

**Electric League Code Committee
Meeting Notes from 9/23/2009
Submitted by Greg Batie**

Attendance:

Allan Toole	Power Plus	Robert Fuhr	Power Studies
Greg Batie	Sparling	James Hellman	City of Tacoma
Rick Allen	Snohomish PUD	Don Renbarger	Wood Harbinger
Cameron Clark	GE	Len Whalen	Holmes Electric
Tom Ripple	Siemens	Syd France	PSE
Gary Lydum	Hozack	Joe Andre	NEMA
Bob Lloyd	City of Bellevue	Tim Hingtgen	L&I
Dick Becker	EES	Bob Eugene	UL (via phone)
Bill Eckroth	L & I		

Opening:

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

Previous Minutes:

Minutes from the June 10th, 2009 meeting were approved with corrections. (See updated minutes on the web site.)

Reports:

DOLI Plan Review - Bill Eckroth

- Plan review turnaround is 2.8 weeks (average). Smaller projects are getting through in a week. There are a couple of large projects (over 8 sheets) that they are trying to get finished and pushed out.
- WAC Rule Changes: Fees are going to increase by 5.2% starting October 31st.
- Plan review will be moving to a new building. (Tower Square Building 3) by November 1st. The mailing address will stay the same.

State of Washington - Tim Hingtgen

- WAC Rule Changes will also require CEU providers to provide evidence of clock hours for computer based classes. Change was in response to someone selling the answers to on-line tests.
- Some states require CEU credits for professional engineers. The Electric League has been sponsoring classes for CEU credits.

City of Seattle - Not present

City of Bellevue - Bob Lloyd

- The larger projects that are still under construction are winding down. One inspector resigned last week and went to the City of Lynnwood.
- The Washington Cities Electrical Code is finished. WABO will be publishing the document and each city will then have the option of adopting the code. This code does not adopt the WAC rules.
- MyBuildingPermit.com is developing a process for stakeholder input for the next code cycle.

- The City of Bellevue is in the process of modifying their ordinance to match the model code. Should be finished by the end of 2009.
- The City of Burien is also developing a focus group to review their building and fire codes.

City of Tacoma - James Hellman

- The most common items that delays plan review is the lack of information that is listed on their website myTPU.org.
- Current workload is three to four weeks for plan review turnaround.
- They make an effort to contact submitters for the missing information.
- City of Tacoma is still working off the 2005 NEC. Looking to adopt the 2008 code and increase fee's this year.

Puget Sound Energy – Syd France

- PSE is working on the Integrated Resource Plan ending mid-year of 2011 to provide guidelines for energy planning. Targeting average of 38 MW savings from energy conservation.
- Construction activities are off by a fair amount.
- Loads on the utility system are down 7-12%.
- Ongoing cable replacement program identifies cables on a priority basis that have the greatest need of replacement.
- Federal stimulus money is going through the Department of Commerce.
- There is currently a commercial demand curtailment program with 25 uses and a residential program for space and water heaters. Targeted savings for both programs is 10 MW.
- Standard system load growth is 2% per year.

Snohomish County PUD - Rick Allen

<http://www.snopud.com/conservation.ashx?p=1100>

- Kicked off the PUD Energy Challenge for all users to reduce their energy consumption by 10%. 6.8 million kWh pledged for energy reduction.
- Solar Energy program projected to save 10.7 kW.
- Their commercial/ residential goal is to save 26 million kWh.
- They are also looking at 2 or 3 block grants to do lighting energy and heat pump retrofits to improve energy efficiency.

UL – Bob Eugene

www.ul.com

- Bob is currenting living and working in Eastern Washington.
- In the July edition of The Code Authority there is a good article on lighting protection systems. August Code Authority has an article on carbon dioxide alarms that are required in the 2009 IRC Residential Electrical Code.
- They are developing a new UL standard 2201 for portable generators up to 15 kW and 250 volts.

IEEE - Dick Becker

<http://www.ieee-seattle.org>

NEMA - Joe Andre

www.nema.org

- Krystin Clayton wanted to attend this meeting but had a conflict.
- State Building Code Council <http://www.sbcc.wa.gov/> - all state codes are up for revision. Public hearings are scheduled for September 29th in Renton and on October 5th in Spokane.

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- Comments on the 2011 National Electrical Code are open until October 12th .
- The Building Code Council is moving to the International Energy Conservation Code by 2011.
- EURSC Electric Utilities Requirements Standards Committee <http://www.euserc.com/> publishes standards for utility requirements.
- The building code has requirements for seismic bracing of electrical and mechanical equipment.

IAEI - Chris Porter was not present. (www.psiaei.com)

Electric League - Linda Howell was not present (www.electricleague.net)

Old Business

Next Meeting: October 21st , 2009 at Snohomish County PUD in Everett.

Adjournment: