



# STATE OF CONNECTICUT

## PUBLIC UTILITIES REGULATORY AUTHORITY

### DOCKET NO. 17-12-03RE01

PURA INVESTIGATION INTO DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM PLANNING OF THE ELECTRIC DISTRIBUTION COMPANIES – ENERGY AFFORDABILITY

### DOCKET NO. 17-12-03RE02

PURA INVESTIGATION INTO DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM PLANNING OF THE ELECTRIC DISTRIBUTION COMPANIES – ADVANCED METERING INFRASTRUCTURE

### DOCKET NO. 17-12-03RE03

PURA INVESTIGATION INTO DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM PLANNING OF THE ELECTRIC DISTRIBUTION COMPANIES – ELECTRIC STORAGE

### DOCKET NO. 17-12-03RE04

PURA INVESTIGATION INTO DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM PLANNING OF THE ELECTRIC DISTRIBUTION COMPANIES – ZERO EMISSION VEHICLES

### DOCKET NO. 17-12-03RE05

PURA INVESTIGATION INTO DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM PLANNING OF THE ELECTRIC DISTRIBUTION COMPANIES – INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGY APPLICATIONS AND PROGRAMS (INNOVATION PILOTS)

### DOCKET NO. 17-12-03RE06

PURA INVESTIGATION INTO DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM PLANNING OF THE ELECTRIC DISTRIBUTION COMPANIES – INTERCONNECTION STANDARDS AND PRACTICES

### NOTICE OF RELEASE OF FINAL REQUESTS FOR PROGRAM DESIGN AND PROPOSALS

(MAY 6, 2020)

On October 2, 2019, the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority (Authority or PURA) issued an Interim Decision in Docket No. 17-12-03, PURA Investigation into Distribution System Planning of the Electric Distribution Companies, which outlined six near-term topics to be investigated in the above-cited reopened proceedings; collectively, representing Phase II of Docket No. 17-12-03. On March 31, 2020, the Authority issued a Notice of Request for Written Comments and Release of Draft Request for Proposals in the above-cited proceedings (Notice of Draft RFPs). The Notice of Draft RFPs included: (1) a list of the Solutions Days and Public Forums held in each proceeding as of March 31, 2020, including links to the applicable CT-N recordings; (2) an overview of next steps for all six proceedings; (3) a request for written comments, specifically redline edits, on the draft requests for proposals (RFPs); (4) an opportunity to request a procedural conference; and (5) seven attachments (Attachments A – G), including draft RFPs for each proceeding.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> See, Notice, dated March 31, 2020, <http://www.dpuc.state.ct.us/dockcurr.nsf/8e6fc37a54110e3e852576190052b64d/9d791eed13ed11e9852>

The Authority issues this Notice to: (1) provide additional information regarding next steps and processes in all six proceedings; and (2) release the final Requests for Program Design (RFPDs) and RFPs in all six proceedings.

## **I. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REGARDING NEXT STEPS AND PROCESSES**

### **A. FINAL RFPs**

The Authority has reviewed and incorporated stakeholders' comments received through April 21, 2020, in response to the Notice of Draft RFPs, into the final RFPDs and RFPs attached to this Notice (Attachments B – G).<sup>2</sup> Each RFPD and RFP includes specific directions for the filing of responsive program designs or proposals. All docket Participants and any interested stakeholders may respond to the final RFPDs and RFPs, including through the provision of complete or partial program designs or proposals, so long as the respondent meets the filing requirements and timelines established in each RFPD and RFP.<sup>3</sup>

The Authority encourages all stakeholders to provide as much information as is practicable in response to the detailed program categories, guidelines, and other requests outlined in each respective RFPD and RFP. The lack of completeness or failure to respond to all sections of each RFPD/RFP will not be disqualifying, so long as such responses follow the provided directions and are timely submitted. The Authority appreciates that each stakeholder or stakeholder group has a different starting point in regard to each of the six topics being investigated in the above-cited proceedings. Ultimately, the Authority seeks the best program designs, proposals, and ideas in each of the above-cited proceedings, regardless of their source or form. The Authority believes that diverse and robust stakeholder engagement is essential to achieving that objective. As such, and as stated above, the Authority encourages stakeholders to provide as much, and as detailed, information as possible in any submissions.

### **B. STRAW PROPOSAL PROCESS**

After receipt and review of all timely-filed responses, the Authority plans to issue an initial straw proposal in each of the above-cited proceedings on or around the end of the third quarter of 2020,<sup>4</sup> and will seek to reach a final decision on the topics addressed

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[5853c005e5502/\\$FILE/Notice%20-%20Draft%20RFPs\\_Request%20for%20Comments%20-%20FINAL.pdf](#).

<sup>2</sup> Attachment A of this Notice is the RFP approved by prosecutorial staff on April 30, 2020, in Docket No. 17-12-03RE01

(<http://www.dpuc.state.ct.us/dockcurr.nsf/8e6fc37a54110e3e852576190052b64d/0a069e5dac71e57a85258551006b2018?OpenDocument>) and posted by the electric distribution companies (EDCs) on May 1, 2020, to the Ariba Network.

<sup>3</sup> For RFPDs, see the Program Design Proposal Submission section in each RFPD. For RFPs, see the Proposal Submission section in each RFP.

<sup>4</sup> Track 4 of the “100-Day Sprints” in Docket No. 17-12-03RE01 will conclude before the end of the third quarter of 2020, so long as it begins by June 22, 2020.

in each straw proposal in a timely manner thereafter.<sup>5</sup> Compilation of the initial straw proposals will be completed by the Authority using the stakeholder proposals received, docket materials, and publicly-available information, as well as its substantive expertise in these matters; however, the initial straw proposals may not reflect the Authority's final position in each case. Instead, the Authority will endeavor to publish straw proposals that will prompt further discussion. Each straw proposal will be subject to refinement through the subsequent discovery process, during which time all stakeholders will be afforded ample opportunities for additional comment.

The Authority will initiate a traditional discovery process after the issuance of the initial straw proposals, which may include additional Requests for Written Comments and Interrogatories and additional Technical Meetings and Public Hearings, as warranted. In each proceeding, the Authority may subsequently and substantially revise the initial straw proposal based on stakeholder input solicited through additional discovery. At the conclusion of the discovery process for each proceeding, the Authority will issue a Draft Decision, followed by a Final Decision, affording all docket Participants the opportunity to provide Written Exceptions and Oral Arguments. Requests for briefs on any legal issues that emerge may also be considered by the Authority throughout the proceeding.

For the Authority's investigation into energy affordability for the residential customer class in Docket No. 17-12-03RE01, the Authority will effectively treat the reports submitted by prosecutorial staff assigned to the "100-Day Sprint" Initiative at the conclusion of each of the four Sprint tracks as a straw proposal, unless otherwise noticed.<sup>6</sup> While the Authority intends to seek comment on the Sprint reports, the timing is not yet determined. Specifically, the Authority may immediately seek stakeholder comments and/or briefs upon the receipt of the Sprint reports from prosecutorial staff, or the Authority may wait to aggregate all four reports into one initial straw proposal before requesting stakeholder comments and/or briefs.<sup>7</sup> In either instance, the Authority will publicly notice how and when it seeks comments on prosecutorial staff's Sprint reports after receipt of the first report on or before Wednesday, June 3, 2020.

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<sup>5</sup> Summary of Procedural Conference and Clarifications, filed in response to Motion No. 1 in Docket Nos. 17-12-03RE01-RE06, dated November 7, 2019, <http://www.dpuc.state.ct.us/dockcurr.nsf/8e6fc37a54110e3e852576190052b64d/3536a36cb6a000fb852584ab005a1f46?OpenDocument>; Interim Decision, dated October 2, 2019, p. 8.

<sup>6</sup> The Authority does not currently have a timeline for the issuance of a straw proposal related to the Authority's investigation into energy affordability for the commercial and industrial customer classes.

<sup>7</sup> Motion Ruling No. 7, dated February 24, 2020, in Docket No. 17-12-03RE01 stated: "...the Authority will allow docket participants the opportunity to file briefs and written comments in response to the reports submitted to the Authority by the Prosecutorial Staff for each 100-Day Sprint Track outlined in the Authority's January 22, 2020 Procedural Order. The Authority intends to issue a notice and briefing schedule concurrent to or shortly after the filing of Prosecutorial Staff's report for each 100-Day Sprint Track." (<http://www.dpuc.state.ct.us/dockcurr.nsf/8e6fc37a54110e3e852576190052b64d/6e0a17962b3a3247852585180063f8e4?OpenDocument>).

For Docket Nos. 17-12-03RE02 – RE04, after the RFPD or RFP deadline designated in each proceeding has passed, the Authority will first review all stakeholders' proposals and then will create one straw proposal in each docket derived from the stakeholder proposals received, docket materials, and publicly-available information. The Authority will request written comments from stakeholders on the initial straw proposals once issued in each docket.

With respect to Docket No. 17-12-03RE05, the Authority will issue an initial straw proposal for stakeholder review and comment that is developed with the assistance of a consultant retained pursuant to § 16-18a of the General Statutes of Connecticut (Conn. Gen. Stat.) and in accordance with the parameters outlined in the final RFP in that proceeding.

Finally, for Docket No. 17-12-03RE06, the Authority is establishing two tracks, the first of which is a "100-Day Sprint" commencing on May 11, 2020, that will be facilitated by the Authority's prosecutorial staff, to be noticed by separate correspondence. Track 1 will culminate in a Sprint report due to the Authority no later than August 19, 2020. Track 2 seeks additional stakeholder input, as outlined in the Authority's RFP (Attachment G), by September 16, 2020. Stakeholders submitting responsive proposals in Track 2 should follow the prompts provided in the RFP and differentiate, if applicable, their submissions from the Track 1 Sprint report filed by prosecutorial staff. After review of the Track 1 Sprint report and Track 2 comments and proposals, the Authority will issue an initial straw proposal in the docket.

### **C. PROCESS**

The Authority's fervent desire in the establishment of the Framework for an Equitable Modern Grid last year was and is to increase the accessibility of PURA's regulatory process as it relates to the above-cited proceedings, particularly to those stakeholders who have not historically participated in PURA's proceedings. The Authority has sought to provide additional process in both traditional and non-traditional formats to facilitate greater and broader stakeholder engagement with the hope of providing transparency, equity, and fairness for all Connecticut citizens and businesses. The Sprints on residential energy affordability and non-residential customer Public Forum listening sessions detailed in Attachment B are examples of the Authority's efforts to make its process more accessible to stakeholders. The Authority has taken this approach to not only foster greater equity and fairness, but also in deference to the strong belief that greater diversity of thought and the active engagement of additional parties will deliver the best outcomes for all.

To date, the Authority has held a total of eleven Technical Meetings, stylized as either Solutions Days or Public Forums, in the above-cited proceedings (i.e. Phase II of Docket No. 17-12-03), with seven having been recorded by CT-N. For reference, the Authority held a total of eight technical meetings or public hearings in Phase I of Docket No. 17-12-03. Stakeholders were invited to present or otherwise participate in all eleven technical meetings. At a minimum, the Authority explicitly solicited Written Comments

from stakeholders for or in response to all eleven Technical Meetings. In some cases, the Authority has solicited stakeholder input several more times. The Authority also solicited comments in the Notice of Draft RFPs on the draft RFPs developed in each proceeding.

Moving forward, stakeholders will have, at a minimum, the following opportunities in each proceeding to provide additional comments or feedback: (1) in response to the final RFPDs and RFPs; (2) in response to the straw proposals; (3) through subsequent traditional discovery; and (4) in response to the draft decision, both in written exceptions and oral arguments.

The Authority remains committed to considering all reasonable efforts to improve the ease and access of the process associated with the above-cited proceedings and welcomes any suggestions designed to enhance communication with all stakeholders in this process. Requests for clarification or requests for future procedural conferences may also be submitted by any docket Participant as each proceeding progresses.

## II. DEADLINES AND PROPOSAL SUBMISSION

The Authority provides the following summary table listing the issuance and deadline dates for the RFPDs and RFPs in each proceeding:

**Table 1: Final RFPD and RFP Dates for Docket Nos. 17-12-03RE01-RE06**

	RE01 – Energy Affordability		RE02 – Advanced Metering Infrastructure	RE03 – Electric Storage	RE04 – Zero Emission Vehicles	RE05 – Innovation Pilots	RE06 – Inter-connection Standards
	Attachment B – Sprint Track 4 Consultant	Attachment C – C+I Public Forums					
FINAL RFP ISSUANCE	May 1 <sup>st</sup> (EDCs Issued)	May 6 <sup>th</sup>					
PROPOSAL DEADLINE	May 21 <sup>st</sup>	June 1 <sup>st</sup>	July 31 <sup>st</sup>	July 31 <sup>st</sup>	July 31 <sup>st</sup>	June 1 <sup>st</sup>	(Track 2) September 16 <sup>th</sup>
OTHER DEADLINE <sup>8</sup>	Consultant Start by June 12 <sup>nd</sup>	-	Comments to EDCs by June 5 <sup>th</sup> (optional)				(Track 1) Sprint report due by August 19 <sup>th</sup>

<sup>8</sup> Stakeholders that wish for their comments or proposals to be considered as part of the EDCs' proposals must submit their comments or proposals in Docket No. 17-12-03RE02 no later than 12:00 p.m. on Friday, June 5, 2020.

All interested stakeholders must follow the filing requirements provided in the specific RFPD or RFP for submitting program designs or proposals responsive to that RFPD or RFP. Documents must be filed with the Executive Secretary of the Authority in both electronic and paper form. The date and time of filing shall be the date and time the Authority first receives a complete electronic version or the paper version and the required number of paper copies. No submission shall be filed after expiration of the time for its filing unless the filer demonstrates good cause for its untimeliness in a separate motion captioned "good cause for late filing." Untimely submissions may be stricken by the Authority *sua sponte* from the docket. Unless otherwise specified, filings are due by 12:00 p.m. on or before any required date. If a complete electronic version of the filing is submitted through the Authority's Web Filing System, only one paper version of the filing is generally required. (For exceptionally voluminous or complex filings, the Authority reserves the right to request additional paper copies.) If a complete electronic version of the filing is not web filed, submit an original and one copy.

Dated at New Britain, Connecticut, this 6<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2020.

PUBLIC UTILITIES REGULATORY AUTHORITY

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeffrey R. Gaudiosi". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "J" and "G".

Jeffrey R. Gaudiosi, Esq.  
Executive Secretary

(GBC)

Notice filed with the Secretary of the State on May 6, 2020.

**EVERSOURCE**



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Eversource Energy and the  
United Illuminating Company

**Request for Proposal**

**EXHIBIT 1**

**Connecticut Statewide Marketing Consulting Services**

**May 1, 2020**

**Proprietary and Confidential**

PLEASE NOTE: This request for proposal is not a guarantee of any work, authorization to commit consultant's resources or a commitment for future bid solicitations on this, or any other work. The response shall include a separate section sequentially addressing exceptions taken to the Utility's documents and alternative language for consideration.

# Table of Contents

<b>1.</b>	<b>Requestor Information .....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>2.</b>	<b>Instructions to RFP Participants .....</b>	<b>3</b>
2.1	RFP Participant Submittals .....	3
2.2	RFP Participant Inquiries .....	3
2.3	Third Party Integration .....	3
2.4	Expense and Obligations .....	3
2.5	Response Format and Organization .....	3
2.6	Evaluation of RFP .....	4
<b>3.</b>	<b>General Information .....</b>	<b>5</b>
3.1	Purpose of this RFP .....	5
3.2	Timing of Services .....	6
3.3	Utility Profiles .....	6
3.4	Bidder Proposal Response Requirements .....	7
<b>4.</b>	<b>General Information - RFP Participant .....</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>5.</b>	<b>Statement of Work Services Information and Requirements .....</b>	<b>8</b>
5.1	Deliverables .....	8
5.2	Other Services .....	8
<b>6.</b>	<b>Contractual Agreements .....</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>7.</b>	<b>Service Costs - Pricing Scenarios .....</b>	<b>8</b>

# 1. Requestor Information

## 1.1. Name and Address of Requestor

Eversource Energy Service Company on behalf itself and the United Illuminating Company (“Utilities”)  
Purchasing Department – Sr. Sourcing Agent, Janice George  
107 Selden Street  
Berlin, CT 06037

## 1.2. Schedule

Issuance of RFP	May 1, 2020 Friday
<b>Deadline for RFP Participant Questions</b>	<b>May 7, 2020 Thursday – 1 PM EST</b>
Utility Response to Questions	May 11, 2020 Monday
<b>Proposal Due Date</b>	<b>May 21, 2020 Thursday – 1 PM EST</b>
Reference Calls/Presentations	May 21, 2020 – June 5, 2020

# 2. Instructions to RFP Participants

## 2.1. RFP Participant Submittals

All submittals must be completed and posted via Ariba sourcing software.

## 2.2. RFP Participant Inquiries

Questions should be documented via the Ariba sourcing software.

## 2.3. Third Party Integration

RFP Participants should submit information about products, from other vendors, which form an integral part of their solution if applicable.

