

Date:	December 11, 2025	Meeting held as part of the Massachusetts Technical Standards Review Group (TSRG) for discussion of industry topics and collaboration amongst utilities and the DG community. Meeting minutes are outlined below. If there are any corrections, additions, or omissions please notify the preparer.
Prepared by:	Tony Morreale tmorreale@ligconsultants.com	

Participants:

Shakir Iqbal (Member – Eversource)	Greg Hunt (Member – Zero-Point Development)
Jeremy Kites (Alternate – Unitil)	Brian Ritzinger (Member – DPU)
Michael Porcaro (Member – National Grid)	Brett Jacobson (Alternate – Eversource)
Tony Morreale (Member – LIG Consultants)	Gerry Bingham (Alternate – DOER)
Andrew P Netherwood	Max W Chisholm
Anish Ganta	Meiyan Li
Beau Millett	Michael N Taniwha
Bradley Marszalkowski	Muhammad A Khan
Brandon Natale	Nachum Sadan
Bronte Payne	Naera Haghazarian
Burke Niner	Natacha Caner
Carlos Perez-Perez	Nathan Walsh
Carson Bullock	Neal F Stacom
Christina King	Nikhil Balakumar
Courtney FeeleyKarp	Nyoni, Melusi
Daniel J Mungovan	Paige Smalley
Daniel Rogers	Patrick M Fam
Dominic Gatti	Quinn Perry
Doug Pope	Rahul Pantagada
Emily Slack	Risa Karanxha
Emma Stevenson	Romayn Richards
Evan Melillo	Russ Aney
Farzam Nejabatkhah	Ruvini Kankanamalage
Grace Burns	Sarah Perkins
Hannah Ferris	Sebastian Echeverria
James P DiLuca Jr	Sharon Ballard
Jeremy Kites	Steffen Ziegler
Jill C Duplessis	Syed F Ali
John M Kreso III	Thomas Ferguson
Jorge Jorge	Tom Cheng
Joseph A Richard	Travis S Carless
Julia Bucceri	William G Leblanc
Justin Woodard	Wood, Carter
Kate Tohme	Xiaodong Liu
Manuel Saadallah	Xin Li
Mark Bentson	Zachary Tedford
Mark Durrenberger	
Matt Dunnington	

Notes:

1. DER Applications larger than 1 MW & Implications with ASO & ISO-NE Transitional Cluster Studies

- Doug Pope, Pope Energy: It is not clear on relationship between ISO-NE and EDCs. Per meeting held by NGRID, after TC study is finished, there is a 20 MW reset per substation. If apps total less than 20 MW, they may not need to go into post TC study. Concerned projects will get stuck in post TC study that does not start until 2027 and will take ~1.5 years.
- Neal Stacom, Eversource:
 - Impacts from FERC Transitional Cluster Study:
 - Opt-in window for 2026 ASO is by end of 2025.
 - Some projects are directly impacted by the FERC TCS.
 - All DER projects in the 2026 ASO study will use the TCS cases whether they are impacted or not.
 - Increased efficiency to use same set of cases.
 - ISO-NE plans to share the final steady-state, stability, and short circuit TCS library cases with the Transmission Owners on January 23, 2026.
 - ASO study timeline will be aligned with TCSASO study for projects impacted by TCS cannot be finalized until completion of TCS (~1.5years).
 - Projects not impacted by TCS may complete ASO sooner (~1year)
 - New ASO studies (i.e. 2027 ASO) will not kick off until ISO-NE launches their next round of FERC Cluster studies to avoid risk of restudy (not enough time to finish before next FERC cluster study begins).
 - ISO-NE Study Level Determination Change:
 - Beginning with the First Cluster Study Opt-in window in 2027, 20MW calculation for ASO Level Determination will be reset.
 - Only projects submitted in that window count towards 20 MW Level 3 threshold.
 - Past projects at substation or electrically close stations will not be considered in determination.
 - Result is single projects <5MW may be more likely to be determined as Level 0.
- DP: If you have 3 substations electrically connected and each have 15 MW of DG, is that level 0 or level 3?
- NS: It is 20 MW per electrically close substation. They would be grouped.
- Carlos Perez, National Grid: Rolling determination on if application can proceed as Level 0 or Level 3.
- DP: What is the interval?
- CP: Monthly meeting with ISO-NE. If any projects are added to pipeline, they get added each month.

