



Advocating for Ratepayers & Clean Energy at ISO-NE

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What and Who is the New England Power Pool (NEPOOL)?

- NEPOOL was founded in 1971 as a voluntary association of wholesale electric market participants from the six New England States.
- NEPOOL was created to handle central dispatch of generation in New England; settlements and billing; coordinated outages of transmission and generation equipment; joint planning and other measures to improve system reliability and economics.
- In 1996, NEPOOL proposed the creation of the Independent System Operator (ISO) for New England and in 1997, ISO-NE was created. Its duties were to operate regional power system, implement wholesale markets and ensure open access to transmission lines.

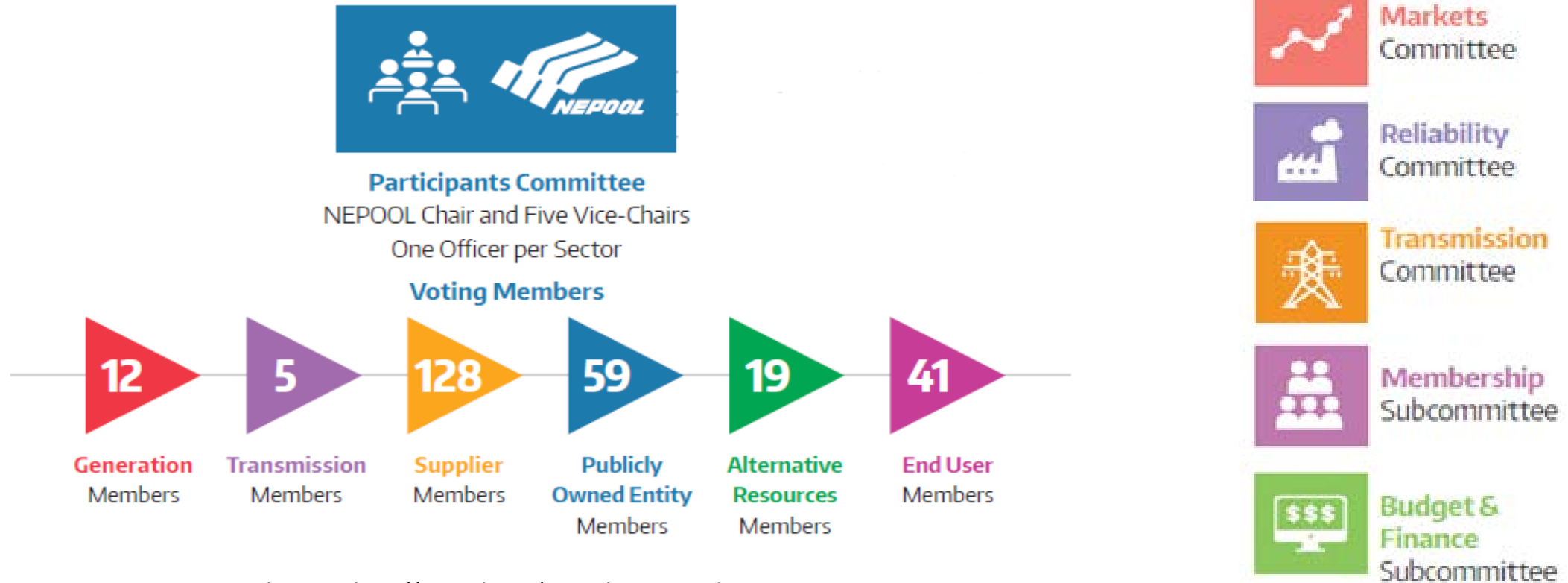


NEPOOL after the Creation of ISO-NE

- NEPOOL became the primary stakeholder advisory body to ISO-NE.
- NEPOOL's relationship with ISO-NE is governed by the Participants Agreement.
- NEPOOL's multi-faceted mission includes ensuring reliability; creating and sustaining open, competitive wholesale markets; and providing for an equitable allocation of costs, benefits and responsibilities among market participants.



