



COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY RESOURCES

Grid Modernization Advisory Council Equity Working Group

October 10, 2023

Agenda

Item	Time
Welcome, Agenda, Roll Call	11:00
Meeting minutes review and voting	11:05
Stakeholder plan for EDCs' public technical sessions	11:10
Review and discussion: metrics submitted by EDCs	11:25
Review and discussion: table of equity baseline, outcomes, and metrics	11:40
Upcoming meetings, meeting feedback, next steps	12:25
Adjourn	12:30

Roll Call

Equity Working Group membership

Kathryn Wright, Chair

Chris Modlish

Julia Fox

Erin Engstrom (non-voting)

Mary Wambui

Vernon Walker

Kyle Murray

Larry Chretien

Barr Foundation

Attorney General's Office

Department of Energy Resources

Eversource

Planning Office for Urban Affairs

Clean Water Action

Acadia Center

Green Energy Consumers Alliance

Consultants

Jennifer Haugh

Chelsea Mattioda

GreenerU

Synapse

EDC Stakeholder Plan for Technical Sessions

- As required by law, the EDCs shall hold technical sessions to inform the public, appropriate state and federal agencies and companies engaged in the development and installation of distributed generation, energy storage, vehicle electrification systems, and building electrification systems.
 - **November 15th**
 - **November 28th**

- **ESMP Stakeholder Technical Sessions & Workshops**



An Act Driving Clean Energy and Offshore Wind

*In developing a plan pursuant to subsection (a), an electric company shall: solicit input, such as planning scenarios and modeling, from the Grid Modernization Advisory Council established in section 92C, respond to information and document requests from said Council and **conduct technical conferences and a minimum of 2 stakeholder meetings to inform the public, appropriate state and federal agencies, and companies engaged in the development and installation of distributed generation, energy storage, vehicle electrification systems and building electrification systems.***

PURPOSE/GOALS

- Those potentially impacted by this transition deserve to play a role in energy discussions that affect their lives or businesses.
- Everyone should receive fair and equitable access to the benefits of this clean energy transition
- Engaging stakeholders early and often is necessary to maximum participation and meaningful collaboration.
- Educate and familiarize as many on our ESMPs to ensure transparency

PARTICIPANTS

- Community based groups such as Equity and EJC advocates & organizations
- State agencies
- Companies engaged in the development & installation of:
 - DG, energy storage, EV systems, and building electrification systems

DATES

- **November 15**
- **November 28**

Proposed Workshop Overview



- **Participants:** Identify (with review from the GMAC and/or EWG) key groups and organizations to be included in the workshop per the statute. **30 total statewide representatives** to allow for broad range of stakeholders while ensuring meaningful participation
 - Invitations to additional stakeholders (plus open public invitation) to attend the workshops in listen mode and to provide written feedback on the ESMPs
- **Format:**
 - **Professionally designed and facilitated** by Janet Gail Besser & Dr. Jonathan Raab
 - Two separate **4-hour sessions** that build off one another, both with a clear agenda including targeted presentations on key ESMP followed by Q&A and structured feedback.
 - **Hosted on ZOOM platform**
- **Accessibility & Inclusiveness:**
 - **Notice the workshops in-advance** and in high traffic gathering places in communities (input from EWG encouraged)
 - Stakeholder workshop information and meeting materials **posted on company webpages and GMAC webpage**
 - **Simultaneous Language Interpretation** services will be available in multiple languages as required or upon request
 - Both **sessions will be recorded** and posted to company webpages and GMAC webpage
 - Members of the public or stakeholders who attend or watch the workshops will be able to **provide written feedback** to EDCs until 12/04/23.
 - All **recommendations** (from workshop participants as well as members of the public, or additional stakeholders) will be **tracked and a formalized feedback loop** will be developed for increased transparency

Proposed Panelist List (30)



Sector	Panelist Organization	Sector	Panelist Organization
CBO/EJC	EDF	DG/DER Developers	New Leaf
CBO/EJC	ARISE, Springfield	DG/DER Developers	NECEC
CBO/EJC	Making Opportunity Count (MOC)	DG/DER Developers	NextAmp
CBO/EJC	United Way of North Central Mass	EV Developers/ Fleets	Tesla
CBO/EJC	EJ Table (Recommend 1)	EV Developers/ Fleets	Mass DOT
CBO/EJC	Browning the Green Space	C&I/Large Energy Users	Mass General Hospital
Workforce/Labor	IBEW	C&I/Large Energy Users	MA Business Roundtable
Workforce/Labor	North Central MA Chamber of Commerce	C&I/Large Energy Users	Fitchburg State
Workforce/Labor	Franklin Cummings Tech	C&I/Large Energy Users	Lowell General Hospital
Workforce/Labor	Umass Lowell	C&I/Large Energy Users	Gillette Stadium
Muni	MA Municipal Association	Housing/Building/ Business	WMA Economic Development Council
Muni	MA Mayor's Association	Housing/Building/ Business	Fitchburg Housing Authority
Affordability	NCLC	Housing/Building/ Business	A Better City
Affordability	Mass Housing	Housing/Building/ Business	Lupoli Companies
State/Quasi State Agencies	Mass Development	State/Quasi State Agencies	Mass Life Sciences
State/Quasi State Agencies	MA Economic Development		