## 2.4. Expense and Obligations

RFP Participants are responsible for all costs of response preparation. The Utilities are not liable for any cost incurred by the vendor in response to this RFP.

## 2.5. Response Format and Organization

To expedite the review process, all respondents must conform to the following format outline. Any additional information believed to be necessary should be included as appendices to the RFP response. These appendices should be appropriately labeled and referenced in the body of the response. This section outlines the requirements your organization is requested to address in order to comply with this RFP. It is important that proposal responses follow the format presented here.

Using the embedded Microsoft Word file “\_Response\_Template\_Marketing\_Consulting\_.docx” attached to the RFP, respond to each requirement listed in the following sections, following the numbering system used. Return this completed document as a separate MS Word attachment file within your proposal response.



RFP\_Response\_Temp  
late\_Marketing\_Consulting

### 2.5.1. Company Profile

Using the Microsoft Word file “CompanyProfile.docx” attached to this RFP, respond to each requirement listed. In ten (10) pages or less, provide the requested general information about your company. Also, please complete and return the attached Bidder Qualifications Form.



## 2.5.2 Executive Summary

This section should include a brief but comprehensive executive summary of how your experience and previous work is appropriate for fulfilling the requirements of this proposal and estimated dates. In addition, explain why your work experience and talents should be selected over competitive consultants.

## 2.5.3 Response Sections

This section should include the responses to all questions in Sections 4 through 7 of the RFP. **Please use our embedded Microsoft Word file “ Response Template Call Ctr Consulting .docx” when responding.**

**All proposals must be received by the May 21, 2020 closing date at 1:00 PM. All proposals must be electronic files, submitted using Ariba.** Proposals must be organized and indexed in the format identified herein in Section 2.5 *Response Format and Organization*. Each section must contain all items in the sequence identified. For any lengthy responses, smaller size files can be “imbedded” (Insert / Object) within your response template file. Question responses resulting in a large file size should not be imbedded within your response template file and should be sent / attached separately. All imbedded and attached files should have the question number included in the file name and this file name should be referenced in the response section for the specific question. An authorized official must sign the proposal. The proposal must also provide the names, titles, phone numbers, and email addresses of those individuals with authority to negotiate and contractually bind the company. We may use this information to obtain clarification of information provided. Response files shall be submitted using an 8 ½” by 11” format (MS Word). All pages shall be numbered. The RFP shall **not** include any marketing brochures. Incomplete RFPs may disqualify the RFP Participant from consideration.

## 2.5.4 Validity of Proposal

This section should specify the period during which the proposal is valid, signed by a duly appointed corporate officer binding the supplier to the provisions of the proposal. This period shall not be less than three (3) months from receipt of the proposal.

If a respondent specifies that proprietary information is in their information packet, the Utilities will take all reasonable steps to prevent disclosure of this information to others. IF PROPRIETARY INFORMATION IS NOT SPECIFICALLY MARKED BY THE RESPONDENT AS “PROPRIETARY INFORMATION”, THEN THE UTILITIES ARE NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR ANY LOSS OR DAMAGE TO THE RESPONDENT CAUSED BY ANY DISCLOSURE OF SUCH INFORMATION BY THE UTILITIES, ITS AFFILIATES AND EACH OF THEIR OFFICERS, DIRECTORS, SHAREHOLDERS, TRUSTEES, EMPLOYEES, ATTORNEYS AND AGENTS.

## 2.6. Evaluation of RFP

The Utilities are under no obligation to act upon any and all responses to this RFP for any, or

for no reason. If regulatory approval is not obtained, the Utilities may elect not to proceed with an award.

### 3. General Information

#### 3.1. Purpose of this RFP

On January 22, 2020, the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority (PURA) issued a Procedural Order (Order) establishing a series of “100-Day” Sprints (Sprints) in Docket No. 17-12-03RE01, [PURA Investigation into Distribution System Planning of the Electric Distribution Companies – Energy Affordability](#)<sup>1</sup>. The PURA Order established four Sprints, or tracks, each to be completed in 100 days, where interested docket participants and stakeholders would meet to propose solutions to four discreet topics. As outlined in the Order, the objective of the Target Marketing Campaign Sprint (Track 4 Sprint) is to provide guidance on improvements to the Utilities’ education and outreach materials to be used in a targeted marketing campaign to promote energy assistance programs and other resources available to residential customers who experience difficulty paying their energy bills in full. On March 31, 2020, PURA provided further direction to the Utilities to contract with a consultant to work with PURA Prosecutorial staff (PURA Pro) assigned to facilitate the Sprints, the Utilities, and all other Sprint participants at least for the duration of the Track 4 100-Day Sprint<sup>2</sup>. The Track 4 Sprint is expected to begin in June 2020.

Accordingly, the Utilities seek assistance in evaluating current-state marketing and communication of their utility arrearage forgiveness, financial assistance, and payment option programs to eligible customers in the state of Connecticut. This RFP seeks the appropriate candidate or entity to provide consulting services to: (1) review and provide recommendations regarding the marketing and communications outreach created and distributed annually; (2) provide recommendations for increased internal and external communications opportunities; and (3) identify opportunities to increase participation in utility arrearage, forgiveness, financial assistance, and payment option programs by eligible customers. Such recommendations may result in changes to the Utilities’ current marketing and communications measures or the development of a new campaign(s) by the Utilities. The consultant is expected work collaboratively with the Utilities, PURA Pro, and other Sprint participants. PURA Pro may direct the scope and focus of the consultant’s work as Pro deems necessary. Any recommendations incorporated by the Utilities shall be informed by the input of all Sprint participants and shall be approved by PURA Pro before being implemented by the Utilities.

The Utilities seek proposals from consultants with one or more of the following areas of demonstrated experience and expertise:

- Federal-level and/or state-level energy assistance program experience;
- Marketing for the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program and associated programs and services administered by Community Action Agencies and the Connecticut Department of Social Services, or. experience with similar programs in neighboring states
- State level marketing experience with other social service benefits programs administered by Community Action Agencies in Connecticut, or the Connecticut Department of Social Services, particularly with a focus on environmental justice and/or underserved communities

Potential marketing-related tasks the consultant may perform include, but are not limited to:

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<sup>1</sup> See

<http://www.dpuc.state.ct.us/dockcurr.nsf/8e6fc37a54110e3e852576190052b64d/a3d39830281d92cc852584f7006f4514?OpenDocument>.

<sup>2</sup> See Attachment A,

<http://www.dpuc.state.ct.us/dockcurr.nsf/8e6fc37a54110e3e852576190052b64d/9d791eed13ed11e98525853c005e5502?OpenDocument>.

- Review and evaluation of all applicable 2019 and 2020 communications used by the Utilities listed below, as well as sample customer service representative scripts and fact sheets developed by the Utilities and reviewed by PURA Pro as part of Docket No. 17-12-03RE01<sup>3</sup>
- Review of current participation levels in utility arrearage, forgiveness, financial assistance, and payment option programs and identification of specific groups not participating
- Recommendations for modifications to existing collateral
  - Performing A/B testing; identifying key performance indicators
  - Creating and defining a multi-year strategic engagement calendar
  - Creating 30-, 60- and 90-day messaging arcs
- Advising on the appropriate distribution of paid versus free media campaigns
- General gauging and responding to the needs of the intended audience
- Creation of collateral

### 2019 Communications by Utility

- Eversource  
8 monthly bill inserts, 10 web pages, 2 press releases, 1 annual advertising campaign that includes out-of-home and digital placements.
- United Illuminating  
12 monthly newsletters and 2 bill inserts, 14 web pages and 2 press releases.

## 3.2 Timeline of Services

The successful bidder must deliver the market-related tasks described in section 3.1 no later than September 14, 2020, because final materials must be prepared for active communications occurring in November.

## 3.3 Utility Profiles

**Eversource Energy** (NYSE:ES), is a Fortune 500 and Standard & Poor’s 500 energy company based in Connecticut, Massachusetts and New Hampshire operating New England’s largest energy delivery company. Eversource is committed to safety, reliability, environmental leadership and stewardship, and expanding energy options for its 3.7 million electricity and natural gas customers.

Eversource service territory:

		<u># of Customers</u>	<u># of Towns</u>	<u>Square Miles</u>
Connecticut	Electric	1.2 Million	149	4,400
Massachusetts	Electric	1.4 Million	140	3,192
New Hampshire	Electric	510,000	211	5,628

In 2012, Northeast Utilities and its operating companies Connecticut Light & Power, Public Service of New Hampshire, Western Massachusetts Electric and Yankee Gas merged with NSTAR Electric & Gas to better serve New England.

On December 4, 2017, Eversource closed the deal on an acquisition of Aquarion Water Company, making Eversource the only electric company in the U.S. that also owns a water utility. Aquarion serves 230,000 water customers in Connecticut, Massachusetts and New Hampshire.

**AVANGRID**, Inc. (NYSE: AGR) is a diversified energy and utility company with \$31 billion in assets and operations in 23 states. The company operates regulated utilities and electricity

<sup>3</sup> PURA Pro submitted recommended revisions to the Utilities’ fact sheets and customer service representative scripts to PURA on April 22, 2020; see <http://www.dpuc.state.ct.us/dockcurr.nsf/8e6fc37a54110e3e852576190052b64d/0913bd026f55623b85258553006254f6?OpenDocument>.

generation through two primary lines of business. AVANGRID Networks includes eight electric and natural gas utilities serving 3.1 million customers in New York and New England. AVANGRID Renewables operates 6.5 gigawatts of electricity capacity, primarily through wind power, in states across the U.S. AVANGRID employs 7,000 people. The company was formed as a business combination between Iberdrola USA and UIL holdings in 2015. AVANGRID remains an affiliate of the Iberdrola Group, a worldwide leader in the energy industry.

UI is an electric transmission and distribution utility headquartered in Orange, Connecticut. It serves 17 communities along coastal Connecticut. Its territory stretches from Fairfield to North Branford and north to Hamden. UI provides electricity and energy related services to more than 325,000 customers.

### **3.4 Bidder Proposal Response Requirements**

Bidder proposals and methodology must include steps/requirements to review the Utilities' marketing engagement deliverables as further described within Section 5 incorporated herein by reference.

For these deliverables, the bidder proposal response shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

1. Description of your review methodology;
2. What may be required of the Utilities during this effort;
3. Resources you will bring to the engagement;
4. Duration of the engagement;
5. List of firms/clients for whom you've performed similar services (in or out of the utility industry) and
6. Sample(s) that would be representative of similar work produced.

## **4. General Information – RFP Participant**

**Please provide the following information about your Company:**

1. Identify all parties included in this proposal with whom the Utilities would enter into a contract.
2. Identify each party's Parent Company.
3. Where are your headquarters?
4. List the number of years in the business as a consultant.
5. Describe your organizational structure: number of employees and experience.
6. List all utility (separate regulated utilities from non-regulated utilities) and non-utility clients, showing service used and include the period of time your service has been used by each client.
7. Indicate which clients can be called on as references.
8. Summary list of all other products/services offered.
9. What differentiates your services and products from others in the marketplace?

## 5. Statement of Work Services Information and Requirements

### 5.1 Deliverables

The successful bidder shall be required to provide professional consulting services in the following key areas, including but not limited to:

1. Complete Assessment of Marketing and Communications materials for the Utilities' Financial Hardship Assistance Programs – Review the marketing materials, which will include out-of-home and digital advertising purchasing and placements, for effectiveness.
2. Complete Assessment of Key Messages and Visuals for the Marketing and Communications for the Utilities' Financial Hardship Assistance Programs – Review messages and visuals for effectiveness in accordance with the targeted audience(s).
3. Review Statewide Energy Efficiency Marketing Plans – The Energy Efficiency marketing plans are to be reviewed to leverage any appropriate synergies and to ensure there is no redundancy between the marketing and advertising plans and strategies for the Utilities' Financial Hardship Assistance programs.
4. Complete Summary of Current State Assessment and Potential Recommendations for Additional Marketing and Advertising for the Utilities' Financial Hardship Assistance Programs and Payment Arrangement Programs – Create a summary report of insights and potential recommendations extending beyond the annual efforts the Utilities currently conduct for additional outreach and effectiveness.
5. Propose New Marketing Plans or Strategies – Identify eligible groups or individuals currently not participating in the financial assistance or payment option programs and propose new marketing plans or strategies to reach those groups.

### 5.2 Other Services

#### 5.2.1 Alternative Processes & Methods

Please provide any relevant information regarding the following;

- Recommendations to deliver services/products as detailed herein in a different manner than is specified.
- Clearly demonstrate the quantity of the benefit derived from alternate solutions as proposed either in service level, cost savings or both.

#### 5.2.2 Additional Services

Please provide detail on any additional or unique services provided by your organization specific to the Deliverables referenced above. Generic information without detail will be excluded from the analysis. Any fees associated with any extraordinary services should be clearly defined.

## 6. Contractual Agreements

**Please respond to the following issues regarding contractual agreements:**

Indicate your willingness to provide the Utilities' internal and/or external auditors' access to appropriate information in order to conduct independent audits periodically of you and your agents as well as each vendor identified in your proposal with whom the Utilities would enter into a contract.

## 7. Service Costs – Pricing Scenarios

In a separate file attachment, please provide your fixed pricing and outline assumptions.

If a prepay discount can be made available, please include any tiered discount options for a prepayment of different percentages of the estimated total project costs.

Pursuant to the March 31, 2020, Notice in Docket No. 17-12-03RE01 directing the Utilities to issue a Request for Proposals for a consultant, the initial budget for the consultant shall be no more than \$100,000, unless PURA Pro determines for good cause the \$100,000 budget is insufficient and requests PURA to approve a higher amount. Any pricing estimate greater than \$100,000 must include detailed justification for amounts in excess of the budget limit.



# STATE OF CONNECTICUT

## PUBLIC UTILITIES REGULATORY AUTHORITY

DOCKET NO. 17-12-03RE01

PURA INVESTIGATION INTO DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM PLANNING OF THE  
ELECTRIC DISTRIBUTION COMPANIES – ENERGY AFFORDABILITY

ATTACHMENT B: REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR PUBLIC FORUMS ON  
COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL ENERGY AFFORDABILITY

(June 1, 2020)

On October 4, 2019, the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority (Authority or PURA) established the above-cited reopened proceeding to investigate the topic of energy affordability for **all customer classes in Connecticut**, in accordance with the Interim Decision dated October 2, 2019, in Docket No. 17-12-03, PURA Investigation into Distribution System Planning of the Electric Distribution Companies. On October 8, 2019, the Authority issued a Notice of Proceeding indicating that PURA's investigation would seek to identify: (1) the most impactful barriers to increased energy affordability and equity in the state; and (2) potential solutions to those barriers. To date, the Authority's investigation has primarily focused on the residential customer class.<sup>1</sup>

### I. BROADENING SCOPE OF INVESTIGATION

The Authority now seeks to broaden the scope of its investigation to address the barriers to energy affordability and equity for the **commercial and industrial** classes of customers in Connecticut. The Authority is mindful of the important work other state government agencies, such as the Department of Economic and Community Development, local government agencies, chambers of commerce, and non-profit organizations are doing to address the topic of energy affordability for these classes of customers. The Authority is also acutely aware of the impact of the COVID-19 public health emergency on commercial and industrial customers, particularly small businesses, and the tireless work of the government agencies and businesses alike to address this unprecedented health crisis while maintaining the vitality of the state's economy. The Authority looks to complement and build on both the emergency and non-emergency work of these government agencies and non-profits to establish long-term pathways for continued progress towards increased energy affordability and equity for all of Connecticut's businesses.

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<sup>1</sup> See, Procedural Order, dated January 22, 2020, <http://www.dpuc.state.ct.us/dockcurr.nsf/8e6fc37a54110e3e852576190052b64d/a3d39830281d92cc852584f7006f4514?OpenDocument>; Pro Update on Sprint Status, dated March 23, 2020, <http://www.dpuc.state.ct.us/dockcurr.nsf/8e6fc37a54110e3e852576190052b64d/4371401e2a158bf985258534005df983?OpenDocument>.

## II. PUBLIC FORUM LISTENING SESSIONS

### A. REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR PUBLIC FORUMS

As a first step in addressing the barriers to energy affordability and equity for **commercial and industrial** customers in Connecticut, the Authority looks to learn from commercial and industrial customers, government agencies, and non-profit organizations themselves. To that end, the Authority hereby issues this Request for Proposals (RFP) inviting members of the public to submit proposals for the Authority to hold Public Forum listening sessions to hear from commercial and industrial customers, government agencies, and/or non-profit organizations regarding commercial and industrial energy affordability and equity in Connecticut.

### B. PURPOSE AND TIMING

The purpose of these Public Forum listening sessions will be to: (1) hear from stakeholders about the current dialogue and work being done in the state regarding commercial and industrial energy affordability; (2) identify and discuss the most impactful barriers to commercial and industrial energy affordability and equity in the state; and (3) hear from stakeholders regarding potential solutions to those barriers, subject to PURA's statutory authority.

