

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY RESOURCES  
*Elizabeth Mahony, Commissioner*

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# 2024 DOER Town Hall

# Welcome

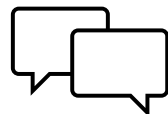
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## Commissioner Elizabeth Mahony



### Transparency in Planning



### Public Comments



### Public Engagement

# Agenda for Today

- 01. Introduction to DOER**  
Mission, Goals, Organization
- 02. 2023 Accomplishments**  
Key Reports, Regulations, Programs, and Policies
- 03. 2024 Planning – Division Presentations**  
Hear from the DOER Staff
- 04. Questions and Answers**  
Input from Public and Future Opportunities for Feedback



# Introduction to DOER



**Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (EEA)**

**Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources**

**Green  
Communities**

**Cross-Divisional Support**

Federal Funding, Energy Security, Engagement, Legal, Finance

**Policy, Planning,  
and Analysis**

**Leading by  
Example**

**Renewable and  
Alternative Energy**

**Energy  
Efficiency**

# 2024 Policy Goals

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>Implement Policy and Regulations Efficiently</b> | Increase the capacity for DOER to implement core responsibilities with increased workloads                                   |
| <b>Disburse Funding</b>                             | Expediently disburse to realize benefits   |
| <b>Collect and Share Data and Information</b>       | Improve processes to collect information and increase transparency with data sharing   |
| <b>Engage Communities and Stakeholders</b>          | Strengthen existing and develop new communication strategies to empower communities to engage in the clean energy transition |
| <b>Work with our Utilities</b>                      | Proactively engage utilities to recommend and support utility work that is ambitious and achieves Commonwealth goals         |
| <b>Coordinate with Other State Agencies</b>         | Support other agencies achieve clean energy policies   |
| <b>Develop Strategic Policy</b>                     | Ensure outcomes from working groups and councils are actionable with clear objective   |
| <b>Empower DOER</b>                                 | Set and achieve goals and targets for DOER   |

## 2023 Key Accomplishments

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Building Codes & Affordable Housing Deep Energy Retrofits



MOR-EV Rebates



Green Communities and Leading by Example Grants



Federal Funding Coordination



Grid Modernization Advisory Council



Technical Potential for Solar Study



Charging Forward: Energy Storage Study



Section 83C Round 4: Offshore Wind Solicitation

## 2024 Key Projects

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Building Energy Reporting & Building Codes



Mass Save<sup>®</sup> Three Year Plan



Climate Leaders and State Government Decarbonization



Deploy Federal Funding



Electric Sector Modernization Plans



Low Income Services Solar Program and SMART Review



Energy Storage Grants and Clean Peak Standard Review



Section 83C Round 4: Offshore Wind Solicitation - Selection



# Federal Funding Coordination and Energy Security

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## Goals for 2024

- Continued integration with Governor's Federal Funds & Infrastructure Office and Office and the Office of Climate, Innovation, and Resilience
- Engage with regional parties and build coalitions
- Identify resiliency benefits of clean energy policies and programs, following recommendations from ResilientMA
- Improve external engagement tools



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF  
**ENERGY**



**Bipartisan Infrastructure Law  
Inflation Reduction Act**



**ResilientMass**



# Federal Funding Coordination and Energy Security

## 2024 Key Projects

- Comprehensive Energy Plan (CEP) and Annual Report
- Energy Rebates – HER/HEAR Program
- New England Transmission Initiative – Invitation to Submit Concept Papers for Round 2 Grid Innovation Program
- External Engagement Improvements

### 2024 Timelines

- Spring – CEP and Annual Report
- Spring – CPRG Application Deadline
- Spring – HER/HEAR Application
- Fall – Roll out Federally Funded Programs

### Opportunities for Public Engagement

- **March 18** – Energy Rebate Public Input Session - [Zoom](#)