How is NEPOOL Organized?



Source: NEPOOL Annual Report, http://nepool.com/Annual_Reports.php



The Importance of NEPOOL Membership

- AGO has been a NEPOOL member since 2009.
- At NEPOOL the AGO advocates for an electric grid that is
 - (1) safe,
 - (2) reliable,
 - (3) clean
 - (4) fair (to all customers and technologies), and
 - (5) low cost to customers.
- The benefits of NEPOOL membership



AGO as a NEPOOL Member (cont.)

- Attend and actively participate in all the technical committee meetings every month, as well as the Participants' Committee meeting.
- Serve as Vice-chair of the End User sector.
- Evaluate ISO-NE proposed market designs and rule changes.
- Propose alternative market designs and amendments to ISO-NE proposals.
- Advocate at FERC.



Some 2020 Stats on NEPOOL Activities



69 Days of Committee Meetings



275 Principal Committee Votes



251 Legal Proceedings

(participated in or actively monitored)



512 Participants

Source: adapted from NEPOOL Annual Report, http://nepool.com/Annual_Reports.php

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Examples of Successes through the NEPOOL/ISO Process

- Ensuring transparency and accountability in transmission rates
- Return on equity (ROE) on the amounts invested in transmission facilities
- Enacting tariff changes so that Energy Efficiency, Demand Response and Storage can participate in wholesale markets on an even footing
- Facilitating entry of Offshore Wind and Storage into the Forward Capacity Auction (ORTPs)



Barriers to Participation

- Subject matter is technical and complex
- Time and expense
- Most NEPOOL meetings are not open to the public
- Until recently, no press was allowed at the meetings
- FERC has the final say on market design issues



New England States also Advocate for Clean Energy and Ratepayer Interests at ISO-NE.

- The states are not members of NEPOOL but they are active in the NEPOOL process.
- Recently the New England States have been reexamining their relationship with ISO-NE and they are calling for changes.



What are the New England States doing to integrate clean energy into the markets?

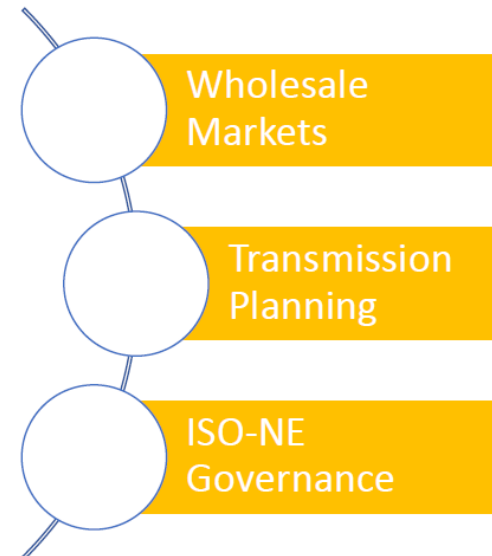
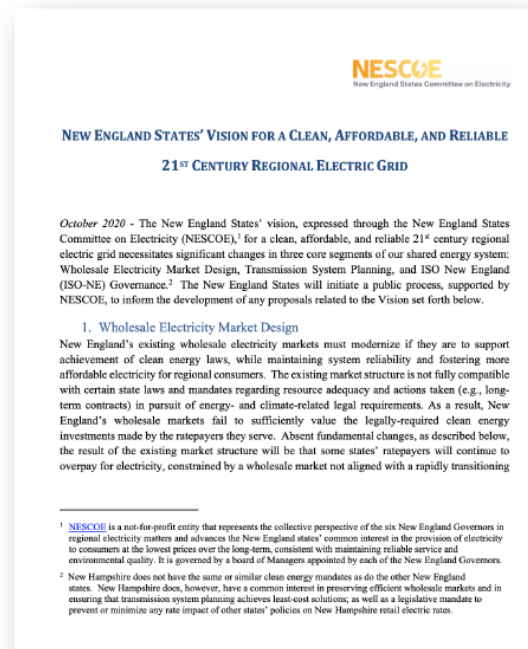
- NE States recently issued a Governors' Letter and a Vision Statement
→ Available at www.nescoe.com
- The States are participating in the ongoing Future Grid process with NEPOOL and ISO-NE.



