# **Executive Director's Summary Report**

## to the Board of Trustees of the Efficiency Maine Trust

## February 25, 2014

#### I. Communications

#### a. Awareness and Press

- Efficiency Maine's Annual Event was held Thursday January 29, 2015 at the Governor Hill Mansion
  - Over 200 registrants and 150 participants (despite the blizzards)
  - Two Workshops "Using New Smart Technology to Lower Energy Bills for Maine Businesses" and "Maine's Path to Affordable Home Heating"
  - Keynote "Pursuing Maine's Least-Cost Energy Resources: The Forecast for 2015"
  - Networking Reception
  - 25 Businesses were recognized for outstanding contributions to energy efficiency in Maine
- The Grants to Green Award for Unity College was covered in a number of news outlets (<u>http://www.dailyjournal.net/view/story/2443563f3b314b5c8f121921ef2c42dd/ME--Unity-College-Energy/</u>)
- Senator Angus King toured energy efficiency projects at Mt. Abram funded, in part, with Efficiency Maine incentives (<u>http://news.mpbn.net/post/angus-king-tours-mt-abram-renewable-energy-projects</u>)
- The Executive Director and Residential Program Manager Dana Fischer spoke at the Portland Rotary Club on January 15, 2015
- Residential Program Manager Andy Meyer spoke at the Falmouth Energy Fair on January 24, 2015
- Residential Program Manager Dana Fischer spoke at the Maine Association of Building Energy Professionals Annual Meeting on February 10, 2015
- The Executive Director spoke at the USM Corporate Partners Breakfast on February 12, 2015
- Business Program Manager Rick Meinking spoke at the Maine Wood Products Association Annual Meeting on February 17, 2015
- Efficiency Maine's website
  - visits totaled 31,860 visits in January
  - o compare with 26,577 visits in January 2014
  - 23,664 were unique visits; 4,093 visits were driven through digital ads
  - o Staff is undertaking a number web page optimizations to continue to grow engagement

## b. Call Center

- The Call Center averaged 300 calls a week in January 2015
- The Call Center averaged 75 email inquiries a week in January 2015

## c. Government Relations

- Staff provided an "orientation" briefing to the Legislature's Energy, Utilities and Technology Committee
- Staff filed written comments and participated in a public hearing at the Maine PUC on a rulemaking regarding the "cap" that governs utility procurement of energy efficiency resources
- Staff filed two reports with the Legislature
  - Report of Quasi-State Entities on Contributions, Travel, etc.
  - Semi-Annual Financial Update

## II. Program Highlights

#### a. Business Program

## i. <u>Business Incentive Program – Electric</u>

As of 1/31/2015:

- 33,376 MWh annual savings (calculated) YTD
  - 65% of annual goal (51,027MWh) at 58% of year gone by
  - o 663,351 MWh lifetime savings
  - Compare to 34,438 MWh annual savings for entire FY14
- 2,353 projects completed
- 2,011 participants
- \$6,423,051 in incentives paid YTD
  - 97% of revised budget of \$6,602,499
- \$12,633,358 in private funds invested by participants
- \$934,889 expended on program delivery
  - 89% of revised budget of \$1,045,856

## ii. <u>Business Incentive Program – Natural Gas</u>

As of 1/31/2015

- 37 projects completed
- \$113,037 in incentive paid
  - 14% of budget (\$814,778)
- Intensified outreach showing results:

- Prescriptive measures pipeline \$24,000 of project incentives
- Custom measure pipeline \$120,000 of project incentives

## iii. Business Incentive Program – RGGI

As of 1/31/2015

- 287 projects completed
- \$537,800 paid in incentives
  - 71% of budget 9\$750,0000 at 58% of year complete
- \$2,235,210 leveraged in participant investment

## iv. <u>Multi-Family Program</u>

As of 2/13/2015

- 29% of annual savings goal (24,404 MMBtu/yr) reached with 60% of the year gone by
- Delivery team projecting ending year expending 100% of budget (\$1.3 million)
- Delivery costs have exceeded original projections so rebates are being reduced
  - \$1,500 heat pump rebate is being shifted to \$1,000
  - custom rebates will drop to \$500/apartment effective 2/28/2015

## v. Large Customer Program

- Outreach
- Received utility data from the major utilities for customers over 400 KW and are using it to target scoping audits
- Approved two new technical assistance studies
- Scheduled three new scoping audits
- Introduced the program to the new owners of a major pulp producer.