- DP: When will applicant know?
- Shakir Iqbal, Eversource: Not at pre-app and likely not at initial screening.
- NS: Likely takes 7-10 days for initial determination.
- Bradley Marszalkowski, ISO-NE: There are set timelines. PP 5-6 has all timelines and milestones. 30 days for determination.
- DP: Is it possible to amend to less than 550 days?
- BM: State-level projects will not go into TC study.
- Russ Aney, Parallel Products: We would like a detailed presentation on this by the EDCs. It is still not clear. When will determinations happen, what does each determination mean, can EDC estimate ISO-NE's decision?
- NS: We can flesh out the details.
- CP: Do you want details on how ASO studies will work with respect to FERC Order 2020 now?
- RA: Trying to understand if we will even get a determination before safe harbor ends.

2. Ford Bi-Directional Chargers Update by EDCs

- EDC meeting with Ford earlier this week. EDCs informed Ford that their proposed bi-directional chargers would need to follow the interconnection process.

3. Eversource Demo on Hosting Capacity Maps – John Kreso III, Eversource

- John Kreso III provided a live demo outlining the following items:
 - Search by address
 - Filter Parcels (Capacity, Size)
 - Protected and Sensitive Areas
 - CIP Fees Areas
 - Hosting Capacity and Headroom
 - By parcel, feeder, station
 - Seasonal and Time-series
 - Alternate feeders
 - Automated Pre-Application
- Greg Hunt, Zero-Point Development: Is headroom the load capacity? JK: Yes.
- GH: This is a lot of great information. There is concern we can longer see feeder maps. IIRG is putting together a subgroup.

4. Subgroup Updates

- Meter Socket Adapters – Usman Gauhar, National Grid

Summary of Major Accomplishments & Upcoming Activities	
Completed Activities:	
DATE	DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITY
8/11/25	Kick off – Group expectation setting, mission statement and outcome development
9/11/25	Manufacturer presentation on product details including installation, equipment accuracy, included protections, etc
11/20/25	Device certification, evaluation, approval discussed. Field practices , impact on EDCs procedures. Liability and legal considerations.
Upcoming Activities:	
12/19/25	Discussion on next steps toward 3 main goals established in first group meeting: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Process for evaluating devices 2. Updates to utility field procedures 3. Installation practices and agreements

- New chair for subgroup.
- Flexible Connections – Mark Bentson, Eversource

9/30/25	IIRG Updates Voltage Constraints and how it relates to flex connect
10/30/25	Smart Inverter Settings Volt/Var MW vs. MWH
11/25/25	Abnormal Circuit Configurations Volt/Watt
Upcoming Activities:	
	Establish deliverable document with scope list, decisions/outcomes, and highlighted differences of any EDCs / group members. Continue discussion on studies and 8760 modeling

- Putting subgroup on hold to better align with IIRG subgroup.
 - RA: When will NGRID move beyond pilot? Thought it was planned for Q1 2026?
 - JJ, Eversource: Working with multiple subgroups now. Trying to figure out what can be looked at during screening now. Should open next quarter.
 - Mike Porcaro, National Grid: Enrollment for pilot open again now. Closing on December 31st. Standard offering planned for Spring/Summer.
 - RA: How to express interest?
 - MP: There is email address to send over case number and details.
<https://gridforce.my.site.com/s/article/ACTIVE-RESOURCE-INTEGRATION-ARI-FLEXIBLE-INTERCONNECTIONS-PILOT>

