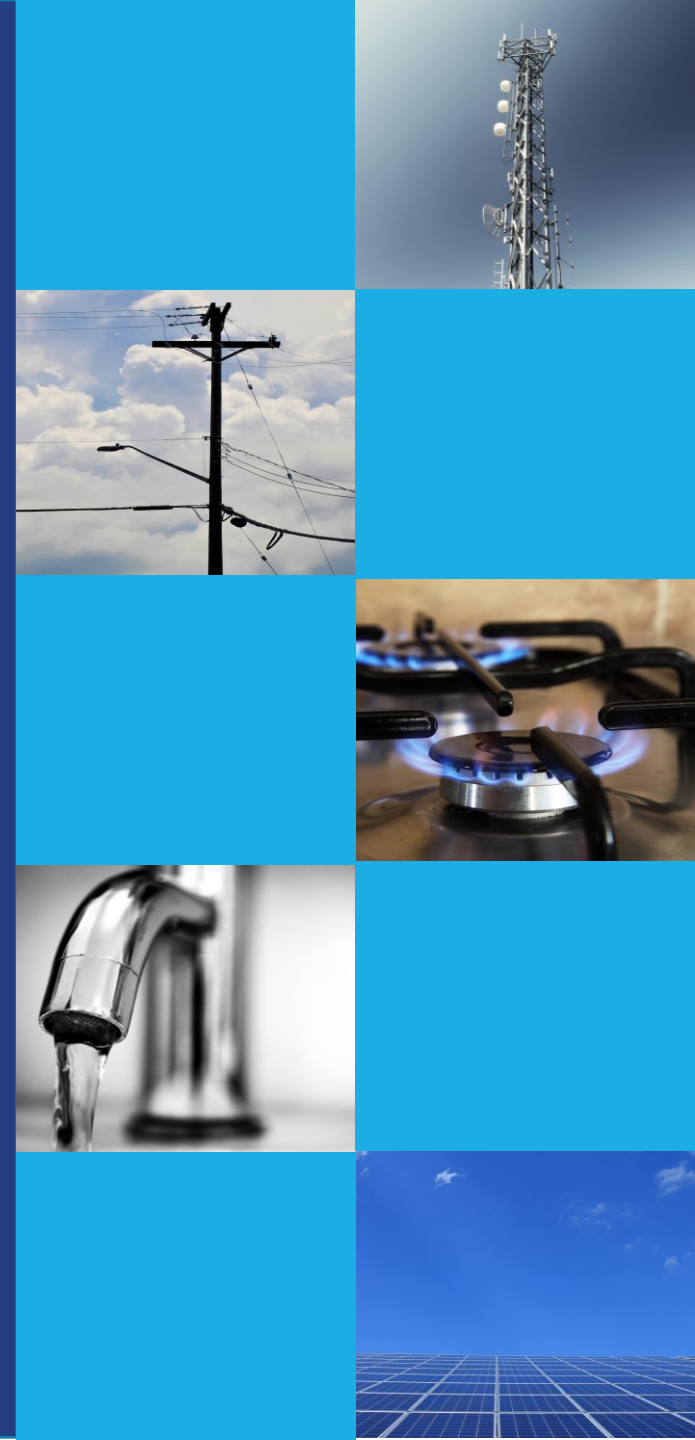# 100-Day Sprint Kickoff Meeting

October 3, 2024

Agenda

- **11:00 – 11:05**
  - **Welcome and Introductions**

- **11:05 – 11:15**
  - **Procedural Order Overview**

- **11:15 – 11:25**
  - **Process and Expectations**

- **11:25 – 11:35**
  - **Interconnection Working Group Voting Bylaws**

- **11:35 – 11:45**
  - **Interconnection Working Group Sprint Topics**

- **11:45 - 12:30**
  - **Stakeholder Discussion and Q&A**

Introductions of PURA Decisional Staff

Brandon Cavanagh

- Associate Research Analyst
- Joined PURA in June 2024.
- Lead Staff on NRES and SCEF dockets.

