

MEMO

CONSULTANT TEAM

TO: Energy Efficiency Council
FROM: EEC Consultant Team
CC: Office of Energy Resources
DATE: March 21, 2024
RE: March EEC Meeting Briefing Memo



PURPOSE OF BRIEFING MEMO

The purpose of this briefing memo is to assist Councilors with digesting the many materials and decisions it may need to make at each meeting. It follows a similar format to the official meeting agenda so Councilors can follow along throughout the meeting. For each agenda item, this memo will highlight key considerations for the Council and clearly indicate what actions (if any) the Council needs to make. The Consultant Team (C-Team) has worked with the Office of Energy Resources (OER) to also incorporate the content that Councilors are used to seeing in the “Recommended Vote Language” document. This ensures the Council has a single point of reference during meetings. This memo will also note any supplemental materials that are provided, but not associated with, specific agenda items. Finally, this being an early iteration of this briefing memo, the C-Team and OER welcomes any feedback on the format and content.

5. PROGRAM OVERSIGHT

5A. PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION OF 2023 END-OF-YEAR PROGRAM PERFORMANCE

Key Considerations & Questions

- The C-Team and Rhode Island Energy will be presenting quantitative and qualitative highlights from the Fourth Quarter of 2024, many of which will be covered as a preliminary look at how the year ended.
- Did any of the content covered in this summary surprise you?
- Do you have any questions about program results that weren't covered today?
- Do you have any questions for the C-Team or Rhode Island Energy?

Council Actions

[Required Vote] [Potential Vote] [No Vote]

5B. DISCUSSION AND POTENTIAL VOTE ON COUNCIL PRIORITIES FOR THE 2025 PROGRAM YEAR

Key Considerations & Questions

- Each year the Council establishes a set of Priorities to inform upcoming planning for energy efficiency plans and system reliability procurement investment proposals.
- The Consultant Team will present on an updated set of priorities based on feedback received at the February Council meeting
- Some potential discussion questions include:

- How can Council Priorities provide the best guidance to the Company?
- Do the priorities reflect the standards of least-cost procurement?
- Do the priorities reflect the needs of all constituent groups represented by the Council?

Council Actions

[Required Vote] [**Potential Vote**] [No Vote]

The Council may wish to conduct a vote to formally adopt the proposed priorities. If the Council is not ready to vote on the priorities, they may opt to push a vote to the April meeting.

Recommended Vote Language:

- *Formal adoption of the Priorities for the 2025 Energy Efficiency Annual Plan: A motion to adopt the Priorities for the 2025 Energy Efficiency Annual Plan as presented by the Consultant Team on March 21st, 2024.*
- *Adoption of the Priorities for the 2025 Energy Efficiency Annual Plan with amendments: A motion to adopt the Priorities for the 2025 Energy Efficiency Annual Plan as presented by the Consultant Team on March 21st, 2024, with the following amendments {state amendments}.*

5C. DISCUSSION AND POTENTIAL VOTE ON COUNCIL COMMENTS FOR THE 2024-2026 CONNECTED SOLUTIONS PROGRAM PLAN PROPOSAL

Key Considerations & Questions

- The Company has already filed this proposal with the PUC and the Docket is underway. The key consideration for the Council is what (if any) action it would like to take on this investment proposal.
- The Council should also decide whether or not they would like to submit testimony in this Docket.
- Some potential discussion questions include:
 - Would the Council like to submit testimony on the Connected Solutions Investment Proposal to communicate the views of the Council on the plan and/or the process?
 - Are there elements that you would like to ensure are communicated to the Public Utilities Commission and stakeholders?
 - Are there additional areas of interest that you would like the Consultant Team to explore further through the docket proceedings?

Council Actions

[Required Vote] [**Potential Vote**] [No Vote]

Recommended Vote Language:

- *Approval to submit comments on the 2024-2026 Connected Solutions Program Plan Proposal: a motion to approve the content of the testimony as presented by the Consultant Team and to direct the Consultant Team to submit the Council’s comments as intervenor testimony in Docket 24-06-EE.*

- *Approval to submit comments on the 2024-2026 Connected Solutions Program Plan Proposal, with amendments:* a motion to approve the content of the testimony as presented by the Consultant Team with the following amendments: {List any necessary amendments here}. And to direct the Consultant Team to submit the Council’s comments as intervenor testimony in Docket 24-06-EE.

5D. PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION OF THE FUTURE OF GAS DOCKET

Key Considerations & Questions

- The Consultant Team will present on Docket Proceedings to date and cover information relevant to how the technical analysis was conducted
- It will not cover the results of the technical analysis, as those are still being finalized and will be presented at a future Council meeting
- Potential discussion questions include:
 - Are there anticipated conflicts with the anticipated Council schedule?
 - What additional meeting topics would be beneficial in 2024?
 - What special meetings with other entities might the Council want to host?
 - Are there any other stakeholders or subject-matter experts that the Council should encourage to attend specific meetings or Council meetings in general?

Council Actions

[Required Vote] [Potential Vote] **[No Vote]**

6. COUNCIL BUSINESS

6A. DISCUSSION AND VOTE ON THE COUNCIL REVIEW COMMITTEE’S RECOMMENDATION FOR THE ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND CLIMATE PUBLIC AWARENESS CAMPAIGN PROPOSALS

Key Considerations & Questions

- The Council received six proposals on the re-issue of its Energy Efficiency and Climate Awareness Campaign
- The scoring committee will review its process and recommendation for selection of a vendor to deliver these services
- Potential discussion questions include:
 - Does the work plan provided by the vendor meet the Council’s needs?
 - Would the vendor be able to deliver results in a timeframe helpful to the Council?

Council Actions

[Required Vote] [Potential Vote] [No Vote]

The Council must take action on this item in order to keep the work and timeline on track.

Recommended Vote Language:

- *A motion to approve the Technical Review Committee’s Vendor Recommendation:* A motion to approve the Technical Review Committee’s recommendation to select PivotPath, LLC to implement the Council’s energy efficiency and climate public awareness campaign as described in the submitted proposal and associated work plan and to direct the Office of Energy Resources and the Council’s legal counsel to prepare and execute a contract with the chosen vendor.
- *A motion to reject the Technical Review Committee’s Vendor Recommendation:* A motion to reject the Technical Review Committee’s recommendation to select PivotPath, LLC to implement the Council’s energy efficiency and climate public awareness campaign as described in the submitted proposal, and instead {state proposal}.

6B. DISCUSSION OF THE COUNCIL’S 2024 ANNUAL REPORT AND POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

Key Considerations & Questions

- The Consultant Team will give an overview of the Annual Report, its purpose, and the timeline for its completion
- The primary focus of Council discussion will be around the Council’s Policy Recommendations.
- Potential Discussion Questions include:
 - Are there the policy recommendations from last year’s report still relevant this year?
 - Should any of the policy recommendations be removed?
 - Do any of the policy recommendations need to be updated or refreshed?
 - Are there any new policy recommendations that the Council would like to consider?

Council Actions

[Required Vote] [Potential Vote] **[No Vote]**