits to cost-effectiveness tests and the adoption of a technical reference manual as part of a statewide EM&V framework.

MEEA Activities

MEEA will reach out to Governor Greitens to provide him and his team with information on the value of energy efficiency to business and residents in the state. MEEA will also be working on developing comments to submit to the Missouri Public Service Commission's proposed changes to the MEEIA rules.

How to Get Involved

MEEA members may attend the Missouri Public Service Commission's hearing on the proposed changes to the MEEIA rules. The hearing will be held on May 4, 2017 at 10:00 am in room 310 of the Missouri Public Service Commission. Interested parties may submit comments through the state's [electronic filing information system](#) using case number EX-2016-0334 by April 27.

Ohio

MEEA Activities

MEEA commissioned Cadmus to complete an economic impact report on energy efficiency policies in Ohio. The report is available [here](#).

How to Get Involved

On February 15, Advanced Energy Economy and Ohio Advanced Energy Economy are coordinating legislative visits in Columbus to educate incoming and returning legislators about advanced energy technologies, the jobs and investments throughout the supply chain and services they currently or potentially could provide in Ohio. Developers, efficiency companies, manufacturers and purchasers of advanced energy will be organized into small groups of 3 or 4 different national and Ohio based companies to meet individually with legislators and their staff to educate them about Ohio's electricity system and the jobs and economic benefits that go along with advanced energy. If you or your organization is interested in participating, RSVP to Ray Fakhoury, State Policy Associate at Advanced Energy Economy at rfakhoury@aee.net or (909) 354-1810.

MEEA Events and Resources

Recent MEEA Policy Webinars

- [The New Political Landscape for Energy Efficiency in the Midwest](#)
- [A Midwest Review of the ACEEE 2016 State Scorecard](#)

MEEA Building Energy Codes and Benchmarking

- [Midwest Energy Codes Status Report](#)

MEEA Advocacy Toolkit

MEEA released our [Advocacy Toolkit](#) in December of 2014. It is a living resource that will aid MEEA members and advocates in communicating the value of energy efficiency to policymakers, the public and other stakeholders. It includes:

- State Information including: fact sheets, state contacts, legislative and regulatory links, etc.
- [Resource Guide for Policymakers](#): a comprehensive report on energy efficiency policies and programs in the Midwest.
- [EE Messaging](#): supporting energy efficiency and refuting common opposition argument
- [PPT slides](#) tracking regional investment in energy efficiency, state by state investments, state regulations, etc.
- Sample letters to the [governor](#) and [editor](#) supporting energy efficiency

MEEA Contacts

- For Industrial Energy Efficiency and state policy in Michigan, Nebraska, South Dakota and Wisconsin: Nick Dreher, Policy Manager (312-784-7271; ndreher@mwalliance.org)
- For Clean Power Plan and Multifamily updates and state policy in Illinois, Missouri, Minnesota and Indiana: Julia Friedman, Senior Policy Manager (312-784-7265; jfriedman@mwalliance.org)
- For state policy in Ohio and Iowa: Leah Scull, Policy Associate (312-784-7247; lscull@mwalliance.org)
- For state policy in Kansas, Kentucky and North Dakota: Nikhil Vijaykar (312-374-0930; nvijaykar@mwalliance.org)
- For Building Energy Codes: Isaac Elnecave, Senior Policy Manager (312-784-7253; ielnecave@mwalliance.org)