Challenges to the routine participation by non-traditional stakeholders in the Authority's traditional regulatory process were noted at several points during PURA's previous Public Forum technical meetings held in this docket on November 1, 2019, and January 9, 2020. As such, a co-equal purpose of these Public Forum listening sessions is to increase the transparency of and access to the above-cited proceeding for commercial and industrial customers and other non-traditional stakeholders in order to promote fairness and equity for all of Connecticut citizens and businesses. The Authority is, and will continue to be, mindful of its legal and due process obligations and will record in some fashion, either through a written transcript or an audio or digital recording, each Public Forum listening session.

The timing of these Public Forum listening sessions is meant to aid in the state's efforts to recover from the economic impacts of the COVID-19 public health emergency. While the Authority's ultimate goal in the above-cited proceeding is to establish long-term pathways for energy affordability and equity, PURA is aware that much work will need to be done once the public health emergency is over to support Connecticut's businesses and to ensure a strong economy. The requested Public Forum listening sessions are a first step in achieving this outcome.

### C. TENTATIVE PUBLIC FORUM LISTENING SESSIONS

To date, the Authority has tentatively scheduled the following Public Forum listening sessions:

**Table 1: Tentative Public Forum Listening Sessions<sup>2</sup>**

ORGANIZATION	TENTATIVE DATE / TIME	
Connecticut Industrial Energy Consumers	Tuesday, August 4, 2020	10:00 a.m.
Greater New Haven Chamber of Commerce	Wednesday, August 5, 2020	1:00 p.m.
Middlesex County Chamber of Commerce	Thursday, August 6, 2020	10:00 a.m.
MetroHartford Alliance	Thursday, August 13, 2020	10:00 a.m.

### D. PROCESS

The Authority will accommodate as many proposals as is practicable and will prioritize those proposals that maximize stakeholder participation. The Authority will publicly notice in Docket No. 17-12-03RE01 further details regarding all Public Forum listening sessions once finalized and will work with each stakeholder organization to more broadly publicize each event. All Public Forum listening sessions held in this docket shall be open to the public and, as noted above, the Authority will record in some fashion each Public Forum listening session.

### III. PROPOSAL REQUIREMENTS AND TEMPLATE

Proposals should include the information provided in the subsequent table. More generally, proposals should include: (1) the stakeholder organization(s) planning to organize the Public Forum listening session; (2) a best guess of the number and types of stakeholders planning to attend and participate in the Public Forum; (3) (a) the most convenient time(s), date(s), and location(s) for the organizing stakeholders to hold an in-person Public Forum in July and/or August; or (3) (b) the most convenient time(s) and date(s) for the organizing stakeholders to hold a virtual listening session using an online video conferencing platform in June, July, and/or August, as well as a short plan on how the organizer will manage a virtual listening session to ensure such Public Forum is productive; and (4) provide a draft agenda for the proposed Public Forum and a brief

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<sup>2</sup> The Authority is in the process of rescheduling the Public Forum listening session included in the draft version of this RFP scheduled for Tuesday, June 9, 2020, with the Connecticut Conference of Municipalities.

description of how the draft agenda will enable the Public Forum to meet its stated purpose, as detailed in Section II.B., Purpose and Timing, of this RFP.<sup>3</sup>

Public Forum Listening Session Proposal	
Brief Description of Stakeholder Organization(s)	
Contact(s) for Proposal:	
<i>Name(s), Contact Information</i>	
Stakeholder Participation:	
<i>Estimated Attendance</i>	
<i>Stakeholder groups likely to attend based on organization membership (e.g., industrial customers, local businesses, etc.)</i>	
<i>Other stakeholder groups likely to attend</i>	
Proposed Date(s), Time(s), and Location(s): <sup>4</sup>	
<i>Type of Public Forum (in-person or virtual)</i>	
<i>Ability to record and broadcast Public Forum</i>	
<i>Plan for facilitating virtual Public Forum (if relevant)</i>	
<i>Planned social distancing measures (if relevant)</i> <sup>5</sup>	
Draft Agenda	
<i>Brief description of how the draft agenda will meet the purpose of the Public Forums (see Section II.B.)</i>	

<sup>3</sup> The Authority will work with the organizing stakeholder(s) to further refine and publish a final agenda for each Public Forum listening session. Thus, the draft agenda need not be overly descriptive or prescriptive.

<sup>4</sup> Date(s) must be in June, July, or August. Providing multiple dates and times will aid the Authority in accommodating as many Public Forum listening sessions as is practicable.

<sup>5</sup> All in-person Public Forums must conform to best practices for in-person meetings at the time such Public Forum is held. The Authority will work with the organizing stakeholders to ensure adherence to these practices. Only a brief description of social distancing measures is required for the proposal.

Proposals may include the information directly in the template above or provide a separate document containing the requested information in the required order. Any additional information believed to be necessary should be included as appendices to the proposal.<sup>6</sup>

#### IV. PROPOSAL SUBMISSION

All interested stakeholders are requested to file proposals for Public Forum listening sessions, as outlined above, by **12:00 p.m. on Monday, June 1, 2020.** Documents must be filed with the Executive Secretary of the Authority in both electronic and paper form. The date and time of filing shall be the date and time the Authority first receives a complete electronic version or the paper version and the required number of paper copies. If a complete electronic version of the filing is submitted through the Authority's Web Filing System, only one paper version of the filing is generally required. (For exceptionally voluminous or complex filings, the Authority reserves the right to request additional paper copies.) If a complete electronic version of the filing is not web filed, submit an original and one copy.

Dated at New Britain, Connecticut, this 6<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2020.

PUBLIC UTILITIES REGULATORY AUTHORITY



Jeffrey R. Gaudiosi, Esq.  
Executive Secretary

(GBC)

Notice filed with the Secretary of the State on May 6, 2020.

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<sup>6</sup> The Authority will provide administrative assistance, as required, in executing any selected Public Forum listening sessions. Additional funding is not available at this time.



# STATE OF CONNECTICUT

## PUBLIC UTILITIES REGULATORY AUTHORITY

DOCKET NO. 17-12-03RE02

PURA INVESTIGATION INTO DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM PLANNING OF THE  
ELECTRIC DISTRIBUTION COMPANIES – ADVANCED METERING  
INFRASTRUCTURE

ATTACHMENT C: REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR  
AMI BUSINESS AND IMPLEMENTATION PLANS

(July 31, 2020)

On October 4, 2019, the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority (Authority or PURA) established the above-cited reopened proceeding to investigate the topic of advanced metering infrastructure (AMI), in accordance with the Interim Decision dated October 2, 2019, in Docket No. 17-12-03, PURA Investigation into Distribution System Planning of the Electric Distribution Companies (Interim Decision). The Authority held Solutions Days on the topic of AMI on November 5, 2019, and December 17, 2019. Based on the record developed in the docket to date, the Authority hereby issues the following Request for Proposals (RFP) for AMI business and implementation plans that will achieve the following objectives, as originally stated in the Interim Decision:

- Develop the business case for the cost-effective deployment of statewide AMI;
- Enhance the utilization of existing assets (for AMI deployment); and
- Maximize the value AMI provides to the electric distribution companies (EDCs) and their customers by strategically implementing AMI.

The Authority expects that any proposals designed to meet the above goals will depend on each EDC's AMI starting point. The Authority recognizes that this may present challenges to non-EDC entities who wish to file a responsive proposal.<sup>1</sup> Nevertheless, and in accordance with the Interim Decision, the Authority is seeking proposals from all interested stakeholders, industry experts, and technology providers, and notes that proposals may address some or all of the categories included in this RFP. Such proposals are due to the Authority by 12:00 p.m. on July 31, 2020. In addition, docket Participants that wish for their comments or proposals to be included, considered, or otherwise addressed by the EDCs in the EDCs' proposals should submit their comments or proposals by 12:00 p.m. on Friday, June 5, 2020. Section IV., Proposal Submission, of this RFP provides additional information regarding the submission of comments or proposals responsive to this RFP.

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<sup>1</sup> The Authority recognizes that the EDCs are in different phases of AMI deployment, and that some of the requests may not be applicable to UI since it has a nearly 80 percent penetration rate of AMI. UI Written Comments dated April 21, 2020, p. 3. Nevertheless, both EDCs are expected to file complete and responsive proposals in accordance with the requests herein; any sections that are not applicable to an EDC must still be addressed by including an explanation for the section's inapplicability.

To assist participants in drafting their proposals, the Authority provides a table below summarizing the proposals sought and their underlying categories. Subsequently, this RFP expounds further on each category to indicate what the Authority seeks in responsive proposals. The Authority notes that all categories of the business and implementation plans were presented in some form during the Solutions Days or through Written Comments. The Authority has tried to organize this RFP so that all participants in the proceeding may contribute. The Authority encourages creative solutions in proposals, especially with regard to the use of third-party services, such as software-as-a-service, rather than utility-owned platforms.

Proposals	Proposal Categories
Detailed Business Plan	Benefits
	Costs
Implementation Plan for leveraging value created by AMI technology	Strategies to Deliver on Business Case Objectives (Operational Efficiencies, Customer Engagement, Rate Design)
	Deployment Timeline
	Metrics and Evaluation
	Customer Engagement
	Data Privacy and Security
	Cost Recovery

## I. DETAILED BUSINESS PLAN

The Authority expects each EDC (and interested stakeholders) to present a detailed business case proposal that begins with its current AMI starting point and includes, at a minimum, the following costs and benefits outlined below. All detailed business plan proposals must, at a high-level, clearly state the following:

- The business needs that AMI deployment will address and the benefits and/or value that full-scale AMI deployment will unlock;
- The required data and data analytical tools needed to deliver the operational efficiencies, avoided costs, customer value, or any other business need AMI will address or value it will unlock;
- How the data will be managed and by whom (e.g., which business and operational teams will have access and expertise to utilize the data; data access platforms and policies for customers and authorized third-party entities); and
- How AMI deployment can enhance energy efficiency, demand reduction strategies, renewable energy deployment, and other programs that facilitate Connecticut’s climate change mitigation strategies.

Proposals should clearly explain all assumptions and how savings/benefits may flow to customers directly and indirectly, as well as all assumptions used to determine the cost and benefit estimates. Proposals should also address whether benefits accrue directly to customers (e.g., energy management, customer satisfaction) or through reductions in the need for supply and demand side investments. Where there is uncertainty around future costs and benefits, a description of this uncertainty should be included.

Proposals may also address how the proposed program design minimizes costs and maximizes benefits by leveraging lessons learned, existing programs, and other grid modernization initiatives presently under review in the various re-opened proceedings of Docket No. 17-12-03. Business case analysis of costs and benefits should include those categories that can be quantified as well as a description of costs and benefits, such as customer satisfaction or societal value, that are more appropriately characterized qualitatively. Non-quantifiable or hard-to-quantify benefits may be included in any cost-benefit analysis so long as they are: (1) treated separately from quantifiable benefits; (2) clearly defined; and (3) clearly attributable to the proposal and associated technologies. Justification for the inclusion of any non-quantifiable or hard-to-quantify benefits must be provided.

Each EDC should also prepare cost comparisons for a reference or “business as usual” case assuming continuation of current metering and system requirements over the same time period used in the cost-benefit analysis for the AMI business case. The reference case may establish a benchmark for AMI business case proposal evaluation.

## **A. BENEFITS**

### **1. Operational Efficiencies and Avoided Costs**

Proposals should identify incremental operational efficiencies and savings resulting from leveraging AMI and data networks, including the expected incremental value for the categories presented in the table below. Additional categories and functions should be included as applicable.

<b>Value / Avoided Costs</b>	<b>Examples of Functions</b>
Meter Reading	Changes in personnel, fleet, and customer service needs and associated costs.
Service Order Automation	Reductions in field service visits (troubleshooting, disconnect/reconnects) including reduced field crew overtime, reduced fuel, and reduced fleet costs.
Proactive Outage Planning	Predicting transformer replacements before failure, reducing field service costs, and environmental remediation costs.
Storm Restoration Efficiencies	Reduced calls to call centers and reduced data traffic on web portals, integrated voice recorders, and other customer reporting channels.

Optimizing Power Flow	Enabling volt-VAR optimization, reducing power line losses, and improved connectivity models (which can support electrification initiatives and DER deployment).
More Accurate Load Profiles	Identifying opportunities for load-shifting, transformer loading optimization, ZEV charging, and plant maintenance efficiencies.
Validating Resilience / Reliability Measures	Validating switching schemes, protection measures, etc.
Early Outage Detection	Automated service alarms, alerts, and power data logs for system planning and early outage detection.
System Planning Optimization	Identifying distribution planning enhancements, efficiencies, and impacts on capital investment strategies.
Energy Theft and Write-Offs Reduction	Reduced cross subsidies by customers who pay for all energy they use and those who do not.

**2. Value to Customers**

Proposals should identify, and quantify where possible, the incremental value that a full-scale AMI deployment would be expected to provide to customers. The Authority provides the following minimum categories that should be addressed in the proposal. Additional categories and functions should be included as applicable.

<b>Customer Benefits</b>	<b>Examples of Functions</b>
Detailed Billing Data	Identify customer value (by customer type) that having access to daily delivered and received power, monthly demand, and instantaneous power data (twice daily or every 5 minutes).
Market Participation / Rate Design	Savings provided to customers directly or indirectly for participation in these programs, including time varying rate (TVR) options.
Enhanced Online Portal	Improved customer engagement and satisfaction.
High-Bill Alerts	Improved customer awareness of usage.
Outage Status	Meter pings to relay information to customers about current outage status.
Customer Targeting for Initiatives	Optimizing targeting of customers for Company initiatives such as demand management, energy efficiency, etc.

Where a benefit category is dependent on customer participation, proposals should include a sensitivity analysis to distinguish how the value for each of these categories changes depending on the level of participation by customers. Proposals should outline a methodology for determining the level of participation from customers that would maximize these benefits.

## B. COSTS

For all AMI-related functions and upgrades listed below (and for any relevant ones not listed), proposals should provide total lifecycle costs. Proposals should also link each cost category to the benefit(s) such cost categories unlock. Proposals should clearly state any assumptions used to determine total lifecycle costs.

Category	Example of Costs
Meters	Include meters and installation/replacement costs.
Communications Upgrades	Include incremental deployment/replacement costs.
Back-end System	Include meter data management systems, and billing system upgrades. Include necessary billing upgrades to implement any proposed TVR structures.
Labor and Standard Operating Plan	Include costs associated with incremental information technology (IT) and business resources (e.g., data analysts, field communications, customer service representatives, security experts) needed to implement and operate AMI system and programs. Also, include, as an initial estimate, the incremental number and type of resources, as well as tools that staff may need to implement new programs. Include any additional incremental operations and maintenance costs.
Supporting Services and Platforms	Include services/platforms supporting operational use cases listed above, such as information technology support, field service management, system operations optimization, load profiling, and call center intelligence. Likewise, include services/platforms supporting customer-based use cases, such as home energy management, web portal changes, net metering, customer load aggregation, and billing and rate programs.
Customer Engagement	See description under Implementation Plan/Road Map.
Cybersecurity	Identify incremental cybersecurity costs needed to protect customer privacy and EDC operations directly associated with AMI deployment and data collection.

Data Governance	Include a plan identifying data ownership, third party access protocols, and proposed agreements.
Stranded Costs	Describe and include any past investments not yet fully depreciated that could become stranded costs by implementing a proposal.

Specific categories of costs should also include, where possible, a comparison of alternative solutions. For example, communications upgrades should consider multiple communications pathway solutions, such as power-line carriers, cellular networks, and mesh networks. Another example could be whether supporting services and platforms are owned directly by the EDC, or offered by a third party as software-as-a-service.

### C. COST-BENEFIT ANALYSIS

Proposals should provide a detailed cost-benefit analysis summarizing the cost and benefit information required above, as well as any additional categories identified by the respondent and any associated quantification. Such cost-benefit analysis shall be categorized by quantitative and qualitative components, and include: (1) proposal cost-benefit by year, inclusive of all of the categories listed in the RFP; and (2) the net present value of such proposal.<sup>2</sup> The cost-benefit analysis should also include a sensitivity analysis showing the cost-benefit under various levels costs and deployment scenarios. The cost-benefit analysis *may* indicate a reliance on the prospective development of new or more advanced time of use (TOU) rate or TVR structures if deemed necessary to fully realize the benefits of AMI. While the respondent may indicate preliminary recommendations regarding what those TOU rate or TVR differentials may be and whether the TOU rates or TVR should be mandatory, opt-in, or opt-out, the Authority may defer the design and approval of such rate design to Docket No. 17-12-03RE011 – PURA Investigation into Distribution System Planning of the Electric Distribution Companies – New Rate Designs.

The cost-benefit analysis should be calculated from the perspective of all ratepayers. The analysis should specifically address any assumptions made regarding the capabilities of all ratepayers to access the real-time energy data that AMI implementation enables, including sufficient internet and phone access. The EDCs shall also provide a rate impact analysis of any proposal by customer class. Proposals should provide the cost-benefit analysis in Excel in a format similar to the below template:<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>2</sup> Respondents shall use a discount rate of seven percent and inflation rate of two percent to calculate net present value. Respondents may also provide an analysis using other discount and inflation rates, as they deem appropriate. Respondents must provide justification for any other discount and inflation rates.

