

Massachusetts Grid Modernization Advisory Council

Equity Working Group Meeting

February 20, 2025



Meeting Agenda



Item	Time
Administrative Items <ul style="list-style-type: none">Welcome, Agenda, Roll CallMeeting Minutes Review and Voting	10:00 – 10:05
ESMP Stakeholder Engagement/Equity Metrics <ul style="list-style-type: none">Context settingEWG recommended metricsEDC presentation on metrics/biannual reporting March filingDiscussion on priority metric and the role of EWG	10:05 – 11:00
Equity in Long-Term System Planning Process (LTSP) <ul style="list-style-type: none">DOER presentation on draft proposalEWG discussion on GMAC stakeholder engagement for LTSP	11:00 – 11:25
Close	11:25 – 11:30

Roll call alphabetically by voting and then non-voting members

Roll Call



Equity Working Group Voting Councilors

Larry Chretien

Julia Fox

Chris Modlish

Kyle Murray

Mary Wambui

Jolette Westbrook

Kathryn Wright, Chair

Green Energy Consumers Alliance

Department of Energy Resources

Attorney General's Office

Acadia Center

Planning Office for Urban Affairs

Environmental Defense Fund

Barr Foundation

Non-Voting Councilor

Erin Engstrom (non-voting)

Eversource

Consultants

Chelsea Mattioda

Synapse

Tim Woolf

Synapse

Meeting Minutes



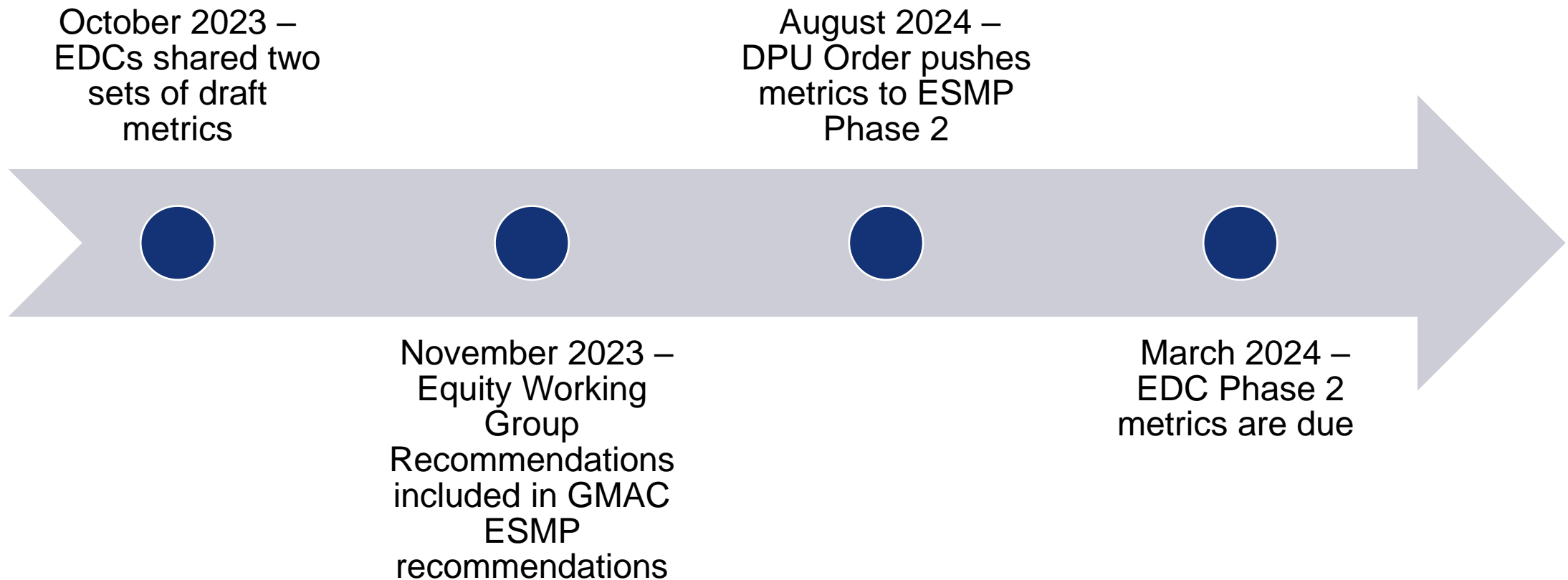
- Calling for vote to finalize:
 - December 6, 2024, Equity Working Group minutes
- *Motion to approve the December 6th minutes [as distributed/as corrected]?*