# Green Communities

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## Goals for 2024

- Support and encourage equitable municipal decarbonization efforts to further the Commonwealth's climate objectives
- Provide tools and resources to assist municipalities “where they are”
- Implement new MassEnergyInsight (MEI) features to forecast and analyze building emissions.
- Certify first group of [Climate Leader Communities](#)
- Host our first Green Communities Summit
- Develop model bylaw for Battery Energy Storage Systems

# Green Communities

## 2024 Key Projects

- Implement [Fossil Fuel-Free Demonstration Pilot](#)
- Roll out Climate Leader Communities program
- Administer federal grants for municipalities and schools
- Support municipalities' efforts to adopt stretch and opt-in specialized energy building codes
- Collaborate with MassCEC on on-street charging initiative
- Deploy MEI tools to leverage US DOE tools to pinpoint low-performing facilities and prioritize targeted energy efficiency/decarbonization actions

### 2024 Timelines

- Early spring - Municipal Decarbonization Roadmap assistance application deadline
- Spring – EECBG PON posted
- Spring – Competitive Grant deadline Block 1
- June 28 – 1<sup>st</sup> Green Communities Designation deadline
- July 19 – 1<sup>st</sup> Climate Leader Communities Certification deadline
- Fall – Competitive Grant deadline Block 2
- Dec 31- 2<sup>nd</sup> Climate Leader Communities Certification deadline

### Opportunities for Public Engagement

- Spring/summer - Office hours for Climate Leader Communities
- Summer/fall – feedback on draft BESS bylaw
- Fall – Green Communities Summit

# Leading by Example

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## Goals for 2024

### **LBE [Executive Order 594](#) Implementation**

- Deploy charging to support fleet electrification
- Coordinate state fleet vehicle electrification planning
- Launch zero emission medium-duty vehicle requirement (effective July 1, 2024)
- Support continued reductions in onsite fossil fuel use at state sites through technical and financial assistance
- Implement Buy Clean Initiative to reduce embodied carbon in state construction projects
- Facilitate process for public projects to take advantage of federal clean energy tax credits

### **MOR-EV Rebate Program**

- Bolster electric vehicle (EV) access for income-restricted residents
- Advance medium- and heavy-duty vehicle electrification
  - Emphasis on small businesses and environmental justice communities

# Leading by Example

## 2024 Key Projects

### LBE EO 594 Implementation

- Launch multimillion-dollar grant program for state fleet EV charging
- Launch grant programs for building decarbonization and onsite solar
- Develop fleet EV transition plans and domicile EV charging program
- Track progress on and expand Buy Clean Initiative for state construction
- Track and issue publicly-available state portfolio energy/emission data

### MOR-EV Program

- Develop multi-year program uptake + EV adoption forecasts and work to identifying funding options
- Broaden outreach strategies with community-based organizations to promote EV access for low income and disadvantaged communities and priority populations
- Submit proposal for US EPA Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) to electrify medium- and heavy-duty (MD/HD) vehicles statewide

### 2024 Timelines

- Spring – Launch state fleet charging and decarbonization grants; submit CPRG application to US EPA
- Summer – Launch solar + decarb grant; convene interagency Buy Clean group
- Fall – Initiate MD/HD electrification program (if CPRG funds awarded)
- Winter – Host annual Leading by Example Awards

### Opportunities for Public Engagement

- Fall – Open LBE Award applications for state agencies, campuses, and individuals
- September – Issue MOR-EV report to legislature

# Renewable and Alternative Energy

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## Goals for 2024

- Review and improve existing incentive programs to:
  - Responsibly manage ratepayer funds
  - Ensure broad participation of low- and moderate-income customers and equitable benefits
  - Streamline program requirements and application processes
  - Provide reliable revenue streams for project developers
- Develop new incentive programs to facilitate the deployment of renewables in key areas

