

## Ferguson, Thomas (ENE)

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**From:** Casey, Steven J <steven.casey@eversource.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 31, 2024 4:14 PM  
**To:** Ferguson, Thomas (ENE)  
**Cc:** Schilling, Jennifer A; Chatterjee, Digaunto; Freeman, Lavelle A; Walker, Gerhard; CARLESS, TRAVIS S; LEFEBVRE, THOMAS X; SUSCO, JEREMY J  
**Subject:** RE: Release of Charging Forward: Energy Storage in a Net Zero Commonwealth

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Tom

See below for comments from Eversource – thanks for the opportunity to provide input.

Let us know if you have any questions or want to discuss.

Steve

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The Company agrees with the underlying results of the report that storage will play a critical role in the Commonwealth's Clean Energy Transition over the next decades. However, given factors such as the relatively high cost of energy storage and the need for significant distribution system upgrades to accommodate all types of DERs, the Company suggests a greater focus on the barriers to affordability and the benefits of efficient siting and operations.

A few high-level observations to consider in finalizing the report:

1. The cost effectiveness of distribution interconnected storage depends in part on the ability of the distribution grid to accommodate storage interconnections. The current Eversource ESMP report filed January 29, 2024, with the MA DPU provides a roadmap of the grid investments needed to further enable energy storage interconnections in line with the Commonwealth's clean energy goals.
2. Storage paired with solar provides more grid flexibility and is lower cost relative to stand-alone storage – this is currently being successfully implemented in the market and is delivering benefits - the Company sees greater value from paired systems over stand alone and encourages them for the future.
3. The value of energy storage used to improve reliability or increase grid flexibility is dependent on the degree to which it can be dispatched by grid operators based on real-time system conditions.
4. For reliability and resilience, energy storage that is close to generation sources is most valuable as it does not place a charging burden on the distribution system.

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**From:** Ferguson, Thomas (ENE) <Thomas.Ferguson@mass.gov>  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 4, 2024 4:22 PM  
**To:** Ferguson, Thomas (ENE) <Thomas.Ferguson@mass.gov>  
**Subject:** Release of Charging Forward: Energy Storage in a Net Zero Commonwealth

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Dear Stakeholder,

We are writing to inform you that *Charging Forward: Energy Storage in a Net Zero Commonwealth* has been released. As you know, Section 80 of Chapter 179 of the Acts of 2022 (the "2022 Climate Act") required DOER and the Massachusetts Clean Energy Center ("MassCEC") to conduct a study (the "Study") to provide: 1) An overview of the existing energy storage market in the Commonwealth; 2) A market report focused on emerging mid- and long-duration energy storage technologies ("MDES" and "LDES," respectively), and; 3) A study concerning the potential benefits of MDES and LDES technologies to Massachusetts ratepayers as the Commonwealth seeks to achieve its goals under the 2050 Clean Energy and Climate Plan ("CECP"). Included with this Study is a Report written by DOER that provides policy recommendations for energy storage based on the Study results.

We want to thank you for your participation and input into our stakeholder process held during the Study period and we look forward to your continued engagement as we charge forward to realize the benefits of energy storage found in the Study. DOER invites public comment on its Report and its recommendations until **Wednesday, January 31, 2024**. DOER is not seeking public comment on the Study. Please submit comments via email to Tom Ferguson, Energy Storage Programs Manager at DOER: [thomas.ferguson@mass.gov](mailto:thomas.ferguson@mass.gov).

Please find DOER's Report and the accompanying Study, the latter which was supported by MassCEC and Energy and Environmental Economics, or E3, on DOER's website [here](#).

Regards,

**Tom Ferguson, Ph.D.**  
**Energy Storage Programs Manager, Renewable and Alternative Energy Division**  
Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources  
100 Cambridge Street, 9<sup>th</sup> Floor, Boston, MA 02114



*Creating a Clean, Affordable and Resilient Energy Future for the Commonwealth*

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