Context: Upcoming ESMP Phase 2 Deadlines



Quarter	Month	GMAC	ExCom	EWG Meeting	Procedural
Q1	Jan	Thur, 1/31			Phase 2: Technical Sessions 1/21-24 on Interim ESMP mechanism, metrics, biannual reporting
	Feb	Thur, 2/27	Thur, 2/13	Thur, 2/20	LSTPP 2/3/25 – Interim Status Report
	Mar	Thur, 3/27		Fri, 3/28	Phase 2: 3/18 – EDCs jointly file ESMP metrics and reporting templates
Q2	Apr	Thur, 5/1	Thur, 4/24		LSTPP: 4/4/25 – Final LSTPP Status Report Phase 2: 4/17 – Deadline for intervenor comments on metrics and reporting
	May	Thur, 5/29			Phase 2: 5/15 – EDCs reply comments on metrics and reporting
	Jun	Thur, 6/26	Thur, 6/5		

Context: Timeline



EDC Stakeholder/Equity Update

February 20, 2025



Proposed Stakeholder Metrics

All metric reporting is related to the **ESMP-specific** investments, which are unique for each utility.

Reporting Metric 1

For each 5-Yr ESMP term the number of outreach and involvement meetings about the respective EDCs **ESMP** with stakeholders, including EJs, municipal leaders, community-based organizations and customers

Reporting Metric 2

The number of outreach and involvement meetings about **specific ESMP infrastructure projects** with stakeholders, including EJs, municipal leaders, community-based organizations, and customers.

Reporting Metric 3

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 EDCs are open to working with the EWG to develop an equity specific metric for **distributional and/or structural equity**

Draft Stakeholder Engagement/Equity Section for Biannual Report

- Bi-Annual Reports will be filed on March 31 and September 30 each year with the DPU
- First Bi-Annual ESMP Report will be filed on September 30, 2025
- Update on format and structure to be provided to GMAC at March 2025 meeting

For the Equity/Stakeholder Engagement section of the report, the EDCs are committed to providing updates on:



High Level Themes from Original Feedback

- The EWG recommended that the utilities adopt a uniform definition of equity aligned with definitions used by practitioners / *This was adopted in the drafts and the DPU approved the equity definition.*
- The EWG flagged that the stakeholder engagement metrics were sufficient and did not focus on distributional or structural aspects of equity / *Metrics were not addressed in Phase 1.*
- The EWG requested an improvement in the legibility of public facing documents to (e.g., plain language, multiple language support, following best practices for outreach identified through other projects such as the AGO's stakeholder working group) / *The DPU deferred many of the concerns about outreach to the CESAG.*
- The EWG provided sample metrics in many different categories which would provide transparency on how the EDCs are addressing benefits and burdens as they relate to affordability, resilience, workforce, and several other factors / *Metrics were not addressed in Phase 1.*

Discussion Questions

Metrics:

- What feedback do you have to improve the EDCs' existing metrics?
- What topics or aspects of equity do you feel are not well addressed by the metrics? What would you prioritize for the EDCs to focus on?

Biannual Reporting:

- What information would you like to ensure is reported on (can be qualitative or quantitative)?
- Do you have any feedback on how the EDCs can increase the accessibility of these documents?
- How would this group like to further engage with the EDCs before updates are filed?

Medium-term:

- Would this group like to stay engaged in the Phase 2 proceeding, if so how?

Long-Term System Planning Process (LTSP) Update

Background

- In its ESMP order, DPU directed a 6-month stakeholder process to develop the LTSP to proactively plan investments to a) enable DG hosting capacity and b) enable electrification (e.g., via ESMP network investments). DPU directed the EDCs to file a final report by April 4th.
- Stakeholders have met every 2 weeks starting in Fall 2024 and are actively negotiating the details of the LTSP.

