

CASE 05-M-0090

Comments from Richard Perez, University at Albany

1. To what extent have the goals and objectives established by the Commission been achieved?

*Only qualified to assess the renewable energy part of these objectives. With this caveat, I think that goals have been achieved, with much higher visibility now given to renewable energy, and the emergence of (still small, but growing) markets..*

2. Should the SBC program continue beyond its current expiration date of June 30, 2006? If so, for what duration should the SBC be extended and at what funding level?

*Yes – with higher funding level*

3. Have conditions changed since the establishment of the SBC that would necessitate a change in the overall goals and objectives of the SBC? If so, what changes are recommended?

*Yes conditions have changed:*

- Energy security is a more pressing issue (terrorism, aging power grid)*
- Fossil fuel depletion is fast becoming and pressing issue as worldwide demand increases and supplies stagnate.*
- The environmental (in particular global warming) is becoming an increasingly urgent issue.*

4. If assuming continuation of the SBC, how should programs be prioritized to meet those goals and objectives?

*Programs that address energy supply security, fuel displacement and minimization of all environmental impacts and long term public benefits should be prioritized*

5. How might the SBC programs be adjusted given the Commission's order, issued September 24, 2004, regarding a Renewable Portfolio Standard (Case No. 03-E-0188)?

*Set enough monies aside to insure that RPS deployment objectives will be fulfilled.*

6. In what ways might the current SBC fund collection and allocation process be improved?

*Analyze success stories in other States and other countries and implement the best in New York.*

7. What specific program(s) should be eliminated, expanded or created?

*Expand photovoltaic deployment incentives using production-based incentives in addition to (or in lieu of) buy down incentives.*

8. How can future SBC funded programs be more responsive to the needs of New York's energy consumers?

*By focusing beyond short term consumer issues and enhancing long term stability and security.*

9. How can SBC funded programs be marketed more effectively?

*Promote one stop shopping.*

10. In what ways can NYSERDA improve its administration of the SBC?

*Not qualified to comment.*

11. Is the current NYSERDA program evaluation process adequate? How might it be improved?

*Not qualified to comment.*

12. Should SBC funds be extended to programs that encompass research and development into retail and/or wholesale electric market competitiveness issues, or transmission and/or distribution of the State's energy resources?

*Absolutely – R&D holds the key too many solutions.*

13. Should the scope of the SBC program be expanded to include programs for natural gas customers?

*Not qualified to comment, except to say that such program should focus on reducing consumption.*

14. Do you have any other suggestions for improving the overall SBC program that are not addressed by the above questions?

*Enhance harmonization with other States and combine forces to maximize return on investment.*