- In-Service DER Equipment Change Procedure – Jeremy Kites, Unifil

Summary of Major Accomplishments & Upcoming Activities	
Completed Activities:	
DATE	DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITY
6/10/2025	Kick-off meeting with full subgroup with industry and government reps.
8/12/2025	Created Matrix of equipment replacement categories and requirements
11/2/2025	Consensus – a few replacement categories do not require Notification to EDC
Upcoming Activities/ Topics:	
	Bi-weekly meetings of subgroup and EDC only meetings every other week.
Jan, - Feb 2025	Goal: Present consensus / non-consensus to IIRG

- JK: Via IIRG, recommending a procedure to be added to the tariff.

5. Tariff Revision Process Update

- IIRG Group Update – Brett Jacobson, Eversource & Kate Tohme, New Leaf Energy
 - KT: Looking forward to continued collaboration with TSRG. IIRG in existence for 2 years. Made first filing to simplified and expedited tariff to DPU in March. Comment period and technical conference occurred. DPU asked IIRG to re-file. Docket 25-48. Broken into 4 parts. Accelerated approval for some parts.
 - KT: Working on group study timeline issues. Broken into several subtopics.
 - KT: ASO subgroup being started. Still need to hold a kick-off meeting early in 2026.
 - SI: See if we can make presentation in December or January on projects over 1 MW impact due to TC study.
- IIRG Energy Storage Sub-Group – Mike Porcaro, National Grid

Summary of Major Accomplishments & Upcoming Activities		
Completed Activities:		
DATE	DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITY	
9/23/25	Reviewed efforts progressing in other forums related to ESS. Developed list of substantive topics for the sub-group to address.	
10/21/25	Reviewed dispatch limiting schedule feedback and info from Flex IX subgroup;	
11/12/25	Further discussion on topics 3, 4, 5	
Topic	Status	
1.	ESS Metering	Complete, submitted to IIRG Co-Chairs
2.	Open Loop Response Time	Complete, submitted to IIRG Co-Chairs
3.	Trip settings for standalone ESS, when flexed to zero	In progress – Summary by Jan meeting
4.	Future load effects on curtailment where flexing	In progress – Further info for discussion in Jan meeting
5.	Potential real power impacts from reactive power support	In progress – Further info on manufacturer and IEEE alignment in Jan meeting
6.	Estimated curtailment data for stand alone ESS flex	Not yet started

- A lot of new topics reviewed. Close to resolution on most topics. Pausing for December.
- James DiLuca, Eversource: Request for separate aux power service not part of POI?

- MP: We have seen both options. We are looking at being able to run HVAC even when requested to flex down to zero export and import.
- IIRG Flexible Connections – Mike Porcaro, National Grid

Summary of Major Accomplishments & Upcoming Activities	
Completed Activities:	
DATE	DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITY
9/17/25	Meeting #1 Kick off – Group expectation setting, mission statement and outcome development. Seeking to define: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flexible Interconnection program offerings • Clear definitions of terms and program constructs • Resulting advisory and/or filing to DPU as required by outcomes
9/30/25	Core leads working session for group steering, content development and next step planning
10/6 thru 10/10/25	Subgroup Chair working sessions and content development
10/14/25	Meeting #2 – Definitions and use case prioritization; definition of key scenarios for flex; near term priorities and roadmap
10/27 thru 10/31/25	Subgroup Chair working sessions and content development
11/3/25	Meeting #3: Flex IX definitions & objectives; dynamic Flex IX offering elements; planning for multi-day workshop
Upcoming Activities:	
Jan 2026	In person workshop (possibly multi-day) – agenda and logistics in development

- Developed common language on best use cases for flex.

