



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

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

**DRAFT MEETING MINUTES**

**October 22, 2025 @ 6:30PM**

**CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

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

**Attendees:**

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

**Absent Members:** Chair Rob Werner, 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

The meeting was called to order by Councilor Brown at 6:30 pm.

**1. Adoption of Minutes**

A motion was made by Mr. Kolling and duly seconded by Ms. King to adopt the minutes of September 24, 2025. The motion passed unanimously.

**2. Municipal Project Updates**

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

Ms. Fenstermacher reported the first step of relocating Unutil poles off the landfill is completed. She met with the contractor on October 20 and Kearsarge is finalizing their plans for their building permit. Ms. Fenstermacher reported next week site work will begin followed by laying foundation pads. They are still coordinating a small groundbreaking ceremony that may now fall in mid-November 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 the concerns that Lodestar had with the PILOT agreement appeared to be a misunderstanding on their end and everything is moving forward with the PILOT agreement being on the City Council agenda in November.

**3. C-PACE Update**

**1) Model Ordinance and Background Material and Next Step**

1 Councilor Brown reported C-PACE program is moving to Economic Development Advisory Committee (EDAC)  
2 and Fiscal Policy Advisory Committee (FPAC) for review. After both committees reviewed C-PACE it will go  
3 before City Council for consideration.  
4

#### 5 **4. COMMUNITY POWER**

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

7  
8  
9 Mr. Willing distributed and reviewed a Community Power report to the CEEAC dated October 22, 2025. This report is  
10 attached.  
11

12 Mr. Willing reported there is an annual CPCNH membership meeting will take place on Friday, October 24 in  
13 Waterville Valley. He is unable to attend and offered his spot to the members of the committee. Ms. Fenstermacher  
14 reported she will be attending as the City representative. Mr. Desbiens reported he may be able to attend.  
15

16 Mr. Willing reported CPCNH is focused on their finances and things are steady as it goes but they are not at the  
17 reserve levels they want to be at. CPCNH higher rates went into effect August 1 and revenue from these changes are  
18 now being reported. CPCNH projects by the end of the rate period they will rebuild approximately \$4-\$5 million in  
19 reserve funds. Mr. Willing reported it will be interesting to see how what they are projecting compares to the actuals  
20 reported at the end of the rate period because it is important to get some positive momentum going at CPCNH.  
21

22 Mr. Kwasnik inquired if CPCNH has lost customer with the rate increase. Mr. Willing reported CPCNH has not lost any  
23 communities other than one that left due to unique reasons that do not have to do with rate increases. He further  
24 reported the attrition rate has been fairly normal however they are not currently refreshing at this time. Refreshing  
25 automatically pulls in a new tenant when an apartment lease expires and the former tenant moves.  
26

27 Mr. Willing reported an issue at CPCNH that is a topic of debated is refreshing customers. CPCNH has determined  
28 they are not prohibited by law from refreshing when their rates are not beating utility rates so they have begun to  
29 consider this for next spring. However, there is great sensitivity around pulling in a new customer automatically if  
30 CPCNH rates are higher than that of the utility companies.  
31

32 A brief discussion ensued around CPCNH refreshing, opt-outs, and rebuilding reserves at CPCNH.  
33

34 Mr. Willing reported he previous mentioned CPCNH issued an RFP to get more solar projects. They are currently  
35 contracted to do a 5 MW Poverty Plains solar project in Warner (Eversource territory). They have several proposals  
36 that are higher priced than the Warner Poverty Plains proposal. He reported projected future rates are higher as well,  
37 so some of these proposals could still work for CPCNH. Mr. Willing reported that CPCNH is faced with one challenge  
38 of finding communities other than Concord to be part of the group net metering if they do find the economics are  
39 good for an additional solar project. Concord would not be able to participate due to its location in Unutil territory  
40 and it has reached it maximum electric load for group net metering.  
41

42 Mr. Kolling reported he was contacted again regarding some additional information that he since provided to the  
43 transactive energy project that is underway. He reported he expects to hear more in the coming weeks and will  
44 update this committee at the next meeting.  
45