Max Melnick

- Clean Energy Innovation Fellow
- Joined PURA in August 2024.
- Support Staff on NWS dockets.

Christopher Arpin

- Rate Specialist
- Joined PURA in August 2022.
- Lead Staff on ESS dockets.

"TO ACCELERATE SAFE, RELIABLE AND ECONOMICAL INTERCONNECTIONS OF DISTRIBUTED ENERGY RESOURCES IN CONNECTICUT, THROUGH A TRANSPARENT AND INFORMAL PUBLIC FORUM WHERE TECHNICAL AND POLICY STAKEHOLDERS OPENLY SHARE THEIR EXPERIENCE, KNOWLEDGE AND CHALLENGES, ON COMMON GROUND, WHERE SOLUTIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS TO POLICY MAKERS STRIVE FOR CONSENSUS, SO THAT RENEWABLE ENERGY IN CONNECTICUT CAN FLOURISH, WHILE LEADING THE NATION THROUGH AN EXAMPLE OF MUTUAL RESPECT AND COLLABORATION."

INTERCONNECTION POLICY WORKING GROUP GOVERNANCE

Procedural Order

Procedural Order

- "Rather than address [interconnection] issues on a case-by-case basis … the Authority directs the remaining interconnection issues to … the Interconnection Working Group."

- "The 100-day sprint will be led by members of the Authority's Decisional Staff [who] will draft the Interconnection Report based on the discussions and evidence from the Interconnection Working Group."

- "Consensus recommendations shall follow the process outlined in the Interconnection Policy Working Group's governance."

- "[E]ach working group member must ensure their views are accurately reflected in the final report."

Procedural Order

- "This group is tasked with finding solutions for current and future interconnection issues, including but not limited to:
  1. delays in EDC-led interconnection approval processes;
  2. ambiguities in interconnection guidelines2 and approval timelines;
  3. insufficient hosting capacity for new distributed energy resources;
  4. communication breakdowns between project developers and the EDCs;
  5. slow response times from the EDCs to developer inquiries;
  6. inconsistencies in interconnection guidance or approvals among EDC departments; and
  7. the potential need for a pre-submission checklist to inform developers of interconnection requirements before application submission"

Process and Expectations

Process and Expectations

- **Decisional staff**:
  - Facilitate and steer sprint discussions to reach consensus on the issues outlined in the procedural order.
  - Distribute guiding questions and agendas to the working group **at least 48 hours** before the next meeting.
  - Compile and submit the final Sprint Report to PURA.

- **Working group members**:
  - **Engagement**: Come prepared to actively participate in sprint meetings, contributing to discussions and offering suggested policy solutions supported by relevant data.
  - **Presentations**: If time allows, members may present on a meeting topic. Presenters must notify decisional staff of their presentation length and provide any slide decks (if applicable) **at least 72 hours** prior to the meeting.

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Process and Expectations cont.

- **Maintain Respect**: Focus on issues, not individuals. Avoid blaming any parties or groups for interconnection problems, and refrain from interrupting speakers.

- **Use the Raise Hand Function**: Please use the raise hand feature to indicate your desire to speak, and introduce yourself along with your affiliation before contributing.

- **Encourage Equal Participation**: Be mindful not to dominate conversations; allow everyone the opportunity to share their thoughts and responses.

Process and Expectations cont.

- **General Format of Sprint Meetings**:
  - **Overview**: PURA staff will introduce the problem to be discussed and outline the goals of the meeting.
  - **Moderated Discussion**: Stakeholders will engage in a discussion moderated by PURA staff, including stakeholder questions, presentations, feedback, and proposed solutions to address the identified problem.
  - **Voting**: We will conduct a vote to adopt any proposed solutions that emerge from the discussion.
  - **Conclusion:** PURA staff will wrap up the meeting.

- **Focused Discussion:** To ensure we stay on track, discussions will be limited to the topic introduced at the beginning of the meeting.

