

Massachusetts Energy Efficiency Advisory Council 2022 Priorities

March 16, 2022 – FINAL

In 2022, the Energy Efficiency Advisory Council (“Council”) will collaboratively support the Program Administrators (PAs) and monitor the implementation of the 2022-2024 Plan. The Council will give special attention to established priorities, new initiatives, and program enhancements being rolled out in 2022 that are foundational to the achievement of the Commonwealth’s 2022-2024 energy efficiency, greenhouse gas reduction, energy savings and equity goals. The Council will focus on monitoring progress to energy savings and greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction goals and also monitor that the goals are met equitably, cost-effectively, and in accordance with the approved 2022-2024 Plan and Term Sheet and in alignment with the Green Communities Act, Act to Advance Clean Energy and An Act Creating a Next-Generation Roadmap for Massachusetts Climate Policy (the Climate Act).

The Council looks forward to a continued and collaborative working relationship with the PAs during implementation of this transformational 2022-2024 plan. Given the importance of successful implementation of electrification, equity, and workforce development initiatives early in the term to ensure three-year goals are met, the Council underscores the importance of the PAs proactive engagement with the Council, relevant working groups, and the Council consultants during the development and implementation of key initiatives outlined below.

The Council has set eight key priorities for 2022. The Council requests that the PAs provide four updates in 2022, tied to the quarterly reports, which will detail the progress made toward each of the following priorities.

1. 2022 – 2024 Plan: Monitor and ensure overall progress toward 2022 – 2024 Three-Year Plan goals and implementation commitments.

The Council recognizes that the 2022-2024 Plan includes ambitious energy savings and GHG emission reduction goals, as well as the development of new program initiatives in support of the Plan’s equity and climate priorities. To assist the Council in monitoring progress to these goals and achievement of these commitments, the Council requests quarterly updates on the progress to the energy savings and GHG reduction goals and key performance indicators (KPIs), including any new KPIs. Additionally, with the development and launch of many new priority initiatives in 2022, the Council requests updates from the PAs, as described in Attachment A as part of the quarterly reports.

2. Equity: Ensure that equity commitments and initiatives are on track with a focus on increasing participation of historically underserved populations, including moderate-income customers, renters and landlords, English-isolated populations and small businesses.

The Council strongly supports the equity commitments and targets established throughout the Three-Year planning process and adopted by the PAs in the Final Plan. The Council will closely monitor these equity efforts and program enhancements and urge the PAs to continue to collaborate closely on development of key implementation strategies in 2022. To assist the Council in monitoring progress toward the equity goals and commitments, the Council requests quarterly updates on the Equity Targets established during the planning process, including the following:

- Municipal and Community Partnerships program, including partnerships with Community-Based Organizations.

- Progress update on the recruitment, enrollment, mentoring, and retention of the Clean Energy Pathways internship program cohort groups.
- Renter Strategic Plan development, including status of PA consideration and adoption of the renter-specific recommendations provided by the Equity Working Group.
- Moderate Income customer income verification enhancements and development and implementation of comprehensive delivery model by the end of Q2 2022.
- Language Access Plan development.
- Progress towards completing 2,100 small business weatherization projects throughout the Plan term including updates on targeted efforts to host Main Streets events in Environmental Justice neighborhoods.

3. Workforce Development: Support the cultivation of a diverse and highly skilled workforce to meet the aggressive energy savings and GHG reduction goals in the 2022-2024 Plan Term.

Recognizing the importance of workforce development in achieving Plan goals, the Council will monitor the PAs progress on their workforce development commitments and requests quarterly updates on the following:

- Collaboration with the Massachusetts Clean Energy Center (MassCEC) on workforce development initiatives required by the Climate Act.
- Development of the Clean Energy Pathways (CEP) internship program.
- Progress towards Equity Targets commitments regarding diversity of program vendors.
- Number of HVAC contractors attending heat pump specific trainings and participating in the heat pump installer network.
- Updates on number and nature of recent workforce trainings offered.

4. Residential Sector: Support the residential energy savings, GHG reductions and equity goals of the 2022-2024 Plan. Monitor progress to achievement of implementation commitments set forth in the Plan.

To assist the Council in monitoring and encouraging the PAs progress toward the residential Plan goals, the Council requests quarterly updates on the following:

- Insulation and Home Energy Audit (HEA) contractor pricing updates including information on potential changes to the residential program model for Lead Vendors, Insulation Installation Contractors (IICs) and Home Performance Contractors (HPCs).
- Progress towards residential program design enhancements.
- Consideration and implementation of whole-home, performance-based retrofit program or similar new approach to emphasizing the co-delivery of weatherization and heat pumps.
- Integration of home energy scorecards.
- Implementation of an all-electric new construction offer for the 1-4 unit market segment.
- Updates on the number of units enrolled in Passive House multi-family new construction offering.
- Quarterly update on the status of the lighting evaluation required by the DPU order including status of the implementation plan for renters, moderate income, minority and language isolated customers.