<sup>3</sup> Provide the requested cost-benefit analysis in an unlocked Excel workbook with no hidden formulas or macros.

	AMI Assets In-Service (Determined by Respondent)		
COSTS			
<i>COSTS BY CATEGORY</i>	-\$	-\$	-\$
BENEFITS			
<i>BENEFITS BY CATEGORY</i>	+\$	+\$	+\$
NET COST-BENEFIT	\$	\$	\$
NET PRESENT VALUE (7%-2% RATE)	\$		
NET PRESENT VALUE (OTHER RATES)	\$		
<i>LIST INPUTS/ ASSUMPTIONS</i>	# / ABC		

In addition to the requested cost-benefit analysis and data requested above, respondents may also include metrics such as the utility cost test, participant cost test, ratepayer impact measure, and the total resource cost test using the data provided in response to the above requirements. Respondents may also provide additional cost-benefit analyses from other jurisdictions.

## II. IMPLEMENTATION PLAN / ROAD MAP

Proposals should include an implementation plan or deployment road map that includes strategies for delivering on the value described in the detailed business plan. Implementation plans must meet the requirements below:

- Identify specific scenarios for optimal deployment, including from both a technical perspective as well as from a ratepayer impact perspective. Include detailed projections of AMI deployment by year and customer class for each specified scenario, and any functional or programmatic benefits that are contingent on deployment of certain technologies or quantities of meters;
- Include a “meter exchange plan” or a justification of which meters are to be replaced and why;
- Include ways to leverage AMI deployment with existing system resilience programs such as grid hardening and system automation. Incremental benefits must be stated with all assumptions. For example, the proposal must clearly state how it leverages existing investments while limiting redundancies;

- Include ways in which AMI would enhance the delivery, scope, and cost-effectiveness of the Conservation and Load Management Plan, such as improving engineering estimates, improving savings algorithms for benefit-cost screening, and advancing impact evaluations;
- Identify areas in which AMI deployment would support the targeted deployment of distributed energy resources (DERs);
- Identify which costs for the AMI deployment (such as IT needs, system integration, and communications infrastructure) also benefit other existing and planned programs and how those costs are shared;
- Include strategies for integrating AMI with legacy IT, communications, and billing systems, where applicable;
- Identify ways to effectively integrate DERs, energy efficiency, and electric vehicles, while achieving interoperability between AMI and individual technologies within a system that includes various technologies and vendors;
- Identify which costs for AMI deployment can be shared with affiliated companies by which date across states and industries;
- Identify areas where it may be beneficial to “future-proof” the AMI supporting infrastructure for the next generation of AMI meters; and
- Identify the useful life and anticipated replacement cost/timeframe for each category of capital investment.

The implementation plans must include a deployment timeline, a metrics and evaluation plan, a customer engagement plan, a data privacy and security plan, and a cost recovery proposal, as described below.

#### **A. DEPLOYMENT TIMELINE**

A deployment timeline should include an end-to-end road map that incorporates all deployed infrastructure and includes the implementation of new programs (including customer engagement, see Section II.C., Customer Engagement Plan). The road map must illustrate how the value of AMI will be realized to meet the identified business needs. The deployment timeline should provide milestones for various infrastructure deployment (such as communications and data network infrastructure, meter data management systems, billing systems, etc.).

The deployment timeline should present a schedule that continues even after full AMI deployment is achieved showing the implementation timeline for various planning, operations, and customer engagement programs that achieve the benefits of the AMI system. The deployment timeline should also include the plans to market to and engage with customers in areas targeted for AMI deployment.

## B. METRICS AND EVALUATION PLAN

Proposals must include a metrics and evaluation plan to track the implementation and realization of the benefits addressed in the AMI deployment plan. The metrics and evaluation plan should address all the categories of the detailed business plan and include ways to measure and track the costs and the benefits realized. The metrics and evaluation plan should also include ways to evaluate the deployment timelines, and the effectiveness of the customer engagement initiatives.

The metrics and evaluation plan should include, at a minimum, the following information: the milestones and benefit/values of the program to be measured, the frequency of measurement, a plan for over/under performance relative to the stated measures, and any other planned review. By way of example, a metrics and evaluation plan that considers the benefit of reduced field service visits may track the following: (1) the number of work orders resolved remotely as a percentage of total work orders; (2) the reduced number of injury/safety incidents due to reduced field visits; and (3) the reduced field visit costs: fuel, emissions reductions, man-hours, etc. As another example, a customer engagement initiative, such as a program designed to inform customers of the benefits of AMI, should include a metrics plan that enables the evaluation of customer awareness and participation and then determines the effectiveness of that program. The Authority expects detailed metrics and evaluation plans for all specific categories and programs that are presented in the business plan.

## C. CUSTOMER ENGAGEMENT PLAN

A customer engagement plan must include detailed program costs, as discussed in Section I., Detailed Business Plan. The proposal must identify and address modern AMI customer issues and questions and continue throughout the AMI implementation plan. The Authority presents in the table below a framework to be used as a basis for the customer engagement plan.

Customer Engagement	
Awareness Stage	Where do you start AMI program deployment? When do you make customers in those areas aware? What are the mediums of communication? What benefits will be highlighted to customers?
Inform Stage	How will the Company inform customers about the meter installation process, billing/rate changes, etc.?
Engage Stage	What is the plan to engage customers continually about AMI benefits and program offerings during and after deployment?

The customer engagement proposal should present a detailed plan to address the three stages described above. Proposals should account for differing levels of technical acuity among customers as well as varying levels of customer willingness to participate in the engagement process. Proposals should provide descriptions of what approaches will be taken based on customer demographics. Proposals should include all costs associated with the activities, including costs associated with training internal staff and securing external resources.

#### **D. DATA PRIVACY AND SECURITY PLAN**

As a threshold requirement, data privacy and security plans must evaluate the U.S. Department of Energy's DataGuard data privacy framework (and may review and discuss other models, as appropriate) and discuss whether it should be adopted. Proposals should analyze and identify any shortcomings or areas for improvement in the model. Proposals should present a recommended approach to data privacy that considers the following customer data privacy concerns:

- Notice and awareness;
- Choice and consent;
- Data access;
- Integrity and security;
- The value of third-party cybersecurity audits;
- The value of cyber insurance requirements for entities that receive or exchange AMI customer data;
- Policy enforcement; and
- Dispute resolution.

The proposal should also address data ownership considerations including: who owns the data; who owns aggregated data; and whether specific legislation is needed to address data ownership needs. Proposals should identify specific data ownership needs and concerns and be very specific about proposed solutions.

#### **E. COST RECOVERY PROPOSAL**

Recommendations for EDC cost recovery mechanisms that the Authority should direct the EDCs to implement (e.g., regulatory asset, reconciling mechanism, etc.) should be proposed with accompanying justification. Cost recovery proposals should include all costs incurred by the AMI business and implementation plans, including capital additions and ongoing operating expenses. Proposals should address cost allocation to customer and rate classes. Cost recovery proposals should include plans for the periodic reviews of program costs, including capital investments and ongoing operating expenses.

### III. AMI BUSINESS AND IMPLEMENTATION PLAN SUMMARY TEMPLATE

In addition to the submission of detailed responses to the specific proposal requirements above, the Authority instructs respondents to provide a proposal summary using the below template. Summaries may be provided in paragraph or bullet point form.

Proposals	Proposal Categories	Summary of Proposal (by category)
Detailed Business Plan	Benefits	
	Costs	
Implementation Plan for leveraging value created by AMI technology	Strategies to Deliver on Business Case Objectives (Operational Efficiencies, Customer Engagement, Rate Design, Interoperability)	
	Deployment Timeline	
	Metrics and Evaluation	
	Customer Engagement	
	Data Privacy and Security	
	Cost Recovery	

### IV. PROPOSAL SUBMISSION

All docket Participants and interested stakeholders are requested to file proposals in response to this RFP, as outlined above, by **12:00 p.m. on Friday, July 31, 2020**. In addition, docket Participants that wish for their comments or proposals to be included, considered, or otherwise addressed by the EDCs in the EDCs' proposals should submit their comments or proposals by **12:00 p.m. on Friday, June 5, 2020**. The EDCs may respond to these comments in their AMI business and implementation plans submitted by July 31, 2020. This additional comment period will provide the EDCs the opportunity to incorporate the input and perspectives of others into the development of the comprehensive business case proposals.

The Authority notes that any comments or proposals submitted by other stakeholders concurrently with the EDCs' proposals on July 31, 2020, will be reviewed by the Authority and considered for inclusion in the subsequent initial straw proposal. The additional comment period ending Friday, June 5, 2020, is not intended to replace the discovery process that will commence after the issuance of the initial straw proposal by the Authority later this year. The Authority notes that it has already contemplated a robust discovery process in the Interim Decision, as detailed in the accompanying Notice to this RFP, which will include hearings, technical meetings, and additional discovery as needed. Interim Decision, p. 12. The comment period described above should be understood to assist in the development of initial proposals.

Documents must be filed with the Executive Secretary of the Authority in both electronic and paper form. The date and time of filing shall be the date and time the Authority first receives a complete electronic version or the paper version and the required number of paper copies. No submission shall be filed after expiration of the time for its filing unless the filer demonstrates good cause for its untimeliness in a separate motion captioned "good cause for late filing." Untimely submissions may be stricken by the Authority *sua sponte* from the docket. If a complete electronic version of the filing is submitted through the Authority's Web Filing System, only one paper version of the filing is generally required. (For exceptionally voluminous or complex filings, the Authority reserves the right to request additional paper copies.) If a complete electronic version of the filing is not web filed, submit an original and one copy.

Dated at New Britain, Connecticut, this 6<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2020.

PUBLIC UTILITIES REGULATORY AUTHORITY

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeffrey R. Gaudiosi", written in a cursive style.

Jeffrey R. Gaudiosi, Esq.  
Executive Secretary

(GBC)

Notice filed with the Secretary of the State on May 6, 2020.



# STATE OF CONNECTICUT

## PUBLIC UTILITIES REGULATORY AUTHORITY

DOCKET NO. 17-12-03RE03

PURA INVESTIGATION INTO DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM PLANNING OF THE  
ELECTRIC DISTRIBUTION COMPANIES – ELECTRIC STORAGE

ATTACHMENT D: REQUEST FOR PROGRAM DESIGN PROPOSALS  
(July 31, 2020)

To better position the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority (Authority or PURA) to implement Raised House Bill (H.B.) 5351,<sup>1</sup> *An Act Concerning Certain Programs and to Incentivize and Implement Electric Energy Storage Resources*, and in accordance with the objectives outlined in the Interim Decision dated October 2, 2019, in Docket No. 17-12-03, PURA Investigation into Distribution System Planning of the Electric Distribution Companies (Interim Decision), PURA hereby issues the following Request for Program Design (RFPD) proposals to achieve the goals presently stated in Section 2 of H.B. 5351 and the Interim Decision.

Section 2 of H.B. 5351, the Interim Decision, and the Authority's Notice of Proceeding in Docket No. 17-12-03RE03, PURA Investigation into Distribution System Planning of the Electric Distribution Companies – Electric Storage, identify the following objectives for electric storage programs in Connecticut:

- Provide positive net present value to all ratepayers, or a subset of ratepayers paying for the benefits that accrue to that subset of ratepayers;
- Provide multiple types of benefits to the electric grid, including, but not limited to, customer, local, or community resilience, ancillary services, peak shaving, and avoiding or deferring distribution system upgrades or supporting the deployment of other distributed energy resources; and
- Foster the sustained, orderly development of a state-based electric energy storage industry.

Section 2 of H.B. 5351 would require the Authority to establish programs for electric energy storage resources connected to the electric distribution system including, but not limited to, a residential electric storage program and would instruct the Authority to use its discretion with respect to establishing a program for commercial and industrial customers. The focus to-date of Docket No. 17-12-03RE03, and the Solutions Days held on November 14, 2019, and November 15, 2019, has largely been on residential electric storage programs. The Authority hereby requests proposals, however, that will assist Connecticut in meeting the full range of the above-stated goals, providing net positive

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<sup>1</sup> Raised House Bill (H.B.) 5351 – An Act Concerning Certain Programs and to Incentivize and Implement Electric Energy Storage Resources, Connecticut General Assembly, Energy and Technology Committee, February Session, 2020, [https://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill\\_num=HB5351&which\\_year=2020](https://www.cga.ct.gov/asp/cgabillstatus/cgabillstatus.asp?selBillType=Bill&bill_num=HB5351&which_year=2020), last visited March 19, 2020.

benefits to customers of the state's electric distribution companies (EDCs), The Connecticut Light and Power Company d/b/a Eversource Energy and The United Illuminating Company.<sup>2</sup>

Specifically, the Authority requests proposals for residential electric storage program designs, proposals for commercial and industrial electric storage program designs, and proposals for any other electric storage programs that meet the above-stated goals. The proposed program design(s) may reflect behind-the-meter or front-of-the-meter configurations, or some combination thereof, and may also consider standalone, coupled, or co-located models. Proposals may be submitted by any interested stakeholder. All proposals should clearly demonstrate the need and rationale for such program(s) and identify the targeted customer class beneficiary(ies), with accompanying rationale, if the proposed program restricts participant eligibility to a specific customer class or customer type. A separate proposal is required for each program design, to the extent that a stakeholder is recommending multiple programs; however, the respondent should explain in an accompanying correspondence how the multiple programs will operate in concert and not at odds with each other. All proposals should identify and address as many of the following parameters as possible:

## **I. PROGRAM DESIGN CATEGORIES**

### **A. PROGRAM LENGTH**

- A.1. Provide a recommended program length<sup>3</sup> and, if applicable, annual, interim and/or cumulative deployment targets,<sup>4</sup> including justification for such recommendation(s).
- A.2. Discuss whether there is any requested flexibility or scalability trigger associated with an interim deployment target(s), if applicable.

### **B. PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY**

- B.1. Provide the program eligibility requirements, including the customer class(es) (e.g.. residential, commercial, and/or industrial) and/or customer type eligible to participate in the program, and provide the rationale for such requirements and any restrictions on eligibility;
- B.2. Discuss whether the program design envisions a standalone electric storage system and/or whether it contemplates an energy storage system coupled or co-located with other energy resources, providing rationale for such a requirement.

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<sup>2</sup> The Authority reminds stakeholders that Docket No. 17-12-03RE07 (RE07), scheduled for Phase III of this proceeding, will address Non-Wires Alternatives (NWA), which may also invoke additional use cases and program designs that support the deployment of storage assets. To the degree practicable, proposals responsive to the instant request should abstain from opining on NWA program design until the Authority takes up RE07 later this year.

<sup>3</sup> The recommended program length must be a minimum of three years. Proposals may also recommend longer program lengths.

<sup>4</sup> "Target" is used herein to describe a defined goal with prescribed accountability measures.

## **C. COMPENSATION STRUCTURE**

- C.1. Provide details of the specific recommended compensation structure (e.g., upfront payments, payments for performance, rate design(s), low- to no-cost financing, or a combination thereof) or any other recommendations for incentivizing electric storage deployment;
- C.2. Provide justification for any recommended compensation structure, including but not limited to, how the compensation structure will ensure that the articulated benefits are realized;
- C.3. Provide details on how the proposal will support participation by low- to moderate-income (LMI) customers and/or underserved communities, including enhanced compensation and/or enhanced marketing to such customers, as appropriate. Provide justification for any proposed enhanced compensation or marketing;
- C.4. Discuss incremental existing and proposed sources of funding for projects that would be eligible pursuant to this proposed program design, including ratepayer funding, revenues from wholesale market participation, and other sources, such as federal tax incentives. Discuss how program and other eligibility requirements impact the availability of such sources of funding; and
- C.5. Provide examples of the success of the recommended compensation structures in other jurisdictions, if applicable.

## **D. COMPENSATION LEVEL**

- D.1. Provide a methodology for calculating the compensation level, including the units used to calculate such compensation (e.g., compensation based on energy, kWh, or power, kW);
- D.2. Provide rationale for such calculation methodology;
- D.3. Explain how the compensation level will change based on storage performance, over time, MW deployed, or with changes to technology costs (i.e., incentive / compensation “blocks” or “steps”);
- D.4. Explain how any changes to the compensation level will be identified and/or implemented and whether those changes should be determined at the beginning of the program or adapted over time through an Authority-led program review;
- D.5. Describe any penalties for non-performance under this proposal and to whom the penalties would accrue;
- D.6. Explain why the proposed compensation level will be sufficient to encourage adoption by eligible customers to develop a state-based energy storage market; and
- D.7. Explain how the proposed support for participation from LMI customers and underserved communities will be sufficient to overcome the additional barriers experienced by these customers and communities.