# Renewable and Alternative Energy

## 2024 Key Projects

- [Solar Massachusetts Renewable Target \(SMART\) Review](#) and Straw Proposal
- Low-Income Services Solar Program (LISSP)
- [Solar for All](#) (pending award from EPA)
- Clean Peak Energy Standard (CPS) Review
- [Energy Storage Grant Program](#)
- Renewable Energy Portfolio Standard (RPS ) Portal Development
- Massachusetts Hydrogen Roadmap

### **2024 Timelines**

- Spring – Solar for All awards announced
- Summer – SMART Straw proposal
- Summer – Energy Storage Grant Program Straw Proposal
- Fall – LISSP applications open

### **Opportunities for Public Engagement**

- Spring – CPS review stakeholder comment period
- Summer – SMART Straw Proposal public comment period
- Summer – Energy Storage Grants Straw Proposal public comment period



# Energy Efficiency

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## Goals for 2024

- Support and encourage the equitable delivery of energy efficiency and decarbonization investment to further the State's climate objectives
- Advance building decarbonization through the development of building energy reporting
- Prioritize the transition to clean energy for low-moderate income residents, through DOER affordable housing grants and program development
- Advocate for building energy codes that further support decarbonization

# Energy Efficiency

## 2024 Key Projects

- Support development of 2025-2027 Three-Year Energy Efficiency Plan
- Promulgate Building Energy Reporting regulations
- Award grants through DOER's Affordable Housing Decarbonization Grant Program
- Launch the Merrimack Valley Energy Efficiency Enrichment Program
- Direct HER/HEAR funding to support Municipal Light Plant and Mass Save delivery of decarbonization and energy efficiency programs

### 2024 Timelines

- Spring – Award 2nd round of affordable housing clean energy retrofit projects
- Spring- Merrimack Valley Energy Enrichment Program launch
- Summer – Develop final 2025-2027 Three-Year EE Plan recommendations
- Winter- promulgate BER regulations

### Opportunities for Public Engagement

- March 18, 2024- HER/HEAR public input session
- April, May and June- public input sessions on three-year EE plan
- Summer- Building Energy Reporting public comments on regulations

# Policy, Planning, and Analysis

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## Goals for 2024

- Encourage utility investments in the grid that will support electrification and the transition beyond natural gas
- Secure clean energy supply resources to meet growing demand and reduce emissions
- Design electric rates that promote energy affordability while encouraging adoption of heat pumps and electric vehicles

# Policy, Planning, and Analysis

## 2024 Key Projects

- [Electric Sector Modernization Plans](#) (ESMPs)
- [83C Round 4 Offshore Wind Solicitation](#) in coordination with Connecticut and Rhode Island
- [Interagency Rates Working Group](#) (IRWG)
- Coordinated planning with gas and electric utilities to plan for future beyond natural gas

### 2024 Timelines

- May – DOER positions on ESMPs
- August 7 – 83C Round 4 selection
- August 29 – Final ESMP decision
- July and October – IRWG studies

### Opportunities for Public Engagement

- March – ESMP Public Hearings
- June – GMAC meeting updating on ESMPs
- Summer – IRWG Stakeholder Sessions
- September – GMAC meeting reviewing and discussing ESMP decision

# Questions and Answers

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- Please type your question in the Q&A box or click “raise hand” in your Zoom navigation bar.
- If speaking, please introduce yourself before asking your question.
- Please keep questions brief and respectful so we can get to as many as possible.
- If you are in a channel with an interpreter and you have a question, please type your question in the Q&A box so it can be interpreted.

# DOER is Seeking Your Input!

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**Submit Comments to [doer.energy@mass.gov](mailto:doer.energy@mass.gov) by 5pm on March 15<sup>th</sup>. All comments will be posted publicly on DOER's website. Comments may respond to these questions:**

- Do you have feedback on DOER's plans for 2024?
- How do DOER programs impact you?
- Was there anything you learned today that you weren't aware of?
- Are there concerns you have about the clean energy transition?
- Did you enjoy the Town Hall?
- Are there any recommendations you would have for DOER's future public engagement?

**THANK YOU!**