5. Income Eligible Sector: Support new program enhancements and initiatives for income eligible customers.

To assist the Council in monitoring the PAs progress toward the income eligible Plan goals, program enhancements and initiatives, the Council requests quarterly updates on the following:

- Electrification efforts for the Income Eligible sector, including installation of heat pumps for space and water heating.
- Efforts to increase installation of envelope measures.
- Enhanced strategy for serving small multi-family buildings including “naturally occurring” low-income housing.
- Development and implementation of a statewide computerized audit tool as recommended in the Low-Income Process Evaluation.
- Affordable multi-family decarbonization/deep energy retrofit offering.
- Development and implementation of a mixed income protocol for multi-unit buildings, including 5+ unit buildings.
- Update on progress to developing phase out strategies for lighting based upon evaluation study results and Department direction. Such strategies, including applicable details and proposed timelines, shall be developed by no later than June 30, 2023.

6. Commercial and Industrial: Monitor the development and launch of C&I programs and enhancements.

To assist the Council in monitoring the PAs progress toward the C&I Plan goals, programs and enhancements, Council requests quarterly updates on the following:

- Updates on outcomes from recent C&I Working Group meetings.
- Development of strategies for municipal building participation in the deep energy retrofit offering.
- Status of the launch of an all-electric new construction offering for the C&I sector.
- Pursuit of non-lighting measures in the commercial sector, especially HVAC, refrigeration and process controls, and operational savings given the PAs plans to not expand their SEM demonstration into a formal program offering.
- Efforts to increase GHG reductions in the C&I sector, including launch of the deep energy retrofit offering.

7. Active Demand Management

To assist the Council in monitoring progress toward the active demand management goals, the council requests semi-annual updates in Q2 and Q4 on the following:

- Phase-out of on-site generators in C&I targeted load curtailment and daily dispatch.
- Participation of WiFi thermostats in Connected Solutions by income eligible customers.
- Progress on clarifying program rules for energy storage in daily dispatch and PAs efforts to make rules for the 5-year incentive lock transparent and understandable to storage vendors.
- Progress on enhancing the co-delivery of EE and ADM measures.
- Updates on regular meetings with ADM industry partners, including feedback received and any changes made to program design or incentives as a result

8. Reporting

The Council prioritizes transparency and reporting as critical components to monitor progress toward the transformational objectives and equity priorities of the 2022-2024 Plan. The Council looks forward

to receiving regular updates from the PAs via the Quarterly Reports, KPIs and Bi-Annual and Plan Year Reporting. Additionally, the Council looks forward to quarterly updates from the Equity Working Group and the PAs on progress toward the newly developed 2022-2024 Equity Targets Framework.

ATTACHMENT A: 2022 PRIORITY INITIATIVES REPORTING

Priority Initiative	Expected Launch/Completion	Expected Coordination
C&I Working Group	Q1 2022 Launch – Ongoing meetings	Quarterly report updates from DOER and PAs on working group initiatives
Electrification Market Transformation Plan – In support of achieving heat pump goals in all sectors	Plan to be completed Q1 2022. Implementation updates expected in subsequent quarterly reports.	Quarterly report updates from PAs, coordination with DOER and the Council
All Electric New Construction Offering – Residential and C&I	Residential launch in Q1 2022	Status update in Q1 PA report. Ongoing updates as needed, coordination with DOER and the Council consultants for feedback on program design before finalization.
<i>Strategic Electrification Plan for Market-Rate Customers (p. 110)</i>	<i>May 2, 2022</i>	<i>PA Compliance Filing</i>
Mixed Income Protocol	Q2 2022	PA coordination with EWG and progress update in the Q1 2022 PA Report
Renter Strategic Plan	Draft by Q2 2022 Final by Q3 2022 – Due September 30, 2022	PA coordination with EWG and presentation of both the draft and final Plan to the Council <i>PA Compliance Filing</i>
Moderate Income verification and delivery model	End of Q2 2022	PAs to update and streamline the income qualification process by June 2022. PA and the EWG will collaborate on moderate income efforts and provide status updates in Q1 and Q2 PA reports, including review and feedback from EWG on new delivery model.
<i>Lighting Evaluation and Implementation Plan (p. 127)</i>	<i>September 30, 2022</i>	<i>PA Compliance Filing</i>
Affordable Housing Deep Energy Retrofit	Launch in 2022	Quarterly report updates from PAs and LEAN, coordination with DOER and the Council consultants for feedback on program design before finalization
Language Access Plan	By 2023	PA collaboration with Equity Working Group (EWG) to receive feedback in 2022 and quarterly progress updates to

		the EEAC. Presentation of draft and final plan to the Council.
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