## **E. OWNERSHIP MODEL**

- E.1. Discuss which parties under this proposal would be allowed to own electric storage devices: the EDCs, customers, or a third-party, or some combination thereof. Provide the rationale for the inclusion or exclusion of any of the three groups listed;
  - E.1.1. Under the proposed ownership model(s), explain which party or parties would have ownership of the attributes and monetizable benefits associated with the storage system, including but not limited to environmental attributes (e.g., renewable energy credits), energy, capacity, and tax incentives;
  - E.1.2. Explain how co-locating or coupling a storage system under this proposal with other new or existing energy resources impacts the ownership of the associated attributes and monetizable benefits for both the new storage system and the new or existing distributed energy resource;
  - E.1.3. Explain how the proposed ownership model(s) impacts the value streams the storage system can provide and/or participate under; and
  - E.1.4. Explain how the proposed ownership model(s) may impact the eligibility of new storage systems for current and proposed federal tax incentives, including a potential federal tax incentive for standalone energy storage.
- E.2. Explain whether the proposed ownership model(s) would affect, positively or negatively, utility operations, including how third-party owners would coordinate with the EDCs, if applicable to this proposal.<sup>5</sup> Provide the accompanying rationale for such explanation; and
- E.3. Explain whether the proposed ownership model(s) would affect third-party investment or financing models, specifically third-party owners' ability to offer Power Purchase Agreements or lease agreements to end-use customers.

## **F. OPERATIONAL CONTROL MODEL**

- F.1. Provide a proposed operational control model that addresses, at a minimum:
  - F.1.1. Which parties would have operational control of the electric storage system, including justification for providing such parties with operational control;
  - F.1.2. For those proposed operational control models where more than one party has operational control, describe the priority of who has control and describe the protocols or guidelines by which assets will be charged and discharged;
  - F.1.3. The technological capability for executing control of the system of the identified parties, including the method(s) of communication to control and monitor the energy storage asset;
  - F.1.4. The data that would be recorded by the party or parties operating the storage system and whether such information would be communicated to program participants;

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<sup>5</sup> Respondents need not respond to the specific question of coordinating with the EDCs if the answer is provided later in this proposal. Respondents may simply reference the location of the response later in the proposal.

- F.1.5. The planned, controlled, or expected charge and discharge activity over the course of a year for an individual electric storage device, including daily charge and discharge times, the rationale for the proposed charge and discharge activity (e.g., peak load reduction, energy arbitrage, etc.), and how such charge and discharge activity will be achieved, to the extent that this information is not provided in response to the above requirements; and
- F.1.6. Whether the parties with operational control would change with time based on certain factors, such as time (e.g., potential peak times) and the state of the electric grid (e.g., power outage), including a description of how such changes are made, to the extent that this information is not provided in response to the above requirements.
- F.2. Provide information on how the parties with operational control under this proposal would coordinate with and provide visibility to the EDCs. Provide a description of the data and/or models that would be used by the parties with operational control and recommendations on how such data/models would be shared with the EDCs;
- F.3. Explain whether the proposed ownership model(s) would affect, positively or negatively, utility operations. Provide the rationale for such explanation;
- F.4. Explain whether the proposed ownership model(s) would affect third-party investment or financing models, specifically third-party owners' ability to offer Power Purchase Agreements or lease agreements to end-use customers; and
- F.5. Explain how current interconnection standards constrain the charging and discharging capabilities of electric storage systems under this proposal. Detail the respondents' understanding of the EDCs' current interconnection standards, if necessary.

## **G. PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION**

- G.1. Recommend a quasi- or government agency (e.g., the Connecticut Green Bank, the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, etc.) or company (e.g., the EDCs or a third-party) to administer the day-to-day operation of the program;
  - G.1.1. Discuss whether the program administrator would have operational control of any of the storage systems deployed under this proposal. Provide the rationale for such explanation.
- G.2. Provide justification for such recommendation, including any known experience the recommended organization or company has in administering or operating, if applicable in G.1.1., an energy storage or similar distributed energy resource program and experience with the underlying technology/software necessary to administer such a program;
- G.3. Discuss whether inverter data is sufficient for program administrative purposes, or if separate metering is required; and
- G.4. Any respondent recommending that their own agency or company act as the program administrator must also provide the following:

- G.4.1. A list of administrative activities the program would require of their agency or company, organized by timescale (e.g., separately list daily, monthly, and yearly activities);
- G.4.2. A description of the program roles and responsibilities (e.g., administrative activities) for all other parties involved with the proposed program design, including the EDCs, PURA, and others;
- G.4.3. An itemized estimate of the agency's or company's administrative costs for marketing and administering the proposed program. Specifically, include the estimated number of employees, by number and full-time equivalents, and provide the estimated annual compensation for each employee as well as the approximate business address to which such employees would primarily report;
- G.4.4. An initial marketing and outreach plan for targeting electric storage installations, including any plans for targeted outreach in underserved communities and plans to target storage deployment in beneficial locations on the distribution system;
- G.4.5. An initial plan detailing a program implementation schedule, including the process for submitting a project application and approval, project design review, testing and commissioning requirements, measuring the claimed asset capability, performance verification, demonstration of continued project viability (if required), and quality assurance of the project;
- G.4.6. An initial plan for collecting and making publicly available appropriate program data, such as compensation levels, total compensation provided, installed cost data for standalone energy storage systems and coupled or co-located storage and other energy resource systems, etc.; and
- G.4.7. A list of synergies that can be achieved, and approximate quantification, by combining the program administration of any electric storage program(s) with the program administration of other existing programs in the state, if applicable.

## **H. EVALUATION, MEASUREMENT, AND VERIFICATION (EM&V)**

- H.1. Provide an EM&V plan that, at a minimum:
  - H.1.1. Recommends an organization or company or type of organization or company that should be used to perform program EM&V and the frequency of EM&V;
    - H.1.1.1. Provides the relevant and known experience of the recommended organization or company in performance of EM&V activities; and
    - H.1.1.2. Provides an approximate annual cost estimate for performing EM&V.
  - H.1.2. Proposes metrics to determine program success;
  - H.1.3. Proposes reporting requirements and reporting frequency to PURA, including timing of such reports (e.g., monthly, quarterly, annually, etc.);
  - H.1.4. Recommends a process by which changes to the program may be adopted based on such metrics and results;

- H.1.5. Proposes how program performance data will be collected, including installed cost and incentive payment or compensation data, and disclosed to PURA, if a response is not already provided;
- H.1.6. Discusses whether inverter data is sufficient for EM&V purposes or if separate metering is required, if the response is different than provided elsewhere in this proposal; and
- H.1.7. Provides recommendations on how EM&V costs could be mitigated or how existing EM&V resources could be leveraged.

## **I. COST RECOVERY PROPOSAL**

- I.1. Where ratepayer funding for compensation is proposed, discuss a funding and/or cost recovery mechanism that the Authority could direct the EDCs to implement (e.g., regulatory asset, reconciling mechanism, etc.). Provide justification;
- I.2. Provide a cost recovery proposal for all program administration and EM&V costs (e.g., regulatory asset, reconciling mechanism, etc.), and indicate whether the proposal is different from the cost recovery proposal for compensation. Provide justification; and
- I.3. Include plans for the periodic review of program costs, including capital investments and ongoing operating expenses, in each cost recovery proposal.

## **J. COST-BENEFIT ANALYSIS**

- J.1. Provide a cost-benefit analysis following the directions below that shows how such proposal will provide positive net present value to all electric ratepayers over the course of the full program:<sup>6</sup>
  - J.1.1. Provide a sensitivity analysis showing the cost-benefit under various levels of participation.
- J.2. Clearly identify each cost and benefit category included in this cost-benefit analysis (e.g., avoided capacity Demand Reduction Induced Price Effect);
- J.3. Clearly quantify each cost and benefit category included in this cost-benefit analysis. Provide values for each cost and benefit category for each program year, including all data inputs and assumptions, and provide such cost-benefit analysis in Excel in a format similar to the below template:<sup>7</sup>

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<sup>6</sup> Respondents shall use a discount rate of seven percent and inflation rate of two percent to calculate net present value. Respondents may also provide an analysis using other discount and inflation rates, as they deem appropriate. Respondents must provide justification for any other discount and inflation rates.

<sup>7</sup> Provide the requested cost-benefit analysis in an unlocked Excel workbook with no hidden formulas or macros.

	Program Years (Determined by Respondent; Min. Three Years)		
COSTS			
<i>COSTS BY CATEGORY</i>	-\$	-\$	-\$
BENEFITS			
<i>BENEFITS BY CATEGORY</i>	+\$	+\$	+\$
NET COST-BENEFIT	\$	\$	\$
NET PRESENT VALUE (7%-2% RATE)	\$		
NET PRESENT VALUE (OTHER RATES)	\$		
<i>LIST INPUTS/ ASSUMPTIONS</i>	# / ABC		

- J.4. Provide written justification, references, and supporting data for the inclusion of each cost and benefit category. Also, provide written justification for the calculation methodology used for each category and the likelihood the proposed program provides such benefit or incurs such cost;
- J.5. Include a separate cost-benefit analysis for the participating electric customers, in a format similar to the above template. Such participant cost-benefit analysis should clearly identify and quantify each cost and benefit category and any other sources of funding (e.g., federal tax credits) included in the cost-benefit analysis. Such participant cost-benefit analysis may include a valuation of the emergency power provided by the electric storage system;
- J.6. In addition to the requested cost-benefit analysis and data requested above, respondents *may* also include metrics such as the utility cost test, participant cost test, ratepayer impact measure, and the total resource cost test using the data provided in response to the above requirements. Respondents may also provide additional cost-benefit analyses from other jurisdictions;
- J.7. Respondents *may* also include non-quantifiable or hard-to-quantify benefits in any cost-benefit analysis so long as they are: (1) treated separately from quantifiable benefits; (2) clearly defined; and (3) clearly attributable to the proposal and associated technologies. Justification for the inclusion of any non-quantifiable or hard-to-quantify benefits must be provided along with any available models or methodologies for quantification, where applicable.

## **K. DATA PRIVACY AND SECURITY PLAN**

- K.1. Proposals must include a recommended data privacy and cybersecurity plan that:
- K.1.1. Aligns with industry standards, best practices, and any state or federal regulations designed to protect customer data and prevent cybersecurity attacks;
  - K.1.2. Includes data aggregation standards (e.g., 15/15 for residential customers and 15/20 for industrial customers) and the ability and methods to pseudo-anonymize or anonymize data, when applicable;
  - K.1.3. Addresses data ownership, data custodianship, and their roles and responsibilities and include data flows and system touch points that identify data ownership (customer/utility), data custodianship, and aggregated or anonymized data ownership;<sup>8</sup> and
  - K.1.4. Includes provisions for access to the data by the Authority and other government agencies such as the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection.

## **L. TECHNOLOGY ELIGIBILITY**

- L.1. Discuss how the proposed program design determines eligibility for electric storage technologies, including any recommended restrictions on the make or type of electric storage systems. Provide justification, including the respondent's experience with electric storage and how said experience informed the recommended technology eligibility and system restrictions;
- L.2. Discuss if both AC- and DC-coupled systems would be eligible under this proposal and any requirements for the meters used to calculate the proposed compensation model. If possible, also provide:
  - L.2.1. Wire diagrams of the eligible AC- and DC-coupled configuration(s); and
  - L.2.2. Specifications of such metering requirements, including a list of eligible meters.
- L.3. Discuss proposed technical and other requirements of the storage system including, if not provided elsewhere:
  - L.3.1. Inverter certification requirements (IEEE, UL);
  - L.3.2. Energy storage specifications (round trip efficiency, battery chemistry, etc.);
  - L.3.3. System warranty requirements;
  - L.3.4. Grid connected requirements;
  - L.3.5. Cybersecurity protocol requirements;
  - L.3.6. Standards and Codes requirements; and
  - L.3.7. Interoperability standards for control and monitoring of the system.
- L.4. Discuss compliance requirements with state and local laws and codes including the EDCs' interconnection process;

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<sup>8</sup> As a reference, respondents may want to review the New York State PSC's DSIP Cyber Security framework created by the Joint Utility Cybersecurity working group and the U.S. DOE's Data Guard Energy Data Privacy Program.

- L.5. Provide the various modes of operation of eligible battery management system (backup power only, clean power only, other, combination); and
- L.6. Provide proposed testing, commissioning and de-commissioning requirements, if not provided in response to the program administration requirements above.

**M. OTHER PROGRAM CONSIDERATIONS**

- M.1. Discuss whether this proposal complements the electric utilities' pay-for-performance program through the Conservation and Load Management Plan for which electric storage is eligible;
- M.2. Discuss whether this proposal complements the current Residential Solar Investment Program, the Low and Zero Emissions Renewable Energy Credit (LREC/ZREC) Program, and/or the current net metering program;
- M.3. Discuss the considerations this proposal creates for the design of the renewable energy tariffs and associated programs authorized in § 16-244z of the Connecticut General Statutes;
- M.4. Discuss whether this proposal would allow for electric storage systems to also maximize other value streams, such as through the wholesale markets, future wholesale ancillary service markets, or as part of a Non-Wires Alternative (NWA) program; and
- M.5. Discuss how this proposal is distinguishable from current or envisioned programs or markets.

**N. OTHER PROGRAM DESIGN ELEMENTS**

- N.1. Provide an estimate of the greenhouse gas emission reductions provided by the proposed program design on an average per unit basis (e.g., per MWh or MW) and in the aggregate. Discuss the methodology and underlying assumptions used to derive such estimates;
- N.2. Discuss who would be responsible for the disposal/recycling/decommissioning of the energy storage system at the end of its useful life, as well as an estimate of the associated monetary and non-monetary costs associated with this action;
- N.3. If the vendor is responsible for the disposal/recycling/decommissioning of the energy storage system, describe the proposed process; and
- N.4. Provide any other information regarding this proposal that is pertinent to Docket No. 17-12-03RE03, including approval or successful implementation of any program design elements included in this proposal that have been successfully adopted in other jurisdictions.

## II. STORAGE PROPOSAL SUMMARY TEMPLATE

The Authority instructs respondents to use the below template to summarize the proposed program design, in addition to the submission of detailed responses to the above program design requirements.

Electric Storage Program Design Proposal	
Brief Description	
Program Length & Deployment Target(s)	
<i>Requested Flexibility or Scalability Triggers</i>	
Program Eligibility	
Compensation Structure	
Compensation Level & Calculation Methodology	
Ownership Model	
Operational Control Model	
Program Administration	
Evaluation, Measurement & Verification Plan	
<i>Evaluation Metrics</i>	
<i>Reporting Requirements &amp; Frequency</i>	
Ratepayer Cost-Benefit (by year)	
<i>Administrative Costs</i>	
<i>Compensation Costs</i>	
<i>Other Costs (by category)</i>	
Total Program Costs	
<i>Benefits (by category)</i>	
Total Program Benefits	
Program NPV	
<i>Other Benefits</i>	
Data Privacy and Security Plan	
Technology Eligibility	
Other Program Considerations	
Other Program Design Elements	

### III. PROGRAM DESIGN PROPOSAL SUBMISSION

All docket Participants and interested stakeholders are requested to file proposals in response to this RFPD, as outlined above, by **12:00 p.m. on Friday, July 31, 2020**. Documents must be filed with the Executive Secretary of the Authority in both electronic and paper form. The date and time of filing shall be the date and time the Authority first receives a complete electronic version or the paper version and the required number of paper copies. No submission shall be filed after expiration of the time for its filing unless the filer demonstrates good cause for its untimeliness in a separate motion captioned "good cause for late filing." Untimely submissions may be stricken by the Authority *sua sponte* from the docket. If a complete electronic version of the filing is submitted through the Authority's Web Filing System, only one paper version of the filing is generally required. (For exceptionally voluminous or complex filings, the Authority reserves the right to request additional paper copies.) If a complete electronic version of the filing is not web filed, submit an original and one copy.

Dated at New Britain, Connecticut, this 6<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2020.

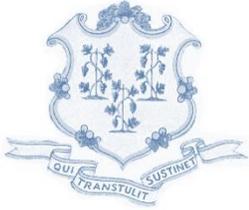
PUBLIC UTILITIES REGULATORY AUTHORITY

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeffrey R. Gaudiosi".

Jeffrey R. Gaudiosi, Esq.  
Executive Secretary

(GBC)

Notice filed with the Secretary of the State on May 6, 2020.



# STATE OF CONNECTICUT

## PUBLIC UTILITIES REGULATORY AUTHORITY

DOCKET NO. 17-12-03RE04

PURA INVESTIGATION INTO DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM PLANNING OF THE  
ELECTRIC DISTRIBUTION COMPANIES – ZERO EMISSION VEHICLES

ATTACHMENT E: REQUEST FOR PROGRAM DESIGN PROPOSALS  
(LIGHT-DUTY VEHICLES)

(July 31, 2020)

In order to facilitate the seamless integration of zero emission vehicles (ZEVs) and ZEV-related technologies onto Connecticut's electric grid, on October 4, 2019, the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority (Authority or PURA) established the above-cited docket to explore four solutions tracks – infrastructure, rate design, innovation, and education and outreach – in accordance with the Interim Decision dated October 2, 2019, in Docket No. 17-12-03, PURA Investigation into Distribution System Planning of the Electric Distribution Companies (Interim Decision).

The objective of the ZEV proceeding is to enable Connecticut's commitment to the ten state Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to collectively reach the deployment of 3.3 million ZEVs among the participating states by 2025.<sup>1</sup> Further, a self-sustaining ZEV market is a critical component of meeting the state's greenhouse gas (GHG) targets pursuant to the Global Warming Solutions Act.<sup>2</sup> Thus, a proactive approach to facilitate the seamless integration of new and emerging ZEV-related technologies is required to realize the potential electric system benefits of ZEVs, along with the economic, health, and environmental benefits they provide.