Proposal (many details still under discussion)

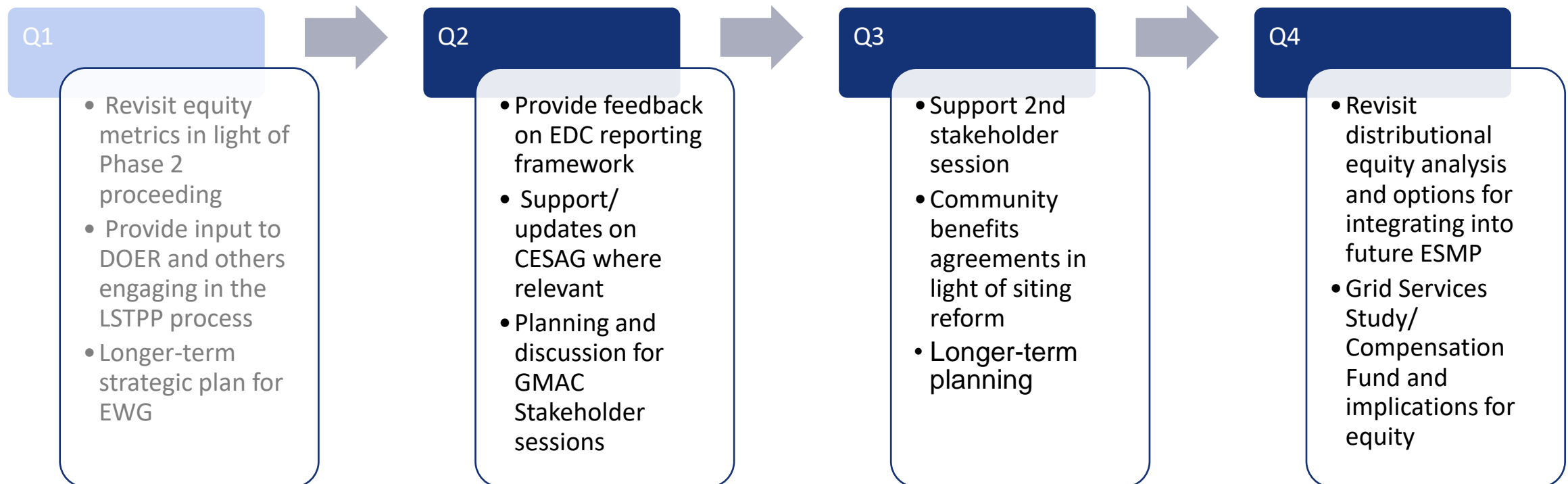
- EDCs to propose investments needed to proactively enable hosting capacity based on a long-term DG forecast (potentially load forecast as well)
- Stakeholder input on DG forecast inputs and investment prioritization (potentially load forecast inputs as well)
- Costs will be shared between DG developers and customers based on benefits received (hosting capacity vs. enabled electrification)
- Use of flexible interconnection and NWA to enable cost-effective expansion of the distribution system
- EDCs propose to gather input from CESAG on community engagement & siting issues

GMAC Role

- Proposing a new GMAC sub-group (including representatives from DOER, AGO, EWG, EDCs, and DG industry) to convene stakeholders on:
 - a) Long-term forecast inputs
 - b) Prioritization of LTSP investment zones

Close and Next Steps

- The next GMAC meeting is February 27, 2025 from 1 – 3 PM.
- The next EWG meeting is March 28, 2025 from 10 – 11:30 AM.
 - *Reminder of our quarterly meeting goals:*



Appendix: Current MA Metrics

Current EDC Metrics (I)

Proceeding	Category	Metric examples
Service Quality (D.P.U. 24-SQ-10/ 24-SQ-11/24-SQ-13)	Reliability	SAIDI, SAIFI, CKAIFI
	Safety	Lost Work Time Accident (LTA) and Restricted Work Day (RWD) Rates
	Downed wires	Average Response Times
	Customer satisfaction	Residential Customer Satisfaction Survey
Electric Vehicles (D.P.U. 21-90/21-91/21-92)	Performance	kW usage per port, total charging events per port, average plug-in time duration
	Equity	Total EV program spending in EJ and non-EJ communities
Energy Efficiency (D.P.U 24-147-24-149)	Key Performance Indicators	Heat pump installations by fuel replacement and building type
	Performance Incentive	Plan EE and ADR benefits
Interconnection Timeline Enforcement (D.P.U 24-46/ 24-44/24-34)	Timeline Enforcement	Aggregate necessary timeframes % of aggregate necessary timeframes under standards for interconnection of distributed generation tariff