##### 46 **2) Community Power "Adder" Work group Update**

47  
48  
49 Postponed to next meeting.  
50

#### 51 **5. POLICY AND PROJECT UPDATES**

##### 52 **1) NH Energy Expo**

53  
54  
55 Ms. King reported the NH Energy Expo on October 18<sup>th</sup> went well. She reported the was a table that represented  
56 the Concord Community work in sustainable energy and conservation. Ms. King prepared informational flyers

1 regarding household hazardous waste and composting to make available to attendees and Chair Werner was  
 2 able to connect with other municipal energy committees. Additionally, they were able to raffle off a compost bin  
 3 that was originally donated by General Services for the Earth Day event, but was never given away. Ms. King  
 4 reported an estimated 100 attendees in the time she was able to be there.

5  
 6 Councilor Brown encouraged Ms. King to write a summary of the event to add to the City website and City  
 7 Manager newsletter.

## 8 9 **2) Resilient Building Group Energy Efficiency Projects**

10 Councilor Brown reported Chair Werner has schedule a Zoom call with herself, Joe Kwasnik, and Mr. Kolling to  
 11 discuss Resilient Building Group energy projects on November 10<sup>th</sup>.

## 12 13 14 **6. New Business/Announcements**

15  
 16 Mr. Kolling reported the Window Dressers will be in Concord in the upcoming week and need volunteers.  
 17 Councilor Brown inquired if the high school allows students to obtain credit for community service. Student  
 18 Representative Clendenning reported Concord High School does not allow for credit but students can earn  
 19 volunteer hours for certain clubs/groups. Councilor Brown inquired if the sustainability class would be  
 20 interested in volunteering. Student Representative Clendenning reported the instructor has been out sick but  
 21 will discuss upon return.

## 22 23 **7. Other Business**

24  
 25 Mr. Kolling reported a recent visit to the state of Rhode Island and reported he viewed the partially completed  
 26 wind turbine project. The project has been halted due to the current administration restriction. He reported all  
 27 the equipment to complete the project is there but unfortunately the project is on hold while the lawsuit unfolds  
 28 in court.

29  
 30 Councilor Brown recognized Councilor Foote's utilization of his bicycle. He reported approximately 200 miles on  
 31 his bicycle since August and although it is an electric bike, he charges it using his own solar powered energy.

32  
 33 Mr. Kwasnik reported there is a push in legislation to encourage data processing centers in New Hampshire. He  
 34 warns the state is already at risk for not having enough capacity and by bring in these data centers into the state,  
 35 it could potentially wreak havoc on the energy distribution and transmission system.

36  
 37 Ms. Fenstermacher reported HB 639 refers to crypto mining centers and it is also a concern for energy  
 38 consumption and zoning. People are encouraged to reach out to their legislators.

39  
 40 Mr. Willing reported at the previous CPCNH Project and Programs Committee meeting he learned about balcony  
 41 solar. The is currently prohibit in all state but Utah. There is potential this may be introduced as a bill and  
 42 encourage the committee to keep watch for it.

## 43 44 45 **8. Next meeting:**

46  
 47 December 3, 2025 at 6:00 PM.

48  
 49 A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Kolling and duly seconded by Councilor Brown. The motion passed  
 50 unanimously.

## 51 52 53 **9. Adjourn:** Meeting adjourned at 7:05 PM.

54  
 55  
 56 Respectfully Submitted,  
 57 Stephanie McKim, Administrative Coordinator

**Community Power Report to CEEAC (October 22, 2025)**

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16

The (semi-) annual CPCNH membership meeting will take place on Friday, October 24 in Waterville Valley.

CPCNH’s current rates have been in effect since August 1. This month, revenues corresponding to those rates are beginning to come in the door. We are looking forward to next month’s financial reports when we will start to see the results.

CPCNH received several proposals in response to its RFP for more renewable energy projects under its Annual Solicitation Program to Increase Renewable Energy (ASPIRE). CPCNH committees are in the process of evaluating those proposals.

Not much new to report on the “Transactive Energy” project from the CPCNH side.