In accordance with the Interim Decision, the Authority hereby issues the following Request for Program Design (RFPD) proposals to optimize the deployment of electric vehicle supply equipment (EVSE) and associated distribution system infrastructure necessary to meet Connecticut's transportation electrification goals. This RFPD solicits proposals across six ZEV program areas:

- (1) Residential Level II charging at single-family units;
- (2) Residential Level II charging at multi-unit dwellings (MUDs);
- (3) Publicly accessible direct current fast charging (DCFC);
- (4) Publicly accessible Level II destination charging;

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<sup>1</sup> State Zero-Emission Vehicle Programs Memorandum of Understanding, States of California, Connecticut, Maryland, Massachusetts, New York, Oregon, Rhode Island, and Vermont, dated October 24, 2013 ([https://www.ct.gov/deep/lib/deep/air/zeroemissionvehicle\\_mou.pdf](https://www.ct.gov/deep/lib/deep/air/zeroemissionvehicle_mou.pdf)), having since been joined by the States of Maine and New Jersey to date. Connecticut's share of the ZEV MOU target is approximately 125,000 - 150,000 electric vehicles by 2025.

<sup>2</sup> Public Act No. 08-98 sets forth the requirement that Connecticut reduce GHG emissions by January 2050 to at least 80% below the 2001 level. Public Act No. 18-82, "An Act Concerning Climate Change Planning and Resiliency," added the requirement that Connecticut reduce GHG emissions by January 2030 to at least 45% below the 2001 level.

- (5) Workplace Level II charging, including Light-Duty Fleets; and
- (6) Development of a low- to moderate-income (LMI) customer electrified mobility study.

Taken together, these six program areas represent a comprehensive, portfolio approach to enabling ZEV deployment on the scale necessary to meet the state's ZEV MOU goals and GHG reduction targets.

As discussed at the ZEV Solution Days held on November 22, 2019, and December 20, 2019, in this proceeding, the electrification of medium- and heavy-duty vehicles represents opportunities for deeper decarbonization of the transportation sector. Because solutions to support the transition to electrification of the public bus fleet, as well as private medium- and heavy-duty fleets, have their own unique opportunities and challenges, the scope of this RFPD is limited to light-duty vehicles only. The Authority will address solutions tailored to the electrification of medium- and heavy-duty vehicles through a separate process in this proceeding.

## **I. SPECIFIC ZEV PROGRAM AREA GUIDELINES**

The Authority hereby solicits proposals that include EVSE infrastructure and rate design components, as applicable. The Authority invites proposals from the electric distribution companies (EDCs) and all interested stakeholders, including technology providers and other industry experts, to respond in part or in full to the ZEV program areas described in this RFPD. The Authority encourages creative and innovative program designs that leverage private sector investment and promote competition to support a growing EV market. Importantly, each proposal should indicate how the recommended program design helps ensure that Connecticut meets its commitments under the ZEV MOU by 2025 and helps to realize the potential electric system benefits of ZEVs. Proposals may also explain how the recommended program design contributes to the Governor's Council on Climate Change's reduction strategies and recommendations,<sup>3</sup> which aim to reduce harmful health and environmental effects of internal combustion engines. Scalable program designs and associated triggers are encouraged in response to this RFPD.

Similar program design elements may be applied across program areas; for example, respondents may propose that the same ownership model and outreach plan be applied to publicly accessible DCFC and Level II charging stations. Respondents may propose flexible implementation targets across program areas, provided that the proposal includes adequate justification and sufficient metrics to maintain accountability and measure program success. Where applicable, proposals should describe program roles and responsibilities (e.g., administrative activities) for all parties involved. In addition to

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<sup>3</sup> Building a Low Carbon Future for Connecticut: Achieving a 45% GHG Reduction by 2030, dated December 2018, <https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/DEEP/climatechange/publications/BuildingaLowCarbonFutureforCTGC3Recommendationspdf.pdf?la=en>.

submitting a narrative, respondents should utilize the template provided in Section II.C., ZEV Proposal Template, to help organize and streamline the review of program proposals.

#### **A. RESIDENTIAL CHARGING: SINGLE-FAMILY UNITS**

The Authority seeks proposals for a residential program with two main offerings: (1) a time-of-use (TOU) rate specifically for electric vehicle (EV) home charging, and (2) an incentive program for EV owners who purchase a networked Level II charger for home charging. A networked charger is capable of being connected to the internet, allowing users to participate in a demand response or managed charging program. Networked chargers can also be programmed or updated remotely as technology advances. Furthermore, networked chargers with integrated revenue grade sub-meters operating through a wireless connection may be paired with EV-specific TOU rates. Proposals should address how the residential program offerings complement one another, as well as how they interact with and complement other state or federal incentives, which may include financing targeted to this market, and should specify whether participation in an EV-only TOU rate should be a prerequisite to receiving a Level II charger incentive through this program.

##### **1. EV-specific TOU rate**

Proposals shall include an EV-specific TOU, or time-varying rate, with defined on-peak and off-peak charging periods. The EV-specific TOU rate may utilize existing TOU periods offered by the EDCs,<sup>4</sup> or may propose alternative on-peak and off-peak periods. In addition, a multi-tiered rate structure (e.g., on-peak, off-peak, and “super off-peak” periods) may be submitted. Where feasible, proposals should provide justification for: (1) the recommended TOU or multi-tiered rate structure based on factors such as local and regional peak times; and (2) the effectiveness of the recommended TOU or multi-tiered rate structure in shifting EV charging to off-peak charging periods. If precise data is not available to the respondent to support these justifications, then the respondent should highlight best practices from other jurisdictions in support of the proposed program design.

To minimize upfront participation costs, an EV-specific TOU rate proposal must specify an alternative(s) to requiring the EDC to install a second revenue grade meter to separately measure EV use at the customer’s premise. To assist the Authority in its review of alternatives, the EDCs should address whether any modifications to existing submetering policies and procedures, pursuant to General Statutes of Connecticut § 16-19ff (Conn. Gen. Stat.) and Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies § 16-11-236 *et seq.*, are necessary to accommodate an EV-specific TOU rate proposal that does not require the installation of a second meter on the customer’s premise.

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<sup>4</sup> The current residential TOU rate classes establish an on-peak period of weekdays from 12 p.m. – 8 p.m. Weekends, holidays, and 8 p.m. – 12 p.m. weekdays are off-peak.

## **2. Networked Charging Incentive Program**

A residential program shall also offer an incentive program for EV drivers who wish to purchase a qualified Level II charger for home charging. The incentive shall only be available for networked Level II chargers with advanced charging capabilities, as described above. The proposal should recommend the parameters used to qualify a networked Level II charger as possessing the requisite charging characteristics.

Proposals may also include a managed charging pilot program for the EDCs to obtain insights into usage patterns and test other operational functions related to grid integration. Incremental or additional incentive levels may be considered for LMI residents, provided respondents include an explanation of the incremental or additional incentive level calculation. Data sharing provisions, with appropriate customer protections in place, as well as program evaluation, timeline, and a scalability assessment will be integral components of any proposed residential managed charging pilot program. Specific requirements of such proposals are reflected in the Common Program Elements in Section II.A., EVSE Procurement Guidelines.

## **3. Other Program Designs for Residential: Single Family Units**

To complement the aforementioned residential program offerings, respondents may also propose additional passive and/or active managed charging program designs other than an EV-specific TOU rate. Additionally, the Authority encourages recommendations from all respondents on residential program designs that are inclusive of EV drivers who are single-family home renters (multi-unit dwellings are addressed separately). All proposals must provide justification for why the proposed program design(s) for a residential EV home charging program is necessary to achieve program objectives.

### **B. RESIDENTIAL CHARGING: MULTI-UNIT DWELLINGS**

The Authority seeks program proposals that increase the number of EVSEs installed at MUD sites across Connecticut, including at multi-unit rental properties and condominiums,<sup>5</sup> to enable at-home charging for more EV drivers. This program area includes situations where off-street parking is available for residential housing units, as well as curbside parking in close proximity to a MUD site where on-site opportunities do not exist. Proposals shall establish an incentive-based program for the installation of networked EVSE, and specify the corresponding ownership model(s).

The Authority recognizes MUDs present unique circumstances for EVSE installation and usage. If sited effectively, EVSEs installed at MUDs may also provide opportunities to maximize the value of EVSE investments by achieving high charger utilization rates, if charging infrastructure is shared among multiple EV drivers. Accordingly, there may be certain circumstances that warrant different incentive levels for EVSE installations at eligible MUDs. If such a structure is deemed appropriate,

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<sup>5</sup> Apartments, condominiums, and coops with shared parking are the target of this section. Condominiums with deeded parking are encouraged to direct unit owners to participate in the single-family unit EV program.

respondents should specify the circumstances that warrant a different incentive level and provide an explanation of why such an incentive structure is necessary and appropriate.

Proposals may also incorporate approaches designed to increase the number of EVSE installed at MUD sites located within LMI communities. Proposals with such an approach should indicate whether any metrics, including utilization rates, should factor into determining incentive levels and EVSE investments in these communities.

The respondents may incorporate outreach and education efforts to MUD site owners, operators, organizations, and associations to promote the benefits of EVSE installation into their program design proposals. However, program participation should ultimately be driven by applications submitted by, or on behalf of, MUD site owners or MUD residents.

### **C. PUBLICLY ACCESSIBLE CHARGING**

The Authority seeks proposals that increase the number of publicly accessible DCFC and Level II “destination” charging stations across Connecticut. Respondents must describe the proposed program design, including, but not limited to: (1) the type(s) of ownership model(s) for the installation of DCFC and Level II EVSE at publicly accessible locations, an explanation of why the proposed ownership model(s) is appropriate, and whether the ownership model(s) encourages private sector investment and competition; (2) the parameters for site selection; and (3) the parameters conducive to a consistent charging experience for EV drivers (e.g., interoperability, future-proofing, uptime, pricing transparency, multiple payment options, open communications protocols, signage, compliance with Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), and ICE-ing<sup>6</sup> infractions). Specific requirements of such proposals are discussed in Section II., Common Program Elements.

The Authority encourages recommendations from all respondents on how programs to deploy publicly accessible DCFC and Level II EVSE installations should be structured to best meet the needs of current and future EV drivers, including a description of how different charging speeds are matched to different dwelling times. The Authority also encourages respondents to discuss how proposals can enhance economic development in Connecticut, particularly in LMI communities and federally designated Opportunity Zones.<sup>7</sup>

#### **1. DCFC**

As DCFC installations require significant upfront investment, programs should aim to balance future-proofing considerations with a prudent investment approach. One way to mitigate installation costs would be to site DCFC equipment in areas of the grid that

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<sup>6</sup> The term “ICE-ing” refers to the practice of drivers parking non-EVs in spaces specifically designated for EV use.

<sup>7</sup> For more information about the federally designated Opportunity Zones in Connecticut, see [https://portal.ct.gov/DECD/Content/Community-Development/04\\_Incentives\\_LiabilityRelief/Location-Based-Incentives/Opportunity-Zones](https://portal.ct.gov/DECD/Content/Community-Development/04_Incentives_LiabilityRelief/Location-Based-Incentives/Opportunity-Zones).

could support such demand with minimal upgrades required. However, the Authority recognizes that not only is the electric grid itself dynamic, but the potential locations that may be grid-optimal for DCFC installations are unlikely to consistently align with optimal locations from an EV driver experience and utilization perspective. Thus, a large component of a responsive proposal to this program element should address this dilemma – detailing a recommended approach to minimize the overall cost associated with DCFC deployment while promoting high utilization and a positive EV driver experience. A responsive proposal should include, but is not limited to, program design elements that address: procurement strategies; criteria for optimal DCFC site selection; and specific site recommendations that may lower EVSE infrastructure costs, while considering potential EV driver patterns/needs and evolving EV technology. An effective publicly accessible DCFC program design will recognize the unique elements of siting DCFC in different applications and balance all DCFC site selection considerations, including EV driver experience.

Proposals should also specify: (1) the minimum charger station capacity of DCFCs to be installed and the type(s) of plug-in charging connectors available; and (2) recommended incentive structures and ownership model(s), which may differ based on a specified siting objective or criteria. Given the crucial role of DCFC availability in providing confidence to EV drivers – and given that charger downtime will negatively impact EV drivers' confidence – program design proposals should also include consideration of a DCFC's operations and maintenance (O&M) plan. Specific O&M requirements are discussed further in Section II., Common Program Elements.

## **2. Level II Destination Charging**

Not all publicly accessible EVSE infrastructure requires fast charging capability; there are locations where Level II “destination charging” is appropriate, such as shopping centers, tourist sites, hotels, etc. Program proposals to increase installations of publicly accessible Level II charging infrastructure shall require networked EVSE. Networked Level II EVSE provides lower maximum charging capacity than a DCFC and, therefore, may have less of an impact on the electric distribution system. Proposals for Level II destination charging infrastructure shall specify: (1) the minimum charger station capacity requirements and the types(s) of plug-in charging connectors available; and (2) recommended incentive structures and ownership model(s), which may differ based on a specified siting objective or criteria. Recommended site selection considerations may differ from the DCFC program design proposals.

Respondents may incorporate the outreach and education efforts into their program design proposals deemed necessary to promote the benefits of EVSE installation to potential site owners and operators of publicly accessible Level II EVSE. However, program participation should ultimately be driven by applications submitted by, or on behalf of, publicly accessible Level II site owners.

### **3. EVSE Demand Charge Rate Design Proposals**

The proposed program design should also address mechanisms to manage the impact of demand charges for all publicly accessible charger use cases. The Authority conditionally approved an EV Rate Rider pilot in Eversource's service territory in the decision dated March 6, 2019, Docket No. 17-10-46RE01, Application of The Connecticut Light and Power Company d/b/a Eversource Energy to Amend its Rate Schedules – EV Rate Rider (EV Rate Rider Decision). The EV Rate Rider rate calculation is based on a per-kilowatt hour equivalent to the demand charges applicable to Eversource's general service rate schedule that would otherwise apply to the load being served. EV Rate Rider Decision, p. 1. While the Authority reserves the right to assess the impact of the EV Rate Rider based on recent and future compliance filings, the Authority nonetheless seeks to consider alternative approaches in this comprehensive ZEV proceeding. A potential alternative structure, for example, could include demand charges that scale as a function of utilization rates. Such an approach may be applied to DCFC installations, as well as to any large-scale installations of Level II charging stations. The Authority does not intend to approve a program design that provides for a temporary reprieve from demand charges, or another demand charge forgiveness approach for publicly accessible charging stations.<sup>8</sup> All proposed demand charge structures should provide all underlying assumptions, including assumed hourly charging profiles used to calculate charger utilization rates.

### **4. Co-Location of Publicly Accessible EVSE with DERs**

Proposals may consider including technology combinations of other distributed energy resources (DERs) with the installation of DCFC or Level II EVSE at publicly accessible locations. If the potential for co-located DERs is included in a proposed program design, the costs and benefits of the integration should be factored into the overall cost-benefit analysis. The proposal should specify which party will have access to, or own, the energy and other attributes (e.g., renewable energy credits) of the DER in the co-located project.

#### **D. WORKPLACE CHARGING**

Expanding the availability of light-duty fleet and employee workplace charging programs (together, workplace charging) is another critical component to enabling widespread EV deployment. Program design proposals to increase installation of Level II charging stations at workplaces for light-duty fleets and employee vehicles shall utilize networked EVSE. Recognizing that public and private light-duty fleets may have unique characteristics, such as differing load profiles, from other types of employee workplace charging patterns, proposals may include specific program elements for light-duty fleet charging, including EV fleet-specific rates and/or incentive structures for light-duty fleets.

While workplace charging program design proposals may have similar elements to the MUDs and publicly accessible destination charger programs, the role of

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<sup>8</sup> If a respondent proposes a reliance on or modification to the existing EV Rate Rider for this program area, the respondent must include an explanation of how the proposal achieves the required program design element to scale demand charges as a function of utilization rates.

establishing partnerships and other program design elements may be unique to this use case. Due to long dwelling times, workplace charging presents an opportunity to implement managed charging strategies. Proposals may include the design of a managed charging strategy.

#### **E. LMI CUSTOMER ELECTRIFIED MOBILITY STUDY**

The Authority seeks to better understand the current mobility obstacles LMI residents face – as many EV drivers have limited to no access to charging solutions beyond public charging – and to determine which electrified transportation strategies are best suited to meet current and future LMI needs.

To do so, the Authority has determined that it is necessary and appropriate to supplement existing staff expertise in the above-cited proceeding and thus issues this Request for Proposals (RFP) to retain a person, person(s), or organization(s) (Consultant), pursuant to § 16-18a of the General Statutes of Connecticut (Conn. Gen. Stat.).<sup>9</sup> The total cost for the Consultant in this docket will not exceed the statutory limit of \$200,000 set forth in Conn. Gen. Stat. § 16-18a.

As such, the Authority invites proposals to conduct an electrified mobility study focused on identifying and implementing ZEV transportation solutions for LMI residents in Connecticut. The study shall examine the feasibility of various transportation electrification measures, including, but not limited to, vehicle-share services, ride-share services, EV leasing opportunities, and programs to support EDC customers' ability to utilize public charging. Respondents shall outline: (1) the specific scope and other key parameters of the study; (2) the proposed timeline and deliverables; (3) study costs; and (4) an engagement plan and schedule to receive community input. If approved, the Authority expects an electrified mobility study to develop action-oriented recommendations on how to ensure LMI communities have equitable access to ZEVs in Connecticut, and to inform future potential program designs or modifications thereto.

## **II. COMMON PROGRAM ELEMENTS**

Proposals for the six ZEV program areas outlined above, with the exception of the LMI electrified mobility study, shall address the following common program elements.

### **A. EVSE PROCUREMENT GUIDELINES**

#### **1. Ownership Model(s)**

Proposals should specify the incentives and ownership models for the EVSE, its installation, and the enabling infrastructure.<sup>10</sup> Proposals should address why a specific

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<sup>9</sup> This RFP is not a guarantee of any work, authorization to commit Consultant's resources or a commitment for future bid solicitations on this, or any other work.

<sup>10</sup> Enabling infrastructure may include a distribution primary lateral service feed, the necessary transformer and transformer pad, a new service meter, new service panel, and/or the associated conduit and conductor necessary to connect each piece of equipment.

ownership model(s) is proposed for a program area and why it is preferable. Respondents should also explain how the proposed ownership model(s) best accelerates private sector competition, increases customer choice, encourages private partnership and investment, and maximizes the potential benefits of the proposed program. Proposals may also recommend changing the prevailing ownership model(s) over time, offer multiple options for ownership, or other hybrid approaches. If a hybrid approach is recommended, the proposal should provide justification and the associated metrics for how and when to change ownership models.

As part of any ownership model(s) proposed, respondents shall indicate the entity, or entities responsible for performing ongoing O&M of EVSE and the associated electrical infrastructure. In addition, proposals should include commitments for minimizing station downtime to promote a positive EV driver experience. Where applicable, such as for workplace charging of light-duty fleet and employee vehicles, and possibly MUD situations, proposals may include a government agency ownership model.

Respondents should outline plans for how the proposed ownership model structure will coordinate with the EDCs, including, but not limited to, a description of how proposed program elements could accrue data to inform continued integration of EVSE onto the distribution system. The Authority also encourages respondents to include any recommendations for sharing such data and/or models with the EDCs for use in distribution system planning.

## **2. Future-Proofing**

Proposals for MUDs, DCFC, Level II Destination Charging and Workplace Charging may include future-proofing considerations, including electrical infrastructure to support future charging installations. Future-proofing designs may include the ability to add ports, as well as the replacement of ports to enable faster charging speeds. Proposals should address why it is appropriate to future-proof recommended components and the strategic goal of proposed future-proofing measures (e.g., to support additional plugs, higher capacity chargers, or both).

## **3. Networked Chargers with Managed Charging Capability Required**

In an effort to better understand charging behavior and anticipate technology advancements in charging infrastructure, proposals to install EVSE in the program areas outlined in this RFPD shall require networked charging capabilities. Networked chargers allow for participation in a demand response or managed charging program. Networked chargers can also be programmed or updated remotely, as technology advances. Moreover, networked chargers will enable the EDCs, or third parties, to have advanced remote load management controls to facilitate off-peak charging and other managed charging strategies. Further, networked chargers can collect interval data to inform usage patterns, and provide enhanced network communication capabilities between the EV driver and the utility, or third-party systems.

As such, respondents should provide specific criteria that can be used by a program administrator to pre-qualify EVSE models as “networked” for purposes of the

proposed program design. Respondents should also provide recommendations of specific functionalities of EVSE infrastructure or other advanced charging techniques, such as direct Original Equipment Manufacturer automobile interface, that should be utilized in current and potential future program designs, and therefore is required for EVSE to be eligible for program incentives.

#### **4. Best Practices for Site Selection and Installation**

The Authority seeks creative strategies to leverage lessons learned from ZEV infrastructure deployment programs in other jurisdictions and private sector expertise to minimize soft costs for ratepayers, such as acquisition and transaction costs. The Authority invites respondents to highlight best practices for EVSE procurement, site selection, and installation including, but not limited to, navigating issues of permitting and easements, building codes, and accessibility considerations, including compliance with the ADA. The Authority also requests that the EDCs include in their proposals a description of current or proposed company procedures or other resources that may support site selection and installation, including, but not limited to, hosting capacity maps for EV charging infrastructure, dedicated internal staff support to navigate interconnection processes, pro forma easement modifications, and alternative dispute resolution practices.

#### **5. Interoperability and Open Communications Protocols**

As the EVSE market continues to develop, ensuring interoperability and the accessibility of charging station infrastructure is critical. Program proposals should specify whether hardware and software procurement guidelines will adhere to the third-party certified Open Charge Point Protocol, the Open Charge Point Interface Protocol, and/or the Open Automated Demand Response (OpenADR); if not, explain why this criterion is not appropriate. Proposals should address why a specific protocol or standard was chosen and the associated benefits of the selection. Alternatively, respondents may elect to provide detailed justification for why the parameters outlined in Conn. Gen. Stat. §16-19ggg may be sufficient to ensure interoperability and accessibility of charging station infrastructure.

#### **6. Customer Protections**

Program proposals shall include vendor guidelines for ensuring pricing transparency for customers and specify the types of payment options to be offered at publicly accessible charging stations, complying with the requirements of Conn. Gen. Stat. § 16-19ggg(a) and (e). The Authority encourages respondents to adopt best practices on payment options, pricing transparency, and customer service support, among other provisions, as outlined in the Northeast States for Coordinated Air Use Management's Model State Grant and Procurement Contract Provisions for Public EV Charging.

#### **7. Data Privacy and Security Plan**

Proposals should include plans that address, at a minimum, the data sets required to effectuate the program design, including: (1) recommendations regarding data

ownership and/or control; (2) data custodianship; (3) the roles and responsibilities of the program administrator; (4) data flows and system touch points that identify data ownership (customer/utility); and (5) third-party access requirements. Plans should include provisions for access to the data by the Authority and other government agencies, as applicable.

Proposals should also include a recommended data privacy and cybersecurity plan that aligns with industry standards, best practices, and state and federal regulations in order to protect customer data. Plans should also include data aggregation standards (e.g., 15/15 for residential customers and 15/20 for industrial customers) and the ability and methods to pseudo-anonymize or anonymize data, as applicable.

## **B. ZEV PROGRAM DESIGN & ADMINISTRATION**

### **1. Program Objective**

Proposals for each of the six ZEV program areas should indicate how the recommended program design or study helps ensure that Connecticut meets its commitments under the ZEV MOU by 2025. Specifically, proposals, with the exception of the LMI customer electrified mobility study, should include: (1) a timeline for the program offering, including the recommended program years; (2) target deployment by year; and (3) an incentive and non-incentive budget by year. Each proposal should address how it complements the other five program areas and how, in concert, all six will help serve to meet Connecticut's ZEV MOU commitments. For example, a proposal for residential Level II charging at single-family units should, in addition to providing the target deployment of Level II charger in residential dwellings, provide justification for why the proposed target level of deployment will, in concert with the other five program areas, help to ensure that Connecticut's infrastructure is capable of supporting 125,000 to 150,000 ZEVs by 2025.<sup>11</sup> Proposals may also explain how the recommended program design is capable of supporting to ZEV deployment projections included in the Governor's Council on Climate Change's 2018 GHG reduction strategies and recommendations report.

### **2. Program Costs**

Proposals should provide a detailed breakdown of total program costs, including budgets for all incentive and non-incentive costs, participant costs, any associated charging infrastructure deployment targets, and any anticipated deployment of DERs or infrastructure related to the proposal. Respondents are encouraged to include a cost range, or specify a proposed maximum incentive level, where appropriate.

Proposals should also provide a detailed cost-benefit analysis that includes: (1) proposal cost-benefit analysis by year; (2) the net present value of such proposal over

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<sup>11</sup> The Authority recognizes that other market forces and incentives are also an integral part of meeting the ZEV MOU goal, including ZEV costs, model availability, and general economic conditions, and that the elements requested in this RFPD alone may not ensure the goal is met.

the relevant program or asset life;<sup>12</sup> and (3) an estimated payback period for ratepayers. The cost-benefit analysis should also include a sensitivity analysis showing the cost-benefit under various levels of participation and costs. Each cost and benefit category used in the cost-benefit analysis should be justified and clearly explained, including all inputs and calculation methodologies, and any other funding sources included. For programs with participants, two cost-benefit analyses should be provided, one from the perspective of all ratepayers and one from the perspective of the program participant(s). In performing the cost-benefit analysis, proposals may include societal benefits such as associated public health and environmental benefits.<sup>13</sup> In addition to the providing the cost-benefit analysis and data requested above, respondents may also include metrics such as the utility cost test, total participant cost test, ratepayer impact measure, and the total resource cost test using the data provided in response to the above requirements. Proposals should provide the cost-benefit analysis in Excel in a format similar to the below template:<sup>14</sup>

	Program Years (Determined by Respondent)		
COSTS			
<i>COSTS BY CATEGORY</i>	-\$	-\$	-\$
BENEFITS			
<i>BENEFITS BY CATEGORY</i>	+\$	+\$	+\$
NET COST-BENEFIT	\$	\$	\$
NET PRESENT VALUE (7%-2% RATE)	\$		
NET PRESENT VALUE (OTHER RATES)	\$		
<i>LIST INPUTS/ ASSUMPTIONS</i>	# / ABC		

<sup>12</sup> Respondents shall use a discount rate of seven percent and inflation rate of two percent to calculate net present value. Respondents may also provide an analysis using other discount and inflation rates, as they deem appropriate. Respondents must provide justification for any other discount and inflation rates. If the proposed technology has an asset life longer than the proposed program, respondents may use the asset life to calculate net present value.

<sup>13</sup> Non-quantifiable or hard-to-quantify benefits may also be included in any cost-benefit analysis so long as they are: (1) treated separately from quantifiable benefits; (2) clearly defined; and (3) clearly attributable to the proposal and associated technologies. Justification for the inclusion of any non-quantifiable or hard-to-quantify benefits must be provided.

<sup>14</sup> Provide the requested cost-benefit analysis in an unlocked Excel workbook with no hidden formulas or macros.

The Authority recognizes that some RFPD respondents may not have access to all of the data sets required to provide the requested detailed cost-benefit analyses to accompany their proposals. Accordingly, the Authority invites these respondents to highlight best practices from other jurisdictions on conducting cost-benefit analyses for EVSE, and to identify relevant cost and benefit categories, and associated data inputs and assumptions, to include in such analyses. Where possible and available, respondents should also provide the calculation methodology that should be used for each cost and benefit category, including justification for using such calculation methodology, and the likelihood the proposed program provides such benefit or incurs such cost.

### **3. Evaluation, Measurement, and Verification (EM&V)**

The Authority requires program proposals to include an EM&V plan that, at a minimum:

- Recommends an organization or the type of organization that should be tasked with performing program EM&V and the frequency of EM&V;
- Provides the relevant and known experience of any recommended organization or company in performance of EM&V activities and, if available, provides an approximate annual cost estimate for performing EM&V;
- Proposes metrics to determine program success;
- Proposes reporting requirements and reporting frequency to PURA, including timing of such reports (e.g., monthly, quarterly, annually, etc.);
- Recommends a process by which changes to the program may be adopted based on such metrics and results; and
- Proposes how program performance data will be collected, including installed cost and any incentive payment data, and disclosed to PURA.
- a response is not already provided;

Data collection and periodic reporting will enable the Authority and all interested stakeholders to track implementation efforts, highlight areas where adjustments may be required, and leverage lessons learned for the future. The Authority may consider a program design that unlocks additional incentives or additional EVSE deployment targets if certain specified metrics or program milestones are achieved.

### **4. Outreach and Education**

Raising awareness of the availability of ZEV charging station programs and engaging residents, site owners and operators, third-party vendors, and other stakeholder groups is critical to program success. Program design proposals should include an outreach and education plan, metrics, and an associated budget. Successful ZEV infrastructure deployments will seek to proactively develop partnerships to assist in implementation and outreach. The Authority encourages respondents to identify potential partners and collaborative approaches to support program objectives.

## 5. Equitable Access to Charging Infrastructure

Proposals shall consider program designs that seek to deploy EVSE infrastructure throughout Connecticut, and not concentrated solely in communities with higher penetrations of EV drivers today. The Authority may consider whether an incentive “adder” approach may be warranted to encourage charging station buildout across a diverse range of communities to support future EV driver needs. In addition, the LMI customer electrified mobility study proposal should include recommendations on how LMI residents in Connecticut could be best served by various ZEV deployment measures.

### C. ZEV PROPOSAL SUMMARY TEMPLATE

The Authority instructs respondents to one or more program areas in the ZEV RFPD to use the below summary template, in addition to the submission of a narrative proposal and any supporting data analysis to describe their proposal(s).

[Program Area] Program Design Proposal	
Program Offering	
Brief Description	
Program Objective	
Ownership Model(s)	
EVSE Procurement Guidelines	
Technology Eligibility Criteria	
Participant Eligibility Criteria	
Target Deployment (# of sites / # of ports enabled)	
Program Costs	
<i>Incentive Budget</i>	
<i>Non-Incentive Budget</i>	
Total Program Costs	
Participant Cost	
Outreach and Education Plan	
Evaluation, Measurement & Verification Plan	
<i>Evaluation Metrics</i>	
<i>Reporting Requirements &amp; Frequency</i>	
<i>Scalability Plan</i>	
Timeline of initial program offering	
Equitable Access Guidelines	
Other (if applicable)	

### III. PROGRAM DESIGN PROPOSALS SUBMISSION

All docket Participants and interested stakeholders are requested to file proposals in response to this RFPD, as outlined above, by **12:00 p.m. on Friday, July 31, 2020**. Documents must be filed with the Executive Secretary of the Authority in both electronic and paper form. The date and time of filing shall be the date and time the Authority first receives a complete electronic version or the paper version and the required number of paper copies. No submission shall be filed after expiration of the time for its filing unless the filer demonstrates good cause for its untimeliness in a separate motion captioned "good cause for late filing." Untimely submissions may be stricken by the Authority *sua sponte* from the docket. If a complete electronic version of the filing is submitted through the Authority's Web Filing System, only one paper version of the filing is generally required. (For exceptionally voluminous or complex filings, the Authority reserves the right to request additional paper copies.) If a complete electronic version of the filing is not web filed, submit an original and one copy.

Dated at New Britain, Connecticut, this 6<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2020.

PUBLIC UTILITIES REGULATORY AUTHORITY

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeffrey R. Gaudiosi". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a prominent initial "J" and "G".

Jeffrey R. Gaudiosi, Esq.  
Executive Secretary

(GBC)

Notice filed with the Secretary of the State on May 6, 2020.



# STATE OF CONNECTICUT

## PUBLIC UTILITIES REGULATORY AUTHORITY

DOCKET NO. 17-12-03RE05

PURA INVESTIGATION INTO DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM PLANNING OF THE  
ELECTRIC DISTRIBUTION COMPANIES – INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGY  
APPLICATIONS AND PROGRAMS (INNOVATION PILOTS)

ATTACHMENT F: REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS TO RETAIN A CONSULTANT  
(June 1, 2020)

On October 4, 2019, the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority (Authority or PURA) established the above-cited reopened proceeding to investigate the topic of Innovative Technology Applications and Programs (Innovation Pilots) in Connecticut, in accordance with the Interim Decision dated October 2, 2019, in Docket No. 17-12-03, PURA Investigation into Distribution System Planning of the Electric Distribution Companies. On October 8, 2019, the Authority issued a Notice of Proceeding indicating that PURA's investigation would seek to identify a prospective structure that can support the ongoing development of innovative technology applications and programs that have the potential to provide net positive benefits to all electric customers. The Authority also indicated that such investigation would lean on lessons-learned through the implementation of the Connecticut Electric Efficiency Partners (EEP) Program,<sup>1</sup> which could serve as the basis of a regulatory sandbox; a safe, but monitored, place to test new ideas and validate their benefits in the real world. The Authority held a Solutions Day in the above-cited proceeding on December 13, 2019.

To evaluate and expand upon the concepts and approaches identified during the process to date, the Authority has determined that it is necessary and appropriate to supplement existing staff expertise in the above-cited proceeding and thus issues this Requests for Proposals (RFP) to retain a person, person(s), or organization(s) (Consultant), pursuant to § 16-18a of the General Statutes of Connecticut (Conn. Gen. Stat.).<sup>2</sup> The total cost for the Consultant in this docket will not exceed the statutory limit of \$200,000 set forth in Conn. Gen. Stat. § 16-18a.

### I. CONSULTANT QUALIFICATIONS

The Authority is seeking a Consultant with expertise in and experience with: (1) electric utility regulatory sandboxes; (2) state-level programs for fostering electric sector innovation; (3) the development and design of state-level programs and processes, including metrics for determining program success and strategies for evaluating prospective innovative technology applications; and (4) state public utility commissions.

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<sup>1</sup> Electric Efficiency Partners (EEP) Programs, Public Utilities Regulatory Authority, [https://www.ct.gov/pura/cwp/view.asp?a=3355&q=417158&puraNav\\_GID=1702](https://www.ct.gov/pura/cwp/view.asp?a=3355&q=417158&puraNav_GID=1702).

<sup>2</sup> This RFP is not a guarantee of any work, authorization to commit Consultant's resources or a commitment for future bid solicitations on this, or any other work.

The Consultant should also have a proven track record of working with and applying consistent cost methodologies across various end uses and programmatic activities that considers all programs and technologies on a comparable basis.

Proposals provided in response to this RFP should clearly demonstrate the Consultant's expertise and experience in the five areas identified above. Additionally, proposals should include: (1) a list of experts to be utilized by the Consultant during such engagement with PURA, including the resumes of such experts included as appendices as appropriate; (2) other resources the Consultant will bring to the engagement; and (3) a list of clients for whom the Consultant has performed similar services. In response to the requirements outlined in this section, proposals should follow the numbering provided in the table in Section IV., Proposal Requirements and Template.

## **II. CONSULTANT RESPONSIBILITIES**

The Consultant will be treated as an extension of Authority staff for functional purposes. The Consultant will assist in developing a structure that can support the ongoing development and deployment of all forms of innovative technology applications and programs in Connecticut by leveraging lessons learned from Connecticut's EEP Program, as well as from electric utility regulatory sandboxes and programs in other jurisdictions designed to foster electric sector innovation.

The Authority anticipates that such engagement will involve, but may not be limited to: re-evaluating Connecticut's EEP program and proposing legislative changes, as necessary; reviewing regulatory sandboxes and programs, including alternative cost recovery mechanisms, that support the development of innovative technology applications in other jurisdictions; developing requests for written comments and interrogatories to solicit information and feedback from stakeholders; recommending and developing a structure to support the ongoing development of innovative technology applications in Connecticut based on existing statutory authority and best practices for innovative programs established in Connecticut and other jurisdictions; incorporating such recommended structure into the Authority's straw proposal and otherwise assisting in the development of said straw proposal; participating in any Technical Meetings or Public Hearings held in the above-cited proceeding; and assisting in the development of the Decision in the above-cited proceeding, as appropriate.<sup>3</sup>

Proposals should include a draft Scope of Work (SOW) based on the information provided in this section. Any SOW should include itemized estimates of costs and fees, and may include multiple estimates based on various levels of Consultant engagement. Such itemized estimates should follow the budget and timeline provided in Sections III.D. and III.E., respectively.

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<sup>3</sup> The Authority reserves the right to extend the Consultant past the issuance of the Decision in the above-cited proceeding. The Authority will publicly notice such an extension, explaining the duration and necessity of the extension.

### III. ADDITIONAL CONSULTANT INFORMATION AND REQUIREMENTS

#### A. COMPANY PROFILE

Proposals shall include, at a minimum, the following information regarding the prospective Consultant:

		( ) -
Primary Business Name	FEIN	Telephone Number
	,	
Business Address	TOWN, STATE	Zip Code

**Contact Person** (*Individual who can provide additional information about the proposal or who has immediate responsibility for the proposal*):

		( ) -
Name	Title	Telephone Number
	,	
Street Address	TOWN, STATE	Zip Code
		( ) -
E-mail Address		Facsimile Number

**Authorized Official** (*Individual empowered to enter into and amend contractual instruments in the name and on behalf of the Consultant*):

		( ) -
Name	Title	Telephone Number
	,	
Street Address	TOWN, STATE	Zip Code
		( ) -
E-mail Address		Facsimile Number

#### B. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This section should include a brief but comprehensive summary of how your proposal addresses the requirements contained within this RFP, along with associated costs, fees and estimated deliverable dates.

### **C. CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

The Consultant must be an independent third-party and disclose, as part of the RFP response, any outside interests, commitments, or other potential conflicts of interest. Consultants already engaged on behalf of docket Participants or other parties with a financial interest in this proceeding are ineligible for consideration under this RFP.

### **D. BUDGET**

The total Consultant budget for this docket is \$200,000. Prospective Consultants are responsible for all costs incurred in developing this proposal and shall not count such costs towards the Consultant budget.

### **E. TIMELINE**

The Authority expects to engage the Consultant through at least the conclusion of quarter 1 in 2021; however, deliverables contributing to the initial development of the Authority's straw proposal in this docket should be targeted for completion by October 1, 2020.

## **IV. PROPOSAL REQUIREMENTS AND TEMPLATE**

Proposals should include the information provided in the table below, in the order listed and using the guidance provided in the associated section of this RFP. Proposals may include the information directly in the template or provide a separate document containing the requested information in the required order. Any additional information believed to be necessary should be included as appendices to the proposal. These appendices should be appropriately labeled and referenced in the body of the response.

Consultant Proposal	
III.A. Company Profile	
III.B. Executive Summary	
III.C. Conflict of Interest Disclosure	
I. Consultant Qualifications	
<i>I.A.1. a list of experts to be utilized by the Consultant during such engagement with PURA (include resumes as appendices as appropriate);</i>	
<i>I.A.2. other resources the Consultant will bring to the engagement; and</i>	
<i>I.A.3. a list of clients for whom the Consultant has performed similar services.</i>	
Demonstrate expertise in and experience with:	
<i>I.B.1. electric utility regulatory sandboxes;</i>	
<i>I.B.2. state-level programs for fostering electric sector innovation;</i>	
<i>I.B.3. the development and design of state-level programs and processes, including metrics for determining program success and strategies for evaluating prospective innovative technology applications;</i>	
<i>I.B.4. state public utility commissions; and</i>	
<i>I.B.5. applying consistent cost methodologies across various end uses and programmatic activities.</i>	
II. Consultant Responsibilities	
Draft Scope of Work based on Section II., including itemized estimate(s) of costs/fees	

## V. PROPOSAL SUBMISSION

Prospective Consultants are requested to file proposals in response to this RFP, as directed above, by **12:00 p.m. on Monday, June 1, 2020**. Documents must be filed with the Executive Secretary of the Authority in both electronic and paper form. The date and time of filing shall be the date and time the Authority first receives a complete electronic version or the paper version and the required number of paper copies. No submission shall be filed after expiration of the time for its filing unless the filer demonstrates good cause for its untimeliness in a separate motion captioned "good cause for late filing." Untimely submissions may be stricken by the Authority *sua sponte* from the docket. If a complete electronic version of the filing is submitted through the Authority's Web Filing System, **three (3)** paper versions of the filing are required. (For exceptionally voluminous or complex filings, the Authority reserves the right to request additional paper copies.) If a complete electronic version of the filing is not web filed, submit an original and three copies.

Prospective Consultants may contact the case coordinator assigned to the above-cited proceeding, Laura Lupoli, at [laura.lupoli@ct.gov](mailto:laura.lupoli@ct.gov) with any procedural questions through 4:00PM on Friday, May 15, 2020. All questions and responses received through the aforementioned date and time will be posted to the Authority's docket for the benefit of all Prospective Consultants.

Dated at New Britain, Connecticut, this 6<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2020.

PUBLIC UTILITIES REGULATORY AUTHORITY



Jeffrey R. Gaudiosi, Esq.  
Executive Secretary

(GBC)

Notice filed with the Secretary of the State on May 6, 2020.



# STATE OF CONNECTICUT

## PUBLIC UTILITIES REGULATORY AUTHORITY

DOCKET NO. 17-12-03RE06

PURA INVESTIGATION INTO DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM PLANNING OF THE  
ELECTRIC DISTRIBUTION COMPANIES – INTERCONNECTION STANDARDS AND  
PRACTICES

### ATTACHMENT G: REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (September 16, 2020)

On October 4, 2019, the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority (Authority or PURA) established the above-cited reopened proceeding to investigate the interconnection standards and practices of the electric distribution companies (EDCs), in accordance with the Interim Decision dated October 2, 2019, in Docket No. 17-12-03, PURA Investigation into Distribution System Planning of the Electric Distribution Companies (Interim Decision). Based on the record developed in the docket to date, the Authority hereby issues the following Request for Proposals (RFPs) for various topics to achieve the goals related to the interconnection of distributed energy resources (DERs) established in the Interim Decision, namely to:

- Improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the EDCs' current interconnection standards, processes, and procedures;
- Decrease the costs of the EDCs' interconnection process for the EDCs, developers, and all customers; and
- Ensure interconnection standards and practices facilitate the deployment of DERs and the productive integration of technologies, such as Zero Emission Vehicles and electric storage applications.

In the course of the initial investigation, through Written Comments, docket correspondence, and the Solutions Days held on November 21, 2019, and December 10, 2019, the Authority has identified the following additional goals:<sup>1</sup>

- Adoption of best practices and standards to allow greater integration of DERs safely and reliably;
- Increased regional coordination and consistency in setting distribution interconnection guidelines and standards; and
- Resolving emerging issues related to the ISO-NE transmission interconnection process (e.g., number of studies required in process and jurisdictional issues).

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<sup>1</sup> Stakeholders suggested additional goals that the Authority may address at a later date or through any working group process that is established in Docket No. 17-12-03RE06.

Based on the robust dialogue among attendees at the Solutions Days, the Authority is confident that a collaborative working group process is the most productive way to address the objectives outlined above. Further, based on the Written Comments from SolarConnecticut dated April 21, 2020, the Authority sees value in establishing a “100-Day Sprint” (Sprint) to accelerate the identification and evaluation of existing working groups and best practices already in place across the country.

Accordingly, the Authority establishes two tracks: (Track 1) a 100-Day Sprint to identify existing working group best practices and to recommend certain items for immediate consideration by the Authority; and (Track 2) a Request for Proposals process that builds on the working group report of Track 1. Track 1 will culminate in a Sprint report due to the Authority no later than August 19, 2020. Track 2 seeks additional stakeholder input, as outlined in Section II., Track 2: Request for Proposals, by September 16, 2020. After the conclusion of Track 2, the Authority will review all stakeholder proposals and comments, as well as the Track 1 Sprint report, to develop an initial straw proposal in this docket. The Authority plans to issue its initial straw proposal on or around the end of the third quarter of 2020, but before the conclusion of 2020, at the latest.

## **I. TRACK 1: 100-DAY SPRINT TO CONSULT EXISTING WORKING GROUPS AND IDENTIFY BEST PRACTICES**

**Objective:** The Track 1 Sprint establishes a working group to perform an initial investigation on an expedited timeline. The working group is tasked with interviewing existing state and national interconnection working groups and committees to investigate how their groups came together, how they work best, how they create and realize short- and long-term goals, what topics have produced the most benefits to ratepayers, and what policy or regulatory best practices might be considered for fast-track adoption.

**Members:** The working group is comprised of the following participants, at a minimum:

- 4 members from various DER developers;
- 2 members from each EDC (4 in total);
- 2 members from the PURA prosecutorial staff;
- 2 members from the Office of Consumer Counsel;
- 1 member from the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection; and
- 1 member from the Connecticut Industrial Energy Consumers.

Pursuant to § 16-19jj of the General Statutes of Connecticut, prosecutorial staff of the Authority (PRO) will be appointed to serve as facilitators of the Sprint, provided in a subsequent Notice. Each stakeholder group identified above should select their working group participant(s) and notify PRO of the selected participants before the commencement of the Sprint. Other stakeholders may participate in the working group at the discretion of PRO; however, at a minimum, all working group meetings will be publicly noticed through the docket and each meeting will include a period designated for public comment.

**Assignment:** At a minimum, the working group will endeavor to consult with the following existing groups to seek information:

- Massachusetts Technical Standards Review Group (TSRG)
- California Smart Inverter Working Group (SIWG)
- New York Interconnection Working Group (IWG)
- National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL)
- Interstate Renewable Energy Council (IREC)

After consulting with other working groups, the Sprint working group participants shall discuss and recommend material responsive to the questions outlined in Track 2 of this RFP.

**Final Product:** The working group is directed to issue a report at the conclusion of the Sprint. The designated PRO will author the report based on the working group discussions and information presented to the Sprint participants. While the designated PRO staff will be encouraged to seek consensus on recommendations whenever possible, the Authority notes that consensus is not a prerequisite for the forthcoming report. Nonetheless, each working group member must affirm that their perspective is accurately captured in the filed report. All stakeholders, including other members of the working group, will be afforded the opportunity to comment on the report in the docket through Track 2, as explained below.

**Timeline:** The Track 1 Sprint will commence on **May 11, 2020** and conclude in 100 days (i.e., on August 19, 2020). The Authority's prosecutorial staff will develop a schedule and coordinate meeting dates, times, and locations with the working group members identified herein. The report shall be submitted in this proceeding on or before **August 19, 2020**.

## **II. TRACK 2: REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS – INTERCONNECTION STANDING WORKING GROUP(S), POLICIES AND GUIDELINES**

The Authority hereby requests proposals from all interested stakeholders to develop a standing interconnection working group(s), whereby all the interconnection issues and objectives identified herein may be addressed expediently and with active stakeholder engagement on a prospective basis. Additionally, the Authority requests proposals to address certain other policy considerations identified below, as well as potential revisions to the state's current Interconnection Guidelines, Technical Requirements and Interconnection Agreements. Stakeholders are encouraged to consider the information contained in the forthcoming Track 1 Sprint report, due to the Authority on August 19, 2020, as the foundation for any proposal submitted in response to Track 2. Specifically, responses to Track 2 should articulate the basis for differentiation from the Track 1 Sprint report, if applicable. Proposals should address the following items as outlined in Sections A. – E. below:

### **A. STANDING WORKING GROUP(S) STRUCTURE**

- A standing working group(s) proposal which should include, to the extent possible:

- The number and type of working groups (e.g., policy working group, technical working group, etc.) that are best suited to address the identified goals;
- Recommendations for working group members;
- Recommendations for meeting frequency;
- The overall structure of the working group(s), up to and including a set of working group by-laws;
- How the recommendations of the working group(s) may be most efficiently incorporated into (or replace entirely) the existing statewide Interconnection Guidelines and Agreements and its underlying process;<sup>2</sup> and
- Other relevant issues.

**B. INTERCONNECTION POLICIES: DISPUTE RESOLUTION**

- A process proposal to improve upon or formalize an alternative dispute resolution procedure for disputes arising between DER developers, customers, and/or the EDCs, related to matters of distribution system interconnection;
  - E.g., Recommendations on the use of an ombudsman, reporting structure, and the funding source.

**C. INTERCONNECTION POLICIES: COST ALLOCATION AND COST SHARING METHODOLOGIES**

- A proposal regarding interconnection cost allocation and cost sharing methodologies for distribution system upgrades;
  - E.g., Recommendations that utilize interconnection queues or other means of assigning system costs across multiple DER systems.

**D. INTERCONNECTION GUIDELINES, TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS AND INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENTS**

- A proposal that modifies the current Guidelines, Technical Requirements and Interconnection Agreements pursuant to industry best practices;
  - To the extent possible, proposals should:
    - Be provided as redlines to current materials;
    - Indicate whether the changes are likely to garner consensus or the majority of stakeholder support; and
    - Reflect industry best practices.

**E. ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY, METHODS, AND DATA ANALYTICS**

- A proposal recommending advanced technology, methods, and data analytics that can assist in achieving the objectives described herein.

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<sup>2</sup> The first common statewide Interconnection Guidelines and Agreements were approved by the Authority in Decision dated April 21, 2004 in Docket No. 03-01-15RE04, DPUC Investigation into the Need for Interconnection Standards for Distributed Generation. The current Interconnection Guidelines and Agreements were approved most recently in Decision dated March 6, 2018 in Docket No. 03-01-15RE04, DPUC Investigation into the Need for Interconnection Standards for Distributed Generation – Voltage Variations.

### III. PROPOSAL SUBMISSION

All docket Participants and interested stakeholders are requested to file proposals in response to Track 2 of this RFP, as outlined above, by **12:00 p.m. on Wednesday, September 16, 2020.** Documents must be filed with the Executive Secretary of the Authority in both electronic and paper form. The date and time of filing shall be the date and time the Authority first receives a complete electronic version or the paper version and the required number of paper copies. No submission shall be filed after expiration of the time for its filing unless the filer demonstrates good cause for its untimeliness in a separate motion captioned "good cause for late filing." Untimely submissions may be stricken by the Authority *sua sponte* from the docket. If a complete electronic version of the filing is submitted through the Authority's Web Filing System, only one paper version of the filing is generally required. (For exceptionally voluminous or complex filings, the Authority reserves the right to request additional paper copies.) If a complete electronic version of the filing is not web filed, submit an original and one copy.

Dated at New Britain, Connecticut, this 6<sup>th</sup> day of May 2020.

PUBLIC UTILITIES REGULATORY AUTHORITY

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeffrey R. Gaudiosi".

Jeffrey R. Gaudiosi, Esq.  
Executive Secretary

(GBC)

Notice filed with the Secretary of the State on May 6, 2020.