## Electric Savings PON

As of 2/20/2015:

- Forecasting:
  - Completing the year committing \$8.1 million
  - $\circ$   $\;$  Encumbering 100% of the \$3.7 million new revenues budgeted to the program this year  $\;$
  - Committing \$4.4 million of the \$8 million Long-Term Contract authorization
  - o 108,000 MWH in annual savings
- \$5.3 million awarded YTD
- \$11.8 million = Total incentive requests in the pipeline

### Large Customer GHG PON

- The program increased the per-project cap to \$1 million
- Anticipate committing all GHG project funds in FY 15
  - Already awarded \$1.5 million in projects
  - Another \$1.5 million of projects are in the pipeline
  - Forecasting \$600,000 of delivery expenses by year end

#### iv. Small Business Direct Install

As of 2/14/2015:

- 189 projects completed
- \$877,714 paid in incentives
- 2,242 MWh in annual savings calculated

	Assessments	Project Completions	Notes
Region 1 (Caribou, Ft Kent, Madawaska, Van Buren)	328	122	2/20/2015 end date
Region 2 (Houlton)	99	77	
Region 3 (Norway, Oxford, Paris)	24	4	3 new designated contractors added
Region 4 (Waterville, Winslow, Oakland, Fairfield	3	0	Launched late January
Total	423	203	

Marketing Outreach – Progress Update

- Region 1
  - End of program date is February 20.
  - Exit program ad ran in St. John *Valley Times* on February 11.
- Region 3
  - Western Maine Economic Development Council event will spotlight local businesses that have participated in the SBDI program.
  - Chamber Newsletter -- Case Study/Success Story Downeast Machine & Mallard Mart
- Region 4
  - All leads called for a follow-up
  - Program flyers are being developed with customized contractor contact information

#### v. Commercial New Construction (Maine Advanced Buildings – MAB)

### As of 2/20/2015

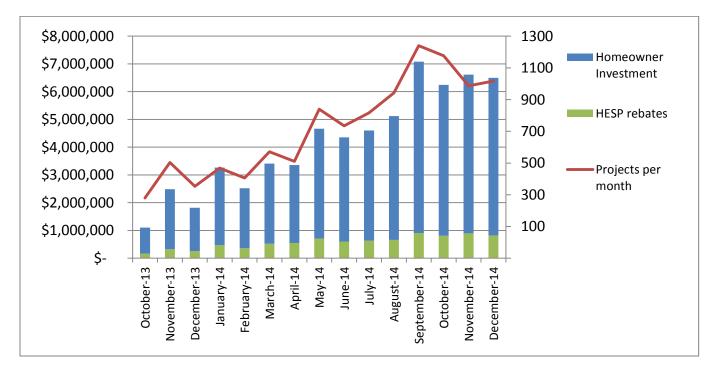
- No new updates
- Pipeline is full compared to budget (\$500,000)
  - Projecting finishing the fiscal year with 100% of funds committed to specific projects

#### b. Residential

#### i. Home Energy Savings Program

As of 2/20/2015:

**HESP Incentives** 

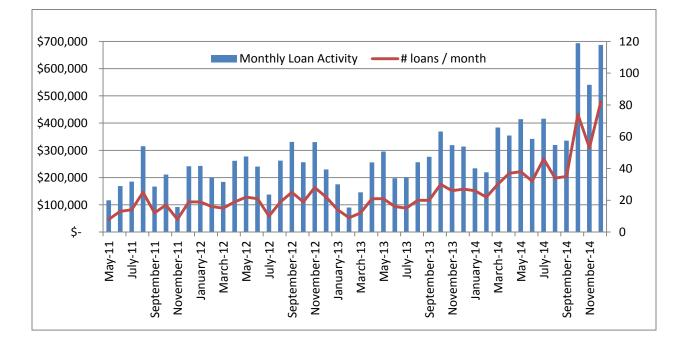


- Total expended FY15 HESP rebates and delivery in 7 months: \$6.3 million
- Total for remaining 5 months: \$3.7M
- January Highlights:
  - o \$727,000 rebates in 774 projects, slightly less than in December
  - Slow month for heat pumps,
  - Big month for boilers and insulation
  - 152 HE conventional boilers and furnaces.
  - o 352 heat pumps
  - o 29 pellet boilers