Current EDC Metrics (II)



Proceeding	Category	Metric examples
Rate Case Scorecard and PIMs (D.P.U <u>22-22</u> , <u>23-150</u> , <u>23-80</u>)	Eversource	<i>Customer satisfaction, customer engagement, producer satisfaction, producer/developer engagement, operations, peak demand reduction, GHG reduction, electrification, equity/low-income, resiliency</i>
	National Grid	<i>PIMs: Increased enrollment in the low-income discount program; first call resolution; digital customer engagement; fleet electrification; and MW of DER interconnected to the system</i>
		<i>Scorecard: customer satisfaction survey, outage communication, GHG emissions reduction, and DER program participation, low-income service terminations</i>
	Unitil	<i>Customer satisfaction and engagement, peak demand reduction, GHG reduction</i>
Annual Reliability Reports (24-ARR-01, 24-ARR-02, 24-ARR-04)	Reliability	<i>Circuit and feeder-level SAIDI, CAIFI, etc. estimated cost of future projects, estimated capital cost of future projects, tree crews available by month, feeder-level peak demand</i>
Grid Modernization	Infrastructure	<i>Number of devices or other technologies deployed</i>
	Performance	<i>Volt VAR Optimization (VVO) Energy Savings</i>
	AMI	<i>Total number and percentage of customers being actively served by the company but who opted-out of AMI</i>

Existing Grid Mod Metrics (excerpt)

Table 10. Infrastructure Metrics Overview

Metric	Description	Applicable IAs	Metric Responsibility*
IM-1 Grid Connected Distribution Generation Facilities	Tracks the number and type of distributed generation facilities in service and connected to the distribution system	ADMS/ALF	EDC
IM-2 System Automation Saturation	Measures the quantity of customers served by fully or partially automated devices.	M&C, ADA	EDC
IM-3 Number and Percent of Circuits with Installed Sensors	Measures the total number of circuits with installed sensors which will provide information useful for proactive planning and intervention.	M&C	EDC
IM-4 Number of Devices or Other Technologies Deployed	Measures how the EDC is progressing with its GMP from an equipment or device standpoint.	All IAs	Evaluator
IM-5 Cost for Deployment	Measures the associated costs for the number of devices or technologies installed; designed to measure how the EDC is progressing under its GMP.	All IAs	Evaluator
IM-6 Deviation Between Actual and Planned Deployment for the Plan Year	Measures how the EDC is progressing relative to its GMP on a year-by-year basis.	All IAs	Evaluator

Table 11. Performance Metrics Overview

Metric	Description	Applicable IAs	Metric Responsibility*
PM-1 VVO Baseline	Establishes a baseline impact factor for each VVO-enabled circuit which will be used to quantify the peak load, energy savings, and greenhouse gas (GHG) impact measures.	VVO	All
PM-2 VVO Energy Savings	Quantifies the energy savings achieved by VVO using the baseline established for the circuit against the annual circuit load with the intent of optimizing system performance.	VVO	All
PM-3 VVO Peak Load Impact	Quantifies the peak demand impact VVO/CVR has on the system with the intent of optimizing system demand.	VVO	All
PM-4 VVO Distribution Losses without Advanced Metering Functionality (AMF) (Baseline)	Presents the difference between circuit load measured at the substation via the SCADA system and the metered load measured through advanced metering infrastructure.	VVO	All
PM-5 VVO Power Factor	Quantifies the improvement that VVO/CVR is providing toward maintaining circuit power factors near unity.	VVO	All

Source: Grid Modernization 2022 Evaluation Report: Communications

Example Massachusetts Dashboard – Energy Efficiency (1)