Voting

Voting Process

- To determine when consensus solutions should be included in the Sprint Report, we will utilize the voting process outlined in the Policy Working Group's [governance document](#).

- **Voting Members Per Governance Document:**
  - EDCS – 2 votes
  - Developers – 2 votes
  - CIEC – 1 vote
  - OCC – 1 vote
  - DEEP BETP – 1 vote

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Voting Process cont.

- **Proposal of Votes**: Any voting member can propose a vote on a specific policy proposal or idea near the end of a meeting.

- **Consensus Requirement**: For a solution to be considered a consensus solution for the report, it must receive unanimous agreement from all voting members.

- **Member Responsibilities**: Voting representatives are encouraged to explain any objections or concerns during the meeting.

- **Absence Policy**: A voting member's absence from a meeting will be regarded as consent to the decisions made.

Voting Members

- **EDC-Eversource** voting reps:

  Primary: Carl Nowiszewski, Carl.Nowiszewski@eversource.com

  Alternates: Brian Rice, Brian.Rice@eversource.com; Joseph Debs, Joseph.Debs@eversource.com

- **EDC-United Illuminating** voting reps:

  Primary: Joseph Marranca, Joseph.Marranca@uinet.com

  Alternate: Cornelius Stevenson, Cornelius.Stevenson@uinet.com

- **CIEC** voting reps:

  Primary: Amanda De Vito Trinsey, adevito@couchwhite.com

  Alternate: Jay Goodman, jgoodman@couchwhite.com

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Voting Members cont.

- **OCC** voting reps:

  Primary: James "Jamie" Talbert-Slagle, James.Talbert-Slagle@ct.gov

  Alternate: John "J.R." Viglione, John.Viglione@ct.gov

- **DEEP BETP** voting reps: Waived voting rights

- **Developer** voting reps:
  Primary: SEIA, Valessa Souter-Kline, vsouterkline@seia.org
  Primary: ConnSSA, Michael Trahan, miket@connssa.org
  Alternate: SHR Energy, Noel Lafayette, nlafayette@shrenergy.com

Meeting Topics

Meeting Topics and Dates

Meeting 1: Shorten Interconnection Approval Timelines.

Date and Time: 10/8 1:30 PM – 3:30 PM.

Meeting 2: Address Ambiguities in Interconnection Approval Processes and Timelines.

Date and Time: 10/18, 12:00 PM – 2:00 PM.

Meeting 3: Improving Communication between the EDCs and Interconnection Applicants.

Date and Time: 10/31, 2:00 PM – 4:00 PM.

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Meeting Topics and Dates cont.

Meeting 4: Resolve Insufficient Hosting Capacity for New Projects.

Date and Time: 11/8, 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM.

Meetings 5 and 6: Address Any Unresolved Interconnection Topics.

Date and Time: TBD.

Meeting 7: Review Sprint Report Draft.

Time: 12/9, 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM.

Sprint Report

Sprint Report

- The Sprint Report is due to PURA by December 21 and will include all consensus recommendations adopted by the working group during the 100-Day Sprint.

- Decisional staff will review the draft Sprint Report with the working group prior to submission to PURA.

- Once filed, PURA will evaluate whether to adopt the consensus recommendations.
  - "If the Interconnection Working Group fails to offer recommendations to resolve outstanding interconnection problems, the Authority will address these issues as appropriate, including submitting possible recommendations to the General Assembly."

Discussion

Discussion Questions

1. What days and times would be most effective for scheduling the Sprint Meetings?

2. Are there any pervasive interconnection issues not addressed in the [Procedural Order](#)?

3. What feedback do stakeholders have on the proposed meeting topics and dates?

4. How can we enhance the process to ensure a successful 100-day sprint?

5. What suggestions do stakeholders have for fostering collaboration and building consensus on potentially contentious topics?

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Questions?

- Brandon.Cavanagh@ct.gov

- Christopher.Arpin@ct.gov

- Max.Melnick@ct.gov

Thank you!