Grid Modernization Advisory Council (GMAC)

MEETING SUMMARY

Thursday, October 26, 2023, 1–4 p.m.

SECTION 7: FIVE-YEAR ELECTRIC SECTOR MODERNIZATION PLAN

1. GMAC members recommended condensing information into high-level tables that provide a clear and easy way to understand what is in the proposal. The GMAC also suggested having consistency of information and illustration across the EDCs.

2. There was discussion around the nuances of net benefits, such as finding a balance between investments that help the Commonwealth achieve net zero by 2050 and more immediate and tangible net benefits to customers. Statutory energy efficiency requirements may be a good basis for comparison of methodologies to measure net benefits, though grid modernization is a new paradigm and there are new variables.

3. The EDCs were asked for clearer information about federally funded projects and whether they are net incremental vs. business as usual.

SECTION 13: CONCLUSION

1. The GMAC discussed the need to reach Global Warming Solutions Act (GWSA) emissions reductions targets, which may include analyzing the social cost of carbon.

2. The EDCs should provide a thorough and transparent rate impact analysis on the front end of proposed investments and offer a sensitivity analysis of what will influence rates at different points in time thereafter.

3. The GMAC needs to consider its role in other multifaceted decision-making with respect to what the DPU reviews. For now, its role is to meet the requirements of the statute, forward the goals of the 2050 roadmap and the CECP, and ensuring the ESMPs have presented the correct information to aid the DPU in conducting their review.

SECTION 2: COMPLIANCE WITH THE ACT

1. The GMAC should consider multiple forms of recommendations: what the EDCs can before January, how future iterations of ESMPs should be refined, what processes work best. The EDCs may also provide similar recommendations on their experience.

2. Further clarifications on what has been preapproved/preauthorized would be helpful.