

Ferguson, Thomas (ENE)

From: Russell Aney <raney@avidsolar.com>
Sent: Saturday, June 24, 2023 10:56 AM
To: Liz Mettetal
Cc: Ferguson, Thomas (ENE); Corrin Moss; Edington, Aurora (ENE); Troy, Joanna K (ENE); Rees Sweeney-Taylor; Andrew DeBenedictis
Subject: Re: Request to participate in Massachusetts Storage Study Interviews

CAUTION: This email originated from a sender outside of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts mail system. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am happy to participate in the group and offer any insights that I can provide. I am currently available for all three of the proposed meeting times.

I am happy to submit written comments, and can provide feedback/market insights on a wide range of ESS topics regarding ESS development in the Commonwealth. Please clarify the topics in which you are most interested in receiving input. FYI, I did participate in the initial E3-facilitated stakeholder session. I also participated in a prior phone survey regarding ESS/LDES. If there are not a set of key topics on which you hope to obtain input, I can try to prioritize matters myself relative to their impact on ESS development in Massachusetts...but few of them probably pertain specifically to LDES.

I will also admit that I am biased towards an ESS solution that yields more GWH by 2040/2050, not just "duration hours." A shorter duration battery generally makes more economic sense for the owner, and that same battery can always slow its discharge rate to extend its 'duration.' Many, many shorter duration batteries may be a better economic solution vs. fewer long-duration batteries required to meet the anticipated reliability needs of the grid. What you seek may be more of a policy or incentive solution that guides the discharge rate of batteries vs. batteries that can discharge for dozens of hours at a maximum rate. To the degree that a LDES facility needs a subsidy to invest in the additional MWH of duration beyond what the market or common ESS incentives would otherwise allow it to generate in revenue, perhaps we should consider increasing the number of 'normal' duration batteries, instead...that are likely more easily located and connected to the grid. ("thousand points of light" generators)

Finally, I suggest considering a scenario that steps beyond the CECP Phased Approach that assumes significantly more solar generation. I feel more confident that the solar cost curve will continue to decline making it the most cost-effective RE source in New England over the next ten years (it already is, but it will become significantly more so)...that will lead to more bankable, utility-scale RFPs for large solar projects (hundreds of megawatts connected to transmission vs. the primarily distribution-scale solar that we are developing, today). Compelling economics will require it, and it will grow much faster than projected. And smaller, distribution-scale solar development will also accelerate, without the need of subsidies (just a better interconnection process and distribution capacity planning)...and attached to that solar will be stationary ESS and EVs, able to provide autonomy for local loads for many days, if not unlimited. There will always be a risk of extreme weather events; I do not believe that FTM LDES is necessarily the cure for those.



Russ Aney, CEO
Avid Solar LLC

raney@avidsolar.com

M: (617) 285-4450

On Fri, Jun 23, 2023 at 4:32 PM Liz Mettetal <liz.mettetal@ethree.com> wrote:

Dear Russ,

We are reaching out to you regarding potential engagement in the State of Massachusetts ongoing energy storage study. This study was initiated by the Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources (DOER) in consultation with the Massachusetts Clean Energy Center to meet the legislative requirements of Section 80 of Chapter 179 of the Acts of 2022 ("An Act Driving Clean Energy and Offshore Wind"), with consultant support from E3. The goals of the study include assessing the current status of energy storage in the state and evaluating the potential role of mid- to long-duration energy storage. More information about the study is available [here](#).

To inform the overall study findings, we would like to invite you to participate in one of our small group interviews, which we are kicking off in the coming weeks. Are you, or someone from your team, available to participate in a small-group interview during one of the below times?

All meetings virtual, East Coast time:

Thursday, 7/6: 2-3 pm

Friday, 7/7: 1-2 pm

Tuesday, 7/11: 10-11 am

If you are interested in participating but unavailable during the slots above, please feel free to suggest alternative times that work better. We also encourage you to submit written comments, which can be directed to Tom Ferguson, Energy Storage Programs Manager at DOER: thomas.ferguson@mass.gov.

Thank you,
Liz Mettetal
E3 Project Lead

Liz Mettetal, PhD, Associate Director (she/her)

Energy and Environmental Economics, Inc. (E3)

Cambridge, MA 02144

860-930-0673 (direct) | liz.mettetal@ethree.com