

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE



Energy Efficiency and Sustainable Energy Board
RSA 125-O:5-a

Eleventh Annual Report

Prepared for:
The Governor
President of the New Hampshire Senate
Speaker of the New Hampshire House
Chair of the Energy and Natural Resources Committee
Chair of the House Science, Technology and Energy Committee
Public Utilities Commission

December 21, 2018

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I. Introduction

This annual report provides an update on the activities of the Energy Efficiency and Sustainable Energy Board and its recommendations for action, pursuant to RSA 125-O:5-a IV.

II. Background

The Energy Efficiency and Sustainable Energy Board (“EESE Board”) was created by Chapter 292 of the 2008 New Hampshire Laws. The purpose of the EESE Board is “to promote and coordinate energy efficiency, demand response, and sustainable energy programs in the state.” RSA 125-O:5-a, I. New Hampshire must do more to promote and utilize energy efficiency and sustainable energy resources as a means to bolster the state’s economy and spur business innovation, improve energy security, reduce customer costs, and protect the environment. Further, energy efficiency is cost-effective, and is considered the least expensive and cleanest energy resource. To this end, the EESE Board’s statutory duties include, among other items:

- developing a plan to achieve the state’s energy efficiency potential for all fuels, including setting goals and targets for energy efficiency that are meaningful and achievable;
- developing a plan for economic and environmental sustainability of the state’s energy system, including development of high efficiency clean energy resources that are either renewable or have low net greenhouse gas emissions; and
- expanding upon the state government’s efficiency programs to ensure that the state is providing leadership on energy efficiency and sustainable energy including reduction of its energy use and fuel costs. *See* RSA 125-O:5-a, I (b), (c), and (g).

The Chair of the Public Utilities Commission (“PUC”) convened the first organizational meeting of the EESE Board on October 1, 2008, and the EESE Board has since met roughly nine to

twelve times per year. The EESE Board is administratively attached to the PUC, which provides administrative support.¹ The PUC hosts a comprehensive webpage for the EESE Board and other interested parties where all meeting materials and background information can be found:

www.puc.nh.gov/EESE.htm.

III. Statutory Duties

The EESE Board's duties are broad. *See* RSA 125-O:5-a, I (a) through (j). They include, but are not limited to:

- reviewing available energy efficiency, conservation, demand response, and sustainable energy programs and incentives and compiling a report of those resources in New Hampshire;
- developing a plan to achieve the state's energy efficiency potential for all fuels, including setting goals and targets for energy efficiency that are meaningful and achievable;
- developing a plan for economic and environmental sustainability of the state's energy system including the development of high efficiency clean energy resources that are either renewable or have low net greenhouse gas emissions;
- exploring opportunities to coordinate programs targeted at saving more than one fuel resource, including conversion to renewable resources and coordination between natural gas and other programs which seek to reduce the use of nonrenewable fuels;
- developing tools to enhance outreach and education programs to increase knowledge about energy efficiency and sustainable energy among New Hampshire residents and businesses;
- expanding upon the state government's efficiency programs to ensure that the state is providing leadership on energy efficiency and sustainable energy including reduction of its energy use and fuel costs;
- encouraging municipalities and counties to increase investments in energy efficiency and sustainable energy through financing tools, and to create local energy committees;

¹ Administrative Support and Contact for the EESE Board is the PUC: (603) 271-2431, EESEBoard@puc.nh.gov.

- working with community action agencies and the Office of Strategic Initiatives (OSI) to explore ways to ensure that all customers participating in programs for low-income customers and the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) have access to energy efficiency improvements, and where appropriate, renewable energy resources, in order to reduce their energy bills; and
- investigating potential sources of funding for energy efficiency and sustainable energy development and delivery mechanisms for such programs, coordinating efforts between funding sources to reduce duplication and enhance collaboration, and reviewing investment strategies to increase access to energy efficiency and renewable energy resources.

IV. Members and Public Participation

The members of the EESE Board, designated by RSA 125-O:5-a, II, include representatives of business and non-profit organizations and associations, legislators, state agency heads, consumer representatives, as well as several non-voting members representing electric and natural gas utilities, banking, and businesses in relevant energy efficiency and sustainable energy industries.

