



**CITY OF CONCORD**  
*New Hampshire's Main Street™*  
**41 Green Street, Concord NH 03301**  
**(603) 225-8570**

**CONCORD ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CEEAC)**

**MEETING MINUTES**

**September 24, 2025 @ 6:30PM**

**CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

**37 Green Street (2nd Floor) - Concord, NH 03301**

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**Attendees:**

**Committee Members:** Acting Chair Councilor Stacey Brown, Chuck Willing, Thomas Kolling, Joe Kwasnik, Miriah King, Jeffrey Evans, Gerald Eaton  
Student Representatives Elliot Clendenning, Ben Poole

**Absent Members:** Chair Rob Werner, Allen Desbiens, Councilor Jeffrey Foote, Nick Babladelis

**Staff Present:**

Beth Fenstermacher, PLA, LEED AP, Director of Special Projects & Strategic Initiatives  
Stephanie McKim, Administrative Coordinator

**Public:**

Elise Foerster, NH Community Loan Fund Energy Project Specialist ROC-NH

**1. Welcome by Chair Werner**

Acting Chair Brown welcomed those in attendance. The Committee made introductions.

**2. Adoption of Minutes**

A motion was made by Mr. Willing and duly seconded by Mr. Kolling to adopt the minutes of August 27, 2025. The motion passed unanimously.

**3. Municipal Project Updates**

**Solar Project at Landfill (Kearsarge Solar)**

Ms. Fenstermacher reported the City is doing a 5-megawatt solar facility on a capped landfill with Kearsarge Energy. Ms. Fenstermacher reported off takers of this project consists of: City of Concord, Concord School District, Concord Housing Authority, and the State of New Hampshire Department of Administrative Services. Unitil is relocating the poles off the landfill and this should be completed by September 29. The City is finalizing all agreements with Kearsarge. Construction is expected to begin by the end of October. There will be a small groundbreaking ceremony mid-October and a ribbon cutting in the Spring of 2026. Ms. Fenstermacher will send information to committee members when a date for the groundbreaking is scheduled.

**West Portsmouth Street Solar Project (Lodestar)**

Ms. Fenstermacher reported Lodestar is a 5-megawatt project located off W. Portsmouth Street by the Merrimack River. She reported the Lodestar project has three off takers for their group net-metering agreement: State of NH,

1 McAuliffe-Shepard Discovery Center, and Exeter School District. Ms. Fenstermacher reported Lodestar and the City  
2 are currently working through negotiating the PILOT agreement.

3  
4 Acting Chair Councilor Brown inquired about how much revenue will these solar projects generate for the City. Ms.  
5 Fenstermacher reported for the Keasarge Project, the City receives net metering money, lease money, and payment in  
6 lieu of taxes (PILOT) money. Additionally, the City will receive PILOT money for the Lodgestar project.

#### 8 4. **C-PACE Update**

##### 10 **1) Model Ordinance and Background Material**

11 Ms. Fenstermacher reported this material was received too late to get on the Council agenda for September for  
12 referral to the Fiscal Policy Advisory Committee (FPAC), City Solicitor and City staff to review the model  
13 ordinance, however this will be on the agenda for the October. After review, these groups determine whether  
14 this is a viable opportunity for the City to move forward with or not.

15  
16 A brief discussion ensued around the C-PACE program.

##### 18 **2) Next Step**

19  
20 Ms. Fenstermacher reported the next step would be to review the model ordinance and decided if the committee  
21 want to support recommendation to City Council for adopting the CPACE ordinance.

#### 23 5. **COMMUNITY POWER**

##### 25 **1) Community Power Coalition Policy Update**

26  
27 Mr. Willing distributed and reviewed a Community Power report to the CEEAC dated September 24, 2025. This  
28 report is attached.

29  
30 Mr. Willing reported there is no new information from CPCNH. He reported the "Transactive Energy" project  
31 centered in Concord and surrounding communities continues to move forward. Mr. Willing reported devices are  
32 being placed in about 3 dozen homes that track energy data. He reported transactive energy project is being  
33 conducted by educational institutions such as Stevens Institute of Technology. CPCNH is a passive partner in the  
34 project and the data collected will be used to formulate feasible policy ideas that encourage efficiency and energy  
35 consumption patterns that reduce cost and facilitate renewable energy.

