

MASSACHUSETTS GRID MODERNIZATION ADVISORY COUNCIL EQUITY WORKING GROUP CHARTER

The Grid Modernization Advisory Council (GMAC), pursuant to its authority under G.L. c. 164, §§ 92B-92C, hereby constitutes an Equity Working Group, as a subcommittee of the GMAC, as authorized by Article 4.2(B) of the GMAC Bylaws.

This Equity Working Group is constituted ~~for a term of four months and may be re-authorized for future terms thereafter~~as an on-going subcommittee of the GMAC, and may be amended or terminated by the GMAC in the future.

I. Overall Role and Responsibilities

The goal of the Equity Working Group is to provide recommendations on the draft ESMPs for consideration by the GMAC specifically related to equity, with focus on low-income ratepayers and Environmental Justice populations. It will be the responsibility of the Equity Working Group to provide input and feedback to the GMAC, in carrying out its statutory responsibilities to review and provide recommendations to Electric Distribution Companies as they draft and submit Electric-Sector Modernization Plans (ESMPs). The Equity Working Group will also provide the GMAC with on-going input and recommendations on how to integrate and improve equity through the review and implementation of the ESMPs.

II. Responsibilities

The GMAC charges the Equity Working Group with the responsibility to:

- Provide input and feedback to the GMAC on how to consider equity through its review of the ESMPs and their implementation;
- ~~Provide~~ and suggestions for addressing specific equity issues in the ESMPs;
- Provide feedback and specific suggestions on how to reduce impacts on low-income ratepayers;
- Provide feedback and recommendations relating to Environmental Justice Populations
- Advise and assist the GMAC on equity matters; ~~and~~
- Solicit meaningful engagement from stakeholders representing underserved populations;
and
- Make recommendations and report to the GMAC on actions and activities of the Equity Working Group.

III. Meetings

The Equity Working Group shall meet as needed to implement its responsibilities above. Meetings shall adhere to the requirements of the Open Meetings Law and an agenda of the matters to be addressed at any Equity Working Group meeting shall be posted on the GMAC website and circulated to members. Minutes shall be approved by consensus and posted on the GMAC website.

IV. Members

The Equity Working Group is comprised of at least 7 members:

1. Voting Councilors or their designees:
 - a. The Department of Energy Resources (DOER),
 - b. Office of the Attorney General,
 - c. Two or more Councilors selected by the GMAC.
2. Two voting members representing organizations that are not represented on the GMAC, selected by the GMAC,
3. One representative of the EDCs,

In cases of emergency or significant personal hardship that prevent a member of the Equity Working Group's attendance at a particular meeting, members of the Equity Working Group may appoint a designee who shall have the same voting or non-voting privileges consistent with those of the Equity Working Group member. The member should submit the name of the designee in writing to the Chair of the Equity Working Group prior to the meetings at which the designee is to function.

V. Member Nominations and Term Limits

Members 1(a) and 1(b) above shall be permanent members of the Equity Working Group.

Candidates for other membership positions above may self-nominate or be nominated by another Councilor. The GMAC shall vote to select each member or fill any vacancies in accordance with Article 7 of the GMAC By-laws. Once elected, members serve for ~~the a two-year term of the Equity Working Group as authorized by the GMAC~~ and are eligible for re-appointment thereafter. The voting Councilors shall elect the chair of the Equity Working Group, who will serve for ~~the a two-year term of the Equity Working Group as authorized by the GMAC~~. The Chair of the Equity Working Group will be responsible for meeting materials and agendas, with some assistance from DOER and the GMAC consultants. A vacancy by expiration shall be filled in the manner of the original appointment by the GMAC. A vacancy that is created by resignation or a reason other than by expiration shall be filled in the same manner of the original appointment by the GMAC but only for the unexpired portion of the term. The GMAC EWG may suggest the names of persons to the GMAC to fill any vacancies. The GMAC shall have the power to remove its appointee EWG members for just cause.