The members represent a wide range of interests that help inform the EESE Board's work.

Members as of December 2018 are:

Chair:

- D. Maurice Kreis – Consumer Advocate, RSA 125-O:5-a, II (c)

Voting Members:

- Karen Cramton – PUC Chair designee, RSA 125-O:5-a, II (a)
- Joseph Doiron – Office of Strategic Initiatives designee, RSA 125-O:5-a,II (b)
- Rebecca Ohler – Department of Environmental Services designee, RSA 125-O:5-a, II (d)
- Taylor Caswell – Business & Economic Affairs Commissioner, RSA 125-O:5-a,II (e)
- Katherine Garfield – Business and Industry Association of New Hampshire designee, RSA 125-O:5-a,II (f)
- Theresa Swanick – New Hampshire Municipal Association designee, RSA 125-O:5-a, II (g)
- Raymond Burke – New Hampshire Legal Assistance designee, RSA 125-O:5-a,II (h)

- Scott Emond – New Hampshire Homebuilders and Remodelers Association designee, RSA 125-O:5-a, II (i)
- Representative Herbert Richardson – House Speaker appointment, RSA 125-O:5-a, II (j)
- Representative Robert Backus – House Speaker appointment, RSA 125-O:5-a II (j)
- Senator Kevin Avard – Senate President appointment, RSA 125-O:5-a, II (k)
- Ryan Clouthier, Southern New Hampshire Services, Inc. – not-for-profit appointment by PUC Chair, RSA 125-O:5-a, II, (l)
- Madeleine Mineau - New Hampshire Sustainable Energy Association – not-for-profit appointment by PUC Chair, RSA 125-O:5-a, II (l)
- Bruce Clendenning – The Nature Conservancy, not-for-profit appointment by PUC Chair RSA 125-O:5-a, II (l)
- Donald Perrin – State Energy Manager – Department of Administrative Services designee, RSA 125-O:5-a, II (m)
- Marc Prindiville – Fire Marshal designee, RSA 125-O:5-a, II (n)
- Ben Frost – New Hampshire Housing and Finance designee – RSA 125-O:5-a, II (o)

Non-Voting Members:

- Cindy Carroll, Unitil/Northern – utility appointment by PUC Chair, RSA 125-O:5-a, III (a)
- Eric Stanley, Liberty Utilities – utility appointment by PUC Chair, RSA 125-O:5-a, III (a)
- Carol Woods, New Hampshire Electric Coop – utility appointment by PUC Chair, RSA 125-O:5-a, III (a)
- Kate Peters, Eversource – utility appointment by PUC Chair, RSA 125-O:5-a, III (a)
- Open – a representative of energy services companies delivering energy efficiency services to residential and business customers, appointment by PUC Chair, RSA 125-O:5-a, III (b)
- Michael Behrmann, Revolution Energy, LLC – renewable energy business appointment by PUC Chair, RSA 125-O:5-a, III (c)
- Scott Maslansky, New Hampshire Community Development Finance Authority– PUC Chair investment community apt, III (d)

The EESE Board has since its inception appreciated and encouraged attendance and participation of the public at its meetings. Business, municipal, and nonprofit leaders, and other stakeholders regularly attend the EESE Board’s monthly meetings and are encouraged to bring relevant energy experience to the EESE Board’s discussions. In all, roughly 100 people are on the EESE Board’s email distribution list, not including EESE Board members. The EESE Board recognizes that energy consumers, business leaders, municipal officials, energy efficiency and sustainable energy professionals, and other concerned members of the public and private sectors are all crucial to achieving our state’s energy goals.

V. Description of 2018 Activities

The EESE Board met ten times in 2018: in January, February, March, April, May, June, July, September, October, and December. Meeting agendas, minutes, presentations, and other materials from all of the EESE Board’s meetings can be found on the PUC’s EESE Board webpage: www.puc.nh.gov/EESE.htm.