36  
37 Mr. Kolling reported he has taken the survey and a photograph of his electric panel and will know if he has been  
38 selected to participate in the living lab in the coming weeks. Once they decide, a box will be installed in the home that  
39 collects information on energy usage over the course of a year.

40  
41 A discussion ensued around the transactive energy project.

42  
43 Mr. Willing reported CPCNH is working with the 5 MW Poverty Plains solar project in Warner. Project construction  
44 will begin this fall. CPCNH will purchase the renewable energy certificates (RECs) from the project. Additionally, he  
45 reported on August 26, CPCNH issued an RFP for more renewable energy projects this fall under its Annual  
46 Solicitation Program to Increase Renewable Energy (ASPIRE). The deadline to for the RFP is September 26. CPCNH is  
47 seeking projects that have tax credits vested that are looking for offtakers.

48  
49 Mr. Willing reported at the most recent CPCNH Project & Programs Committee meeting, Doria Brown, Nashua's  
50 Energy Manager and Vice Chair of the CPCNH Board of Directors, gave a presentation on Nashua's Energy Coaching  
51 Program, paid for by funds raised from the adder that Nashua charged for the fall 2024 rate period. It will be a 10-  
52 week program involving 20 homeowners who are Nashua Community Power customers consisting of 5 bi-weekly  
53 group sessions and one-on-one coaching with a focus on audits, rebates, incentives and access to local contractors. He  
54 will provide the information to the Community Power "adder" work group to discuss.

55

1 Ms. Fenstermacher reported reviewing trends over the past 6 months, there has been a slight increase in opt out for  
 2 community power. Additionally, due to the recent rate increases, CPCNH has paused automatically enrolling rental  
 3 units when a new tenant moves in, which could contribute to an increase in opt outs. Ms. Fenstermacher reported  
 4 once rates fall below Utility rates, the refresh will resume for rental units and there will most likely be a decrease in  
 5 opt outs for community power.

6  
 7 **2) Community Power “Adder” Work group Update**

8  
 9 Postponed to next meeting.

10  
 11 **6. POLICY AND PROJECT UPDATES**

12  
 13 **1) Sun Day Report**

14  
 15 Mr. Willing reported he distributed a handout regarding the three large solar projects in Concord. There were  
 16 other events going on around the City and attendance could have been better. Mr. Willing had a conversation  
 17 with Andy Duncan with NH Saves. Mr. Duncan conducts *Button Up* workshops around the state and if Concord is  
 18 interested in hosting a workshop, funding is available and now would be a good time. This committee could  
 19 consider coordinating with Mr. Duncan for next year.

20  
 21 **2) NH Energy Expo**

22  
 23 Ms. King reported a brief recap of the NH Energy Expo at Bow Memorial School on October 18. The Expo  
 24 committee are still looking for vendors and it was suggested that Ms. King reach out to Mr. Duncan to consider a  
 25 table at the NH Energy Expo. Ms. King reported at the previous meeting, this committee decided to discuss  
 26 Resilient Builders Group at the Expo and inquired about presentation material. Ms. Fenstermacher suggested  
 27 following up with Chair Werner regarding the material.

28  
 29 Ms. King reported she is unable to volunteer for the NH Energy Expo Committee in the future due to time  
 30 constraints and inquired if anyone of this committee would be interested in representing Concord. Ms. Foerster  
 31 volunteered to learn more as her approval to be appointed to the EEAC is in process.

32  
 33 **7. New Business/Announcements**

34  
 35 Mr. Eaton inquired about drone photography of the solar projects. Ms. Fenstermacher reported she will check  
 36 with Kearsarge as this may be something they are already doing.

37  
 38 Acting Chair Councilor Brown reported there will be a community bike ride with a 99-year-old concord resident  
 39 if anyone is interested, they could reach out to her.

40  
 41 Ms. Fenstermacher reviewed the Sustainability Initiatives on the City website with this committee.

42  
 43 **8. Other Business**

44  
 45 A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Kolling and duly seconded by Councilor Brown. The motion passed  
 46 unanimously.

47  
 48 **9. Next meeting:**

49  
 50 October 22, 2025

51  
 52 **10. Adjourn:** Meeting adjourned at 7:33 PM.

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 54  
 55 Respectfully Submitted,

56  
 57 Stephanie McKim, Administrative Coordinator

