

**Electric League Code Committee
Meeting Notes from 3/18/2009
Submitted by Greg Batie**

Attendance:

Allan Toole	Power Plus	Ken McGowan	CB Engineers
Greg Batie	Sparling	Cameron Clark	GE
Pat Finney	Tacoma Power	Linda Howell	Electric League PNW
Marcie Hedman	Tacoma Power	Len Whalen	Holmes Electric
Don Renbarger	Wood Harbinger	Gary Lydum	Hozack Inc.
Mike Foley	Wood Harginger	Al Hewitt	Busmann
Bob Eugene	UL	Dan Steinert	SASCO
Kristyn Clayton	McKinstry/ SBBC	Dick Becker	EES
Joe Andre	NEMA	Jeff Yamane	GE
Jim McDougal	SNOPUD	Bob Johnston	City of Bellevue
Rich Adams	Puget Sound Energy		

Opening

Alan Toole opened the meeting at 7:30am

Previous Minutes

Minutes from the February 18, 2008 meeting were approved with the correction that the new UL program being developed is for green listings.

Reports:

State of Washington - Bill Eckroth was not present but submitted a report via e-mail summarized as follows:

- Currently there are a couple of plans that have been in review since January due to some outstanding issues. OSPI season is just getting started so there is an expected increase in school plans being submitted. Right now the queue time is less than 4 weeks. December, January, and February are historically a slower time of the year.
- They were able to get 2 FTE's approved during the 2008 legislative session, but they were only able to fill one of the positions before the hiring freeze was put in place in August of last year.
- SB-5021 never made it out of the Commerce Committee at the Senate and it appears to be dead for this year.
- An updated plan review submittal form is available from Bill. Contact him via phone or e-mail and he will send it. Plan Review is still working at completing an updated "Submittal Guide" and a streamlined checklist.
- Reported by others at the meeting, the State laid off 25 inspectors (approx. 10%) effective April 1st.

City of Seattle - not present

- They are still working under the 2005 NEC and don't expect to adopt the 2008 NEC until June or July.

City of Bellevue- Bob Johnston

- They are enforcing the 2008 NEC and AFCE requirements for residences.
- Plan review work is slowing down, expects there will be some cutbacks probably in the 2nd or 3rd quarter of next year.
- City of Bellevue is putting on a code update class with Phil Simmons presenting. They are thinking about putting on a grounding class in the spring.

City of Tacoma - Pat Finney

- They are trying to generate more annual permits for businesses.
- Working on updating the Tacoma Electrical Code. They are still using the 2005 NEC and hope to adopt the 2008 in May or June.
- They are watching how much they spend. The large Port of Tacoma project is on hold.
- Sent 2 inspectors to China in November to inspect new cranes for the port. They are 250 feet high with 600 long ton capability and are 13.8kV. Ken McGowan thought they are 750 kVA, 300-350 HP.

Snohomish County PUD- Jim McDougal (<http://www.snopud.com/>)

- They are hosting a 2008 NEC code update course on April 17th, and a WAC/ RCW code update class on April 24th.
- They have finalized a power purchase agreement with Wheatfield Wind Farm for 100 megawatts. This purchase will bring them up to 8% of total generation capacity from renewable resources.
- On March 26th they will be rolling out commercial/ residential solar energy incentive programs. They have an existing program called Planet Power where customers can add payments to their bill to help fund development of alternative energy. These funds will now be used to promote the solar energy programs offered by SCPUD.

Puget Sound Energy - Rich Adams

- Working on updating the Service Handbook for publishing in June or July.
- New method of applying for service is available via the web at PSE.com.

Seattle City Light - Not present.

UL - Bob Eugene (www.ul.com/global/eng/pages/)

- Warren Shill has left UL.
- The IT department has "e-skinned" the UL websites.
- Bob will be moving his office in June to Eastern Washington.
- Currently there is a hiring freeze at UL.

IEEE - Dick Becker (www.ieee.com)

- This months IEEE meeting was a presentation by Allen Bradly on soft start motor starters.
- Next months meeting will be on April 28th with GE presenting on Multilin protection, control, metering and communications solutions.

NEMA - Joe Andre (www.nema.org)

ICC is having trouble getting their codes published. Now scheduled for June.

Jurisdictions are delaying adopting new codes due to the cost of enforcement and training. There are not any standards developed for Utility Smart Grid.

IAEI - Chris Porter - Not present see <http://psiaei.com/index.html> for chapter meetings

Washington State Building Code- Kristyn Clayton

- HB 1481 Infrastructure for Electric Cars will require the installation of battery recharging stations. Larry Vance from L & I proposed an amendment that electrical installations would be required to comply with RCW19.28.

- HB 1474 Energy Bill (has a corresponding bill in the Senate) This is not the "carbon bill" that the Governor's office proposed. In the next 20 years the energy efficiency standards will be ratcheted up to require 70% more energy saved than presently required. The AIA put a rider on the bill to force the State to move the ICC energy Code.
- There have been 172 code change proposals, with 20 affecting lighting. The SBBC TAG is meeting every Friday from 9:30 to 1:30 to review them. Kristyn strongly recommends that the Electric League get involved in the review process.
- Federal energy bill changes will mandate field verification of energy efficiencies.

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

- The electric vehicle presentation by B2Green will be posed to the web-site.
- Next month's luncheon will be April 16- "Recessions are not Sustainable - Preparing for the Turnaround" at Snohomish County PUD
- April 17 & 24 **FREE NEC Code Update and WAC/RCW Courses at Snohomish PUD**
- May 15 **Electric League Day at the Races - Emerald Downs - Register by April 29**
- June 17 **Powerful Business"** at Meydenbauer Center
- June 26 & 27 **Wind and Wine Tour - Overnight in Walla Walla - Register by April 26**
- July 9 **Mariners vs. Texas Rangers - Networking at the Ballpark**
- August 27 **Annual Electric League Golf Classic**
- **The May 20 Code Committee Meeting will be held at Snohomish County PUD**

OLD BUSINESS

Factory Assembled Structures

- Requiring a Gold Seal for walk in enclosure can add \$4,000 to \$5,000 cost on a 20,000 piece of equipment. (new item from 3/18/09 meeting notes)
- DOLI director for Factory Assembled Structures has stated that their program covers walk in enclosures.
- The WAC needs to define what structures are required to meet the requirements.
- Cummins Northwest has been asking the design team if Factory Assembled Structures "Gold Seal" is required. This listing requires an onsite inspection at the out of state manufacturer. This affects production of the enclosure because pre-cover inspection is required and these inspections are only done on the states schedule.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00am