



Phase 1

Progress Report

Prepared by DEEP's Bureau of Energy and Technology Policy

SUMMER 2021

Equitable
Energy
Efficiency



Phase 1

About the Progress Report

Prepared by DEEP's Bureau of Energy and Technology Policy

How do I follow along?

Accountability is critical to equity work. DEEP plans to issue updated progress reports quarterly to ensure consistent inventory of progress on the Goals of the Equitable Energy Efficiency (E3) Proceeding. Detailed descriptions of these Goals and associated Actions and progress to date can be found here.

This Progress Report summarizes the current status of the Goals and Actions. Each Action contains a color coded tracker for progress and a green bullet indication of what each Action will look like when complete.

What can I expect in future progress reports?

Future Progress Reports will provide short updates regarding (1) specific progress for each action item and (2) interim steps on the horizon. DEEP plans to issue regular Progress Reports like this one throughout the E3 Proceeding.

Goal 1: Embed greater equity in decision-making

1.1 | Action

Direct the EEB to develop a plan to hire a Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Consultant.

● DEI Consultant hired.

Not Started In Progress Complete



1.2 | Action

Solicit nominations for board membership in a more inclusive manner to increase board diversity.

● All Board vacancies are filled using the new process.

Not Started In Progress Complete



Goal 2: Enhance tracking of equity indicators in C&LM programs

2.1 | Action

Work with the utilities to assess - retrospectively and moving forward - the extent to which communities are served by energy efficiency programs.

● Data is available and public.

Not Started In Progress Complete



2.2 | Action

Update the Equitable Distribution Report to make equity data accessible to a wider audience.

● The Equitable Distribution Reports for 2019 and 2020 are complete and a process is in place for future reports.

Not Started In Progress Complete



Goal 3: Develop metrics and goals to assess equitable distribution of energy efficiency funding

3.1 | Action

Broaden the current MPP metric to potentially cover medical and financial hardship customers, and include more ambitious targets to scale up the percentage of participating customers on an annual basis.

● *The secondary equity metric has been modified.*

Not Started In Progress Complete



3.2 | Action

Establish a baseline E3b level for Eversource and United Illuminating based on the most recent available data and establish a goal of at least maintaining the E3b figures for each utility on an annual basis.

● *The E3b metric is tracked and reported in annual Equitable Distribution Reports.*

Not Started In Progress Complete



3.3 | Action

Based on the analysis of equity indicators described in Goal 2, and in consultation with the DEI Consultant, DEEP may recommend the development of new equity metrics

● *Analysis described in Goal 2 is complete and new equity metrics are developed.*

Not Started In Progress Complete



Goal 4: Improve program participation and impacts among moderate-income customers

4.1 | Action

Develop a definition of "moderate income"

● Final definition is released.

Not Started



In Progress



Complete



4.2 | Action

Assess moderate income program participation using the agreed-upon definition.

● An assessment of moderate income participation is included in the annual Equitable Distribution Report.

Not Started



In Progress



Complete



Goal 5: Streamline the eligibility process for low-income programs

5.1 | Action

Streamline eligibility based on participation in other state assistance programs through multi-lateral data-sharing across multiple state agencies and departments

● Data -sharing arrangements between departments are finalized and new eligibility criteria are created.

Not Started



In Progress



Complete



5.2 | Action

Hold a series of workshops with adequate representation to explore additional avenues for streamlining eligibility

● *At least two workshops have been held.*

Not Started In Progress Complete



5.3 | Action

Develop a tool with strong consumer protections that allows vendors to easily identify eligible customers by address to support verification and marketing activities.

● *Tool is developed and in use.*

Not Started In Progress Complete



Goal 6: Improve outreach to high-need or high-impact populations

6.1 | Action

Develop community engagement practices that align with the goals outlined in this Proceeding and the C&LM Plan.

● *Community engagement practices are in place and serving the communities identified as underserved in this Proceeding.*

Not Started In Progress Complete



6.2 | Action

Develop a checklist to ensure that opportunities for public participation are widely shared and accessible to a diverse group of stakeholders.

● *Checklist is complete and released.*

Not Started In Progress Complete



Goal 7: Address health and safety barriers to low-income weatherization access

7.1 | Action

Work with the Connecticut Green Bank to explore improved financing options for HES and HES-IE customers to access interest-free financing for health and safety barrier mitigation.

● Improved financing options are available.

Not Started



In Progress



Complete



7.2 | Action

Develop a DEEP-administered program with supplemental funding sources to remediate health and safety barriers to weatherization in low-income homes.

● Program has resolved barriers in 50 homes.

Not Started



In Progress



Complete



Goal 8: Address and remove barriers to participation among renters

8.1 | Action

Engage with both landlords and renters on the benefits of HES and HES-IE and teach them how to participate in the programs.

● Engagement practices specifically for renters and landlords are developed and implemented.

Not Started



In Progress



Complete



8.2 | Action

Not Started

In Progress

Complete

Leverage existing incentives with federal funding and other funding sources as approved to provide a comprehensive approach to energy retrofits for affordable housing.



● 50 homes have been served by Energy Retrofit program.

8.3 | Action

Not Started

In Progress

Complete

Maintain the landlord agreement in the interim as the utilities gather data on rental units that do not proceed due to lack of landlord approval.



● Landlord agreement has been reassessed based on data from the utilities.

