Grid Modernization Advisory Council (GMAC)

MEETING SUMMARY

Thursday, September 28, 2023, 1-4 p.m.

SECTION 6: FIVE- AND TEN-YEAR SOLUTIONS

 Discussion included the ESMPs needing more clarity ownership and control of non-wires alternative (NWA) assets and back-up power solutions; community benefits agreements; earlier involvement from stakeholders in major infrastructure planning processes; how the combination of solutions translates to needed renewable energy development; and the timing of all of these proposed changes.

SECTION 10: RELIABLE AND RESILIENT DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM

2. More transparency in investment costs and causes of historical outages would be helpful to assess the grid plans. More discussion is needed about risk tolerance and investment there, given climate predictions in New England. The ESMPs need to address both the System Average Interruption Duration Index (SAIDI) and the System Average Interruption Frequency Index (SAIFI).

SECTION 12: WORKFORCE, ECONOMIC, AND HEALTH BENEFITS

3. While these metrics are not mentioned in the DPU's memo, greenhouse gas emissions reduction and impacts on climate change are related to these focus areas. This section ties closely to Section 3: stakeholder engagement and the Equity Working Group's focus. More specificity with respect to job quality, economic benefits, and health impacts would strengthen the ESMPs.