NE States Vision Statement

NESCOE October 2020: New England States' Vision for a Clean, Affordable, and Reliable 21st Century Regional Electric Grid

documents at www.nescoe.com



Source: NESCOE CLG Presentation: https://www.iso-ne.com/static-assets/documents/2020/12/clg_nescoe_vision_dec_2_2020.pdf

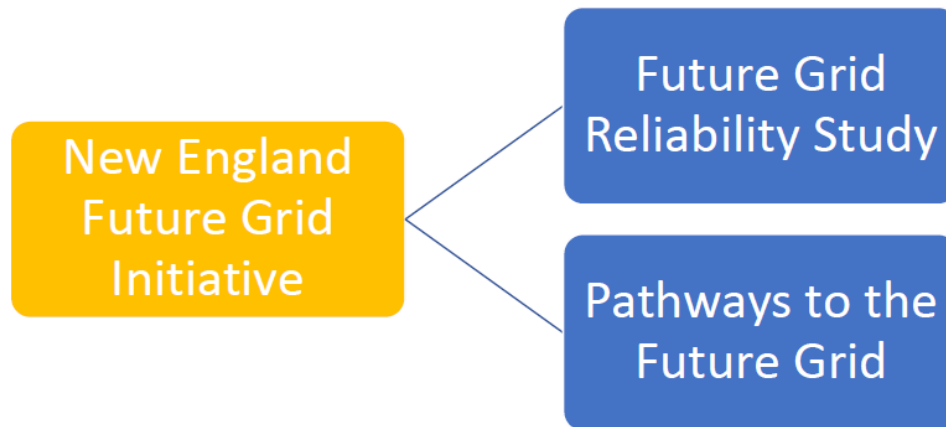


The Future Grid Process

2020 NEPOOL | ISO-NE | States

NESCOE sought the Future Market Pathways discussion and has communicated a time urgency about moving forward.

The Vision Statement is not intended to replace or disrupt or slow this imperative collaborative work.



More at NEPOOL.com

- ✓ Future Grid Reliability Study
- ✓ Potential Pathways to Future Grid
- ✓ Future Grid Reference Library

Source: NESCOE CLG Presentation: https://www.iso-ne.com/static-assets/documents/2020/12/clg_nescoe_vision_dec_2_2020.pdf

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Good News: Your Government Representatives are Advocating for you

AGO

NESCOE (representing all the NE states)

MA Agencies DPU/EEA



Good News: It is Possible for Consumers to make a Difference in ISO-NE's Policies and Processes

Changes may be incremental but progress has been made.

The New England States' recent push is adding momentum.



What Can I Do?

Keep Learning; Be Informed; Educate Others

There are many resources:

- www.iso-ne.com
- www.nescoe.com
- www.nepool.com
- Commercial publications like Utility Dive and RTO Insider



What Can I Do?

- Work with the AGO and your government representatives and ensure that they have the information you think is necessary for informed decision-making.
- Help educate and express your views to your Legislators.



What Can I Do?

Participate in the upcoming online conferences that will be hosted by the states and will be open to the public.

Attend the quarterly ISO-NE Consumer Liaison Group meetings.

<https://www.iso-ne.com/committees/industry-collaborations/consumer-liaison/>



What Can I Do?

Join NEPOOL as an end user.

Join a public interest organization that is a NEPOOL end user.

Join a local group that is active in the clean energy sphere



Conclusions & Key Takeaways

- The AGO and the States are working for Massachusetts ratepayers and Massachusetts clean energy policies at NEPOOL and FERC
- Progress on integrating clean energy into wholesale markets is gradual and will require new market designs, but the process is speeding up.
- There are a number of ways you can educate yourselves and get involved.



Thanks!