Committees

In addition, the EESE Board has employed a committee structure to meet its broad statutory goals, enabling work between EESE Board meetings and opportunities for participation from both EESE Board members and non-members. The EESE Board has three standing committees: the Energy Efficiency Resource Standard (EERS) Committee; the Outreach and Education (O&E) Committee; and the Legislative Monitoring Committee. The O&E and Legislative committees meet and support EESE Board work as needed. During 2018, no requests were made of the O&E Committee. The Legislative Monitoring Committee provided legislative tracking and monthly updates to the Board January through July.

EERS Committee

The EERS Committee was re-commissioned by the EESE Board after the PUC issued Order No. 25,932² approving the EERS in August 2016. The 2016 Order created a framework in which the state’s four electric utilities (Eversource Energy, Liberty Utilities, the New Hampshire Electric Cooperative and Unitil) would administer the programs (a role they have consistently played since the advent of ratepayer-funded energy efficiency programs) pursuant to a three-year plan covering the calendar years 2018 through 2020. A key element of the 2016 Order called for the EESE Board to serve as an enhanced stakeholder advisory board, whose objective would be to seek consensus on programmatic issues and thus reduce if not eliminate the need to litigate issues related to the EERS before the PUC on a contested basis. The EESE Board, in turn, designated its EERS Committee as the forum that would conduct the bulk of the necessary legwork in the first instance.

Accordingly, in 2017, the EERS Committee undertook a series of weekly meetings to discuss specific aspects of the draft version of the utilities’ initial three-year plan. The utilities took the recommendations of the EERS Committee, as adopted and revised by the EESE Board, into account as they developed the final version of the plan that was ultimately approved by the PUC pursuant to a settlement agreement among the parties to the applicable commission docket.

The EERS thus officially launched on January 1, 2018 and, during this initial year of the EERS triennium, there was only one meeting of the EERS Committee (in August) as the EESE Board as a whole focused on monitoring the success of the EERS. Among other things, the EERS Committee discussed the vital subject of program cost effectiveness and, in particular, whether there should be a so-called “adder” applied to the benefit side of the benefit/cost analysis for programs that target low-income customers to recognize benefits that are particular to customers

² Available at <http://www.puc.nh.gov/Regulatory/Orders/2016orders/25932e.pdf>.

eligible for such programs. The depth and robustness of this discussion reflects an acknowledgement, at both the committee and board levels, of the central role that benefit-cost analysis plays in the planning and delivery of programs offered as part of the EERS.

In 2019, the EESE Board expects that its EERS Committee will meet frequently as efforts gear up to plan for the second EERS triennium (2021-2023).

Meetings and Presentations

The EESE Board frequently solicits presentations from projects and programs relevant to issues of interest to the Board. During 2018, the EESE Board heard updates from several existing New Hampshire programs as well as presentations from outside experts on energy initiatives and policy.

- **January:** Michael Hagen, Code Enforcement Officer for the City of Keene and Stephen Eckberg of the New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission (PUC) delivered a presentation on building codes in New Hampshire, with a focus on Energy Codes.
- **February:** There was no presentation. The Board discussed a draft policy statement prepared by the Building Codes Working Group. The Board also discussed an action plan for the enhanced stakeholder board activities as EERS is implemented.
- **March:** Brian Buckley of the New Hampshire Office of the Consumer Advocate and Miles Ingram of Eversource shared a presentation that provided a primer on Evaluation, Measurement, and Verification (EM&V).
- **April:** Joseph Doiron and Chris Ellms of the New Hampshire Office of Strategic Initiatives presented an overview of the 2018 New Hampshire Ten-Year State Energy Strategy. They

highlighted and discussed each of the Strategy’s eleven goals. The Board approved a policy statement with respect to the state’s Building Code.³