- 13 pellet stoves
- o 222 air sealing rebates
- o 158 homes receiving insulation
- Average total project cost \$6500
- Average rebate \$900
- Distribution of projects by total project cost:
  - 1/3 less than \$3,000 (Avg. \$2,200)
  - 1/3 between \$3,000 and \$5,000 (Avg. \$3,650)
  - 1/3 greater than \$5,000 (Avg. \$10,500)
- February so far -- Program activity in the past 2 weeks has slowed due to levels of snow impeding installation and consumer perception that it is harder to engage contractors mid-winter

#### <u>Loans</u>

- 372 loans closed
- \$9,100 average loan amount
- More than \$3.6 million in loans YTD
  - Surpassing at 65% of year gone by the entire amount loaned in FY14
- January:
  - \$505K in 58 loans closed
  - Only 70 applications received, but only 14 (20%) declined
- First half of February:
  - \$201,000 in 21 closed loans
  - 30 applications received



## ii. <u>Residential Lighting and Appliance Program</u>

## As of 2/12/2015:

## Lighting

- Nearly 2.3 million bulbs have been moved YTD, up from 1.8 million last month
  - Forecasting more than 3.2 million bulbs by year end
- \$7.4 million of actual and projected incentives and delivery YTD,
  - Forecasting ending the year at 100% of program investment goal (\$11 million)

#### **Appliances**

- 3,040 heat pump water heaters have been installed YTD, up from 2,040 in January
- \$664,000 has been expended from the revised budget allocation of \$1.64 million, up from \$520,000 the prior month.

## iii. Low-Income (electric, natural gas, and "any fuels")

## As of 2/12/2015:

#### <u>Electric</u>

- A portion of the Retail Lighting Program budget is being funded with electric conservation funds earmarked for the benefit of low income customers;
- CFLs are being distributed through the emergency food system for low income customers (food pantries)
- New bundled measure of Heat Pump Water Heater plus CFLs has launched
  - o Goal of 766 projects
  - Budget of \$1.5 million
  - $\circ$   $\;$  MOUs have been executed with all participating CAP agencies
  - Implementation was put on hold until January to await higher efficiency model in order to improve cost-effectiveness

#### Natural Gas/Unitil Only

• No change; Budget fully invested

#### Any Fuels Initiative (RGGI Funded)

- 145 mini-split heat pumps installed YTD; Forecasting 222 by year end
- \$418,000 invested in heat pump installations expended YTD from annual budget of \$706,000 with 62% of the year gone by

## c. Strategic Initiatives (Cross Cutting)

## i. Evaluation & Data Analysis

• Staff received and reviewed bids for three RFPs, including the Evaluation of the large Custoemr Program, the Evaluation of the Business Incentive Program, and the Residential Baseline Study Services.

## ii. Innovation Pilots

• No updates to report

## iii. Forward Capacity Market

- The Trust successfully implemented its FCA 9 strategy
  - The Trust's FCM obligation does not include any incremental EE resource from FCA 9, which will enable our total FCM obligation (169 MW by the FCA 9 compliance period of 2018-2019) to get back in balance with our actual budgets
  - FCA 9 did add a limited 4 MW of distributed generation (DG) resource for the Trust

## III. Administration and Finance Highlights

#### a. Financial

As previously reported to the Finance Committee, as of 1/31/2015:

- Revenues
  - Budgeted revenue receipts from sources in Maine and the region (ISO-NE) are \$32.7 million YTD (not including the Maine Yankee Phase 2 payment), up from \$22.9 million reported in January
    - The revenues are relative to \$45.6 million budgeted from these sources for use in fiscal year 2015, an amount that factors in <u>up to</u> \$8 million contingent upon completing qualifying projects in the Large Customer Program
  - A \$50,000 contingency in federal revenues appears in the budget, to reflect prior years' experience, and none of this amount has been drawn down to date;
  - The Trust performed \$2.4 million in interfund transfers YTD, up from \$1.75 million reported in January
  - The Trust has received just more than \$406,000 in miscellaneous revenues (such as interest, payments for the Boothbay NTA Pilot, payments from Summit Natural Gas, etc.) YTD
- Expenditures
  - YTD, the Trust has expended \$26.1 million, up from \$21.6 million reported in January, not including an additional approximate \$8 million in commitments made for projects funded through the Large Customer Programs
  - An additional \$31.8 million is encumbered under contracts or pending contract signings to deliver the Trust's suite of programs and individual projects
  - Another \$5.5 million is being held for statutory commitments to rate relief, agency transfers, and a loan offset fund