**Invitations to additional stakeholders to attend the workshops to listen, learn, and to provide written feedback on the ESMPs include but are not limited to:

- **Regulatory Assistance Project**
- **Clean Water Action**
- **Union of Concerned Scientists**
- **Mass Climate Action Network**
- **CLF**
- **ELM**
- **ACE**
- **GreenRoots**
- **Neighbor2Neighbor**
- **Groundwork Lawrence**
- **Slingshot**
- **Berkshire Environmental Action Team**
- **CAP Agencies**
- **AIM**
- **Hospitals**
- **Municipal & Elected Officials**
- **Trade Associations**
- **Unions**
- **Academic Institutions**
- **Real Estate Developers**
- **GMAC Members**

Questions?

EVERSOURCE

nationalgrid

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EDC Proposed Stakeholder Process Metrics

- The EDCs would benefit from discussions with the GMAC Equity Working Group (“EWG”) regarding their ideas on how a potential equity metric could be developed, tracked and implemented.
- The EDCs also welcome discussions with and feedback from the EWG on the three stakeholder engagement metrics the EDCs propose in this letter. Finally, the EDCs would welcome discussions with the EWG about the role the proposed Community Engagement Stakeholder Advisory Group (“CESAG”) could play in the ongoing tracking of metric results.
- Pursuant to feedback from the GMAC on September 28, 2023, the EDCs are first providing the GMAC their proposed stakeholder process metrics, to facilitate review by the GMAC Equity Working Group in the short term.

EDC Proposed Stakeholder Process Metrics

- The number of outreach and involvement meetings **about the respective EDCs ESMP filing** with stakeholders, including EJCs, municipal leaders, community-based organizations and customers (i.e., residential, commercial and industrial, as well as DER customers).
 - The number of outreach and involvement meetings **about specific ESMP infrastructure projects** with stakeholders, including EJCs, municipal leaders, community-based organizations, and customers (i.e., residential, commercial and industrial, as well as DER customers).
 - The number and category of **requests made as part of stakeholder feedback on specific ESMP infrastructure projects, classified into visual mitigation, access accommodations, work hours, right-of-way maintenance, informational accommodations, engineering accommodations, and damage prevention, as well as the EDC's response to these requests** classified as under consideration, implemented, not accepted with reason, and other.
- The third proposed stakeholder metric reflects the general categories of feedback the EDCs have received during stakeholder engagement processes on specific infrastructure project proposals:
 - **Visual mitigation:** shrubs/tree planting or relocating objects out of a specific line of sight.
 - **Access accommodations:** adjusting work zones to allow for continuity of access for school bus, elderly services, or regional transit.
 - **Work hours:** adjusting work hours to accommodate traffic/pedestrian management or construction noise.
 - **Right-of-way maintenance:** backfilling and repaving based on feedback from stakeholders, usually public way managers such as DPW or DOT.
 - **Informational accommodations:** using local feedback to tailor outreach methods such as timing of meetings, translation of content into appropriate languages, and ADA access.
 - **Engineering accommodations:** adjusting engineering design, to the extent practicable, to address stakeholder concerns.
 - **Damage Prevention:** identifying conditions prior to construction to ensure the integrity of adjacent utilities, businesses, residents, and structures.
 - The EDCs may be able to implement the third proposed metric during the pre-permitting phase of project development (i.e., prior to formal regulatory filings seeking approval of projects), and during the permitting phase, pending further discussion about the methodology by which stakeholder feedback is proposed to be obtained.

Equity Metrics Assessment Table

- See *document*: GMAC Equity Working Group Equity Metrics Assessment Table

Wrap-Up

Meeting 3:

- **Monday, October 23, 2023, 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM**
 - Zoom link forthcoming
 - A calendar hold was sent out to you by GreenerU
- Meeting goals:
 - Continued and final discussion on equity metrics assessment table
 - Confirm recommendations for / on behalf of the full GMAC
 - Allow opportunity for public comment