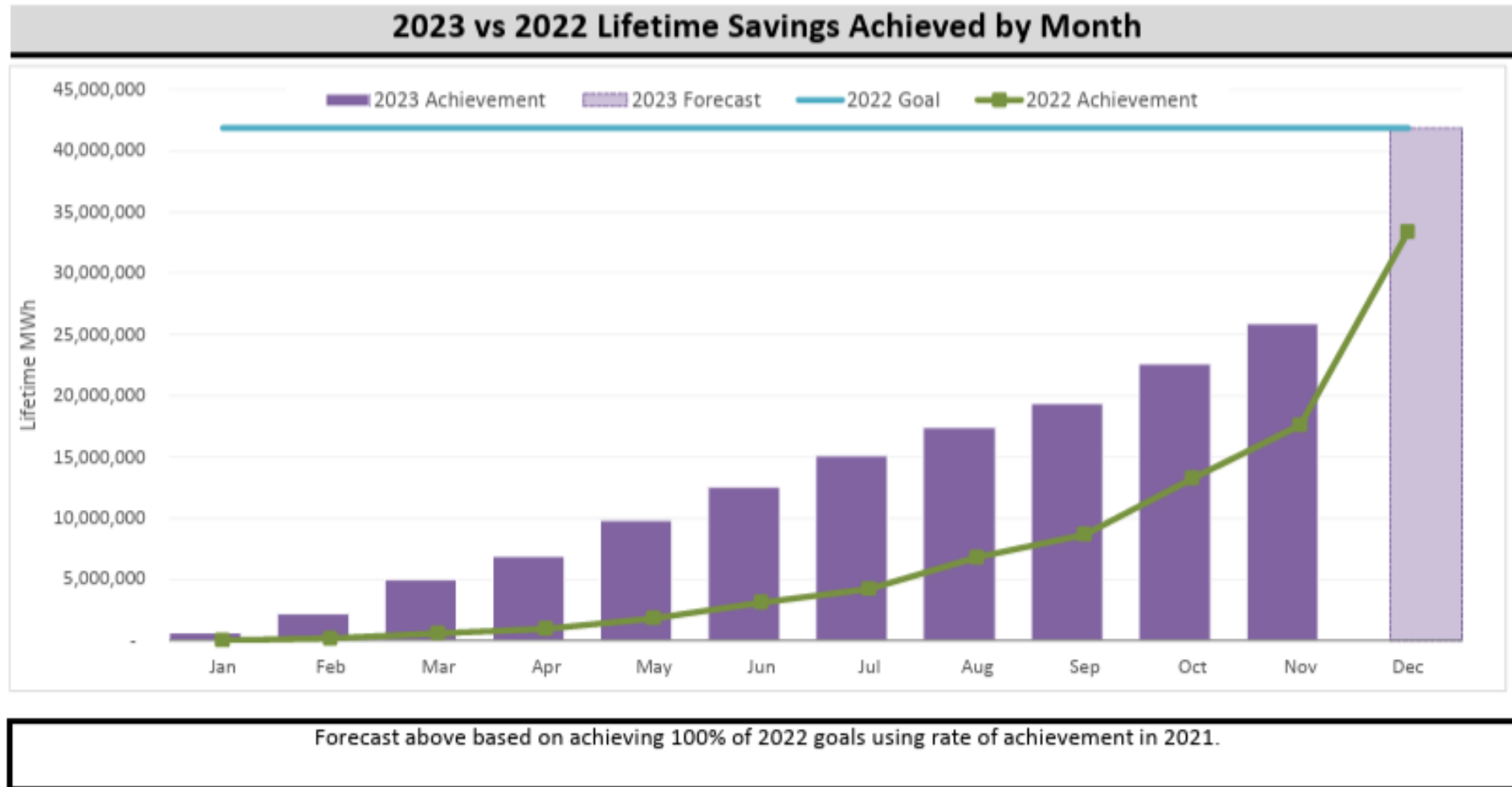
2023 Summary
(January 1, 2023 through November 30, 2023)