6. Disconnect Switches – Bronte Payne & Sebastian Echeverria, Sunrun

- See slides for details
- BP: Currently, the required-disconnect isolates battery and PV from the grid, but puts system in backup mode where they remain energized. Proposing alternative where an emergency shutdown device provides “visible break”.
- William LeBlanc, Eversource: Looks like an add-on rather than a true disconnect.
- SE: It is separate from ungrounded conductors.
- Andrew P Netherwood, Eversource: We cannot visually see the break in the load or line wires. We cannot see open blades.
- AN: Breakers are not a means of disconnect.
- BP: We can continue to discuss offline with individual EDCs.

7. Group Study Status

- Eversource Updates:
 - Filed the following Group Study CIPs in June 2025:
 - Southwick-Granville Group Study CIP
 - New Bedford Group Study CIP
 - Dalton-Hinsdale Group Study CIP
 - Gill-Montague Group Study CIP

- National Grid Updates:
<https://gridforce.my.site.com/s/article/MA-Distribution-Group-Study-Documents>
- Unutil: One group study underway. Reporting status in the monthly DOER Interconnection Report.
- Gerry Bingham, DOER: Monthly reporting can be found here:
<https://www.mass.gov/info-details/utility-interconnection-in-massachusetts#utility-interconnection-reports>

8. OPESS Tariff Update

- Next milestone is for EDCS to submit their reply briefs by 12/30. Hopefully DPU will be able to work on final order. No timeline right now.

9. National Grid Dispatch Limiting Schedule (DLS) Update – Emily Slack, National Grid

- Overall Summary: National Grid will not be changing the schedule from what is implemented now.
- Purpose: explore the implications of adopting a modified DLS with the following characteristics:
 - Four seasonally varying time blocks, each allowing both charge and discharge within available capacity.

Discharge Limit Schedule (DLS)	07:00 - 12:00	12:00 - 15:00	15:00 - 19:00	19:00 - 07:00
Charge Limit Schedule (CLS)	06:00 - 11:00	11:00 - 15:00	15:00 - 22:00	22:00 - 06:00

- Available capacity identified to avoid thermal overload of the substation transformer.
- Curtailment in defined intervals (25% nameplate or comparable).

• Timeline:

Month(s)	Action
June	Develop alternative DLS and supporting deliverables with the above characteristics
July-September	Develop illustrative examples of the outcome of analysis in National Grid territory
September	Present alternative DLS and illustrative examples at September TSRG, and receive feedback on preferred approach
October	Internal review and determination of any changes that will be made
November-December	Prepare implementation materials as required
Early 2026	Implement DLS decision

• Feedback and Evaluation

- Illustrative examples identified that the DLS structure did not substantially improve outcomes on capacity-constrained feeders, and substation curtailment did not address feeder-level constraints.
- No written comments received prior to October Company decision.
- Verbal comments received emphasized value of feeder-level curtailment.

- Based on the response to National Grid's September 2025 presentation to TSRG, industry's expressed preference for consideration of feeder constraints, and the planning and operational advantages to maintaining a consistent DLS, National Grid will not be adopting the alternative DLS at this time.
- ES: Will not be able to include information on the feeder head in this update cycle.

10. Technical Standards Update from EDCs

- Eversource: No updates.
- National Grid: No updates.
- Unitil: Due for upgrade given last update was April 2017. Bringing together information that is currently available in other locations into one location. Also including updates outlined below:

11. Common Technical Standards Document Update

- Shakir led review of all comments provided by industry and EDC responses.
- Group agreed to look closer at significant vs moderate change in more detail.
- GB: Will need to include updates related to group study exemption (Oder 25-48).

12. Close Out & Final Discussion

- Next year's quarterly meeting dates:
 - March 26, 2026 1PM-4PM
 - June 18, 2026 1PM-4PM
 - September 17, 2026 1PM-4PM
 - December 10, 2026 1PM-4PM
- Send topics for future meetings to:
 - Shakir Iqbal (shakir.iqbal@eversource.com)
 - Tony Morreale (tmorreale@ligconsultants.com)