

The Watertown Environment and Energy Efficiency Committee working group BERDO met remotely via Zoom at 5:30 PM on Thursday, March 7th, 2024.

The following members and staff were present: Brian Hebeisen (chair), Silas Fyler (Energy Manager), Pat Rathbone, Jocelyn Tager.

Others present: Mark Orlewski

The meeting started with a quorum at 5:00 with Brian Hebeisen presiding.

1) Announcements

Mark Orlewski is from a Sustainable Endowment Group

Next meeting will be Monday 3/11 at 5:00pm

2) Review of Questions from 3/5 meeting

6) Do we need to define "Accelerated Compliance period" in definitions? Think buildings > 100,000 sqft.

Decided no

10) Utilities have a certain percentage of renewable energy as defined by DPU. This includes class 2 renewables. Do these count in our GHG usage / reductions? Or do we only count the Class 1 RECs? Note that Utility Class 1 RECs do not meet the non-bio exclusion. Can all covered properties claim this? Those on WEC can they claim the wind recs (I would guess not)? Is it mandatory to declare utility RECs you purchased in baseline years?

Decided to accept state mandated green products in electrical utility rates to meet compliance even though those products include class II and bio burning products.

11) Review Board Makeup --- What happens if we cannot get 3 residences on the board in the future? We would be preventing building owners from submitting hardship and deferment plans if the board does not have a quorum. Can we state the makeup as a little more nebulous? Something like: " with a desired makeup of a majority of Watertown residents and a majority of scientists, climate experts, and equity advocates. "

Silas reported that quorum is based on size of board not on active members. Decided that Pat would add architects and engineers to the list of acceptable residents.

14) Under Enforcement, what is the point of #4?

Left over from Cambridges BEUDO. All decided to remove.

Agreed to have Pat edit the BERDO for punctuation.

Silas confirmed that EUI should be defined as Energy use / gross floor area as this is the definition in Portfolio Manager.

Committee accepted Brians update to definition of Covered Property.

Agreed to update the BERDO compliance Period 1 dates to 2027 to 2029

Decided to keep Municipal start date to Dec 31, 2025

3) Move to adjourn at 7:00 pm

All approved unanimously.

Respectfully submitted by Silas Fyler