11/12 months; 92% of year complete

Data Dashboard						
Sector	Participants	Total Program Costs	Summer Capacity (kW)	Net Annual Energy (MWh) without FS and DR	Net Lifetime Energy (MWh) without FS and DR	Net Lifetime MMBTU (fuels)
2023 Goal	1,291,904	858,642,506	297,488	471,189	4,216,943	41,868,449
A - Residential	1,256,833	373,764,877	117,697	155,510	1,152,840	20,965,831
B - Income Eligible	29,318	110,844,285	4,605	29,561	261,975	3,982,473
C - Commercial & Industrial	5,754	374,033,344	175,186	286,119	2,802,128	16,920,145
2023 Nov YTD	930,640	518,060,879	30,258	264,550	2,484,706	25,888,342
A - Residential	896,128	289,846,997	9,047	93,109	803,531	14,197,169
B - Income Eligible	17,826	94,274,937	2,303	23,823	284,016	3,288,285
C - Commercial & Industrial	16,686	133,938,945	18,908	147,618	1,397,159	8,402,888
YTD as % of Goal	72%	60%	10%	56%	59%	62%
A - Residential	71%	78%	8%	60%	70%	68%
B - Income Eligible	61%	85%	50%	81%	108%	83%
C - Commercial & Industrial	290%	36%	11%	52%	50%	50%

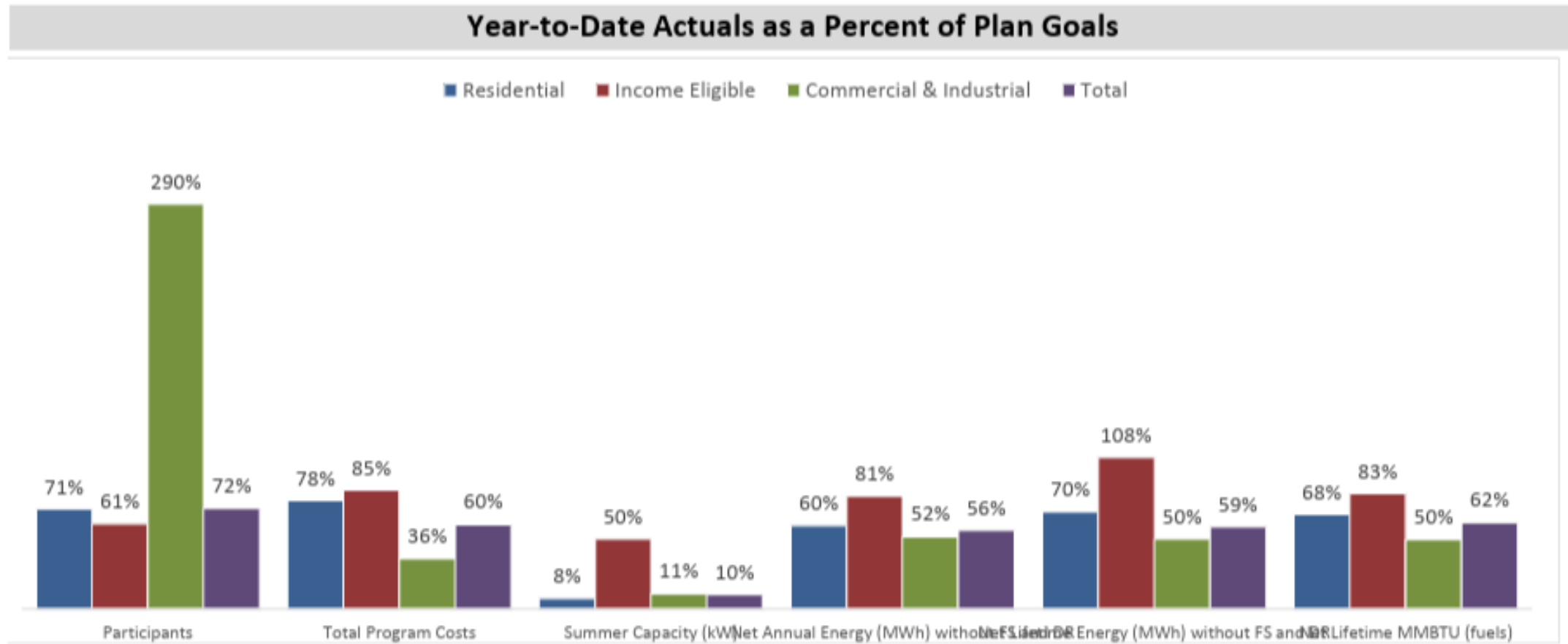
Source: Massachusetts Energy Efficiency Dashboards

Example Massachusetts Dashboard – Energy Efficiency (1)



Source: Massachusetts Energy Efficiency Dashboards

Example Massachusetts Dashboard – Energy Efficiency (2)



Source: Massachusetts Energy Efficiency Dashboards