- **May:** Tim Woolf of Synapse Energy Economics presented the Overview of National Standard Practice Manual for Energy Efficiency Cost Effectiveness. The purpose of the manual is to define principles and establish a framework for primary test development, and provide guidance on key inputs. The Board approved a priorities statement to guide its work for the remainder of the year.⁴
- **June:** Sharon Nall of New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services Wastewater Engineering Bureau and Mark Touissaint of Eversource gave a presentation about the Energy Efficiency Partnership for New Hampshire’s Wastewater Treatment Facilities (WWTFs). Karen Cramton of the New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission provided an overview of the upcoming 2018 RPS Review Process and Meeting Topics.
- **July:** Tim Clougherty of Manchester Public Works and Paul Ramsay of Eversource Energy gave a presentation on LED Street Lighting. The presentation highlighted the City of Manchester’s streetlight conversion pilot project.
- **August:** No meeting.
- **September:** David Farnsworth and Jessica Shipley of The Regulatory Assistance Project (RAP) gave a presentation on Beneficial Electrification. The Board discussed how Beneficial Electrification could be structured and implemented in New Hampshire.
- **October:** Professor Clay Mitchell of the University of New Hampshire gave a briefing on Combined Heat and Power Technical Assistance Partnership (CHP TAP).

³ The policy statement is appended to this report as Attachment A.

⁴ The priorities statement is appended to this report as Attachment B.

- **November:** No meeting.
- **December:** Sarah Brock of the nonprofit organization Vital Communities gave a presentation about its residential weatherization programs in New Hampshire and Vermont.

VI. Conclusion

The EESE Board has endeavored to be a forum for collaboration and information sharing and to assist the state in the development of a comprehensive approach to energy cost savings, clean energy jobs, and a stronger and more secure energy future for New Hampshire. In addition to the main discussion items and presentations, at each meeting there is an opportunity for updates on state programs, policy items, and activities. All attendees are welcome to share updates on issues where they have particular knowledge or interest. Through these updates members remain informed about a wide range of energy-related policy and program topics, including the status of grant and financing programs, implementation of projects, events, and policy issues such as building codes, net metering, the state's Renewable Portfolio Standard, the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative, and budgets.

The EESE Board appreciates the engagement and immense time contribution of so many interested parties, including its volunteer members, non-voting participants, and many other public and private stakeholders. This contribution by so many participants in support of dialogue, inquiry, analysis and sharing of ideas has created a unique opportunity for the state to draw on a wide variety of experience and knowledge as it navigates the next steps to move its energy efficiency and sustainable energy agenda forward. To focus its efforts in 2019, the EESE Board hopes to develop a list of priorities that will be updated annually as needed. The priorities for 2019 will likely include efforts to learn more about proposed updates to the energy codes that are part of New Hampshire's state building codes, to provide ongoing input into the annual review and updates to

the 2018-2020 Statewide Energy Efficiency Resource Standard, and to participate actively in efforts to refine the policy imperatives that will drive the creation and adoption in 2020 of a plan for the 2021-2023 EERS triennium.

The EESE Board looks forward to continuing its role as an “enhanced stakeholder board” in the development and evaluation of the Energy Efficiency Resource Standard. *See Gas and Electric Utilities*, DE 17-136, Order No. 26,095 at 15-16 (January 2, 2018); *Gas and Electric Utilities*, DE 15-137, Order No. 25,932 at 34, 60-61 (August 2, 2016). In 2019, the Board will continue to receive updates and provide input to its designee on the Evaluation, Measurement and Verification Working Group pursuant to the Settlement Agreement approved by the Commission in DE 17-136. *See* Order No. 26,095 at 15-16 (January 2, 2018). In addition, the Board will provide a forum at its monthly meetings for regular updates from the other working groups established by the Settlement Agreement in DE 17-136. The Board anticipates that its EERS Committee will assist the Board in developing recommendations for the filing of the 2020 Plan Update in 2019, similar to the process conducted in 2017 and 2018 for the filing of and updates to the 2018-2020 Energy Efficiency Plan.

The EESE Board looks forward to building on the knowledge gained from its previous work and helping the state to meet the next set of challenges and opportunities in energy efficiency and sustainable energy.

Respectfully Submitted,
D. Maurice Kreis, Chair

ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND SUSTAINABLE ENERGY BOARD

RSA 125-O:5-a
21 South Fruit Street, Suite 10
Concord, N.H. 03301-2429

Adopted April 20, 2018

Policy Statement to the Building Code Review Board on Current Energy Codes for Building Construction

The New Hampshire Energy Efficiency & Sustainable Energy Board (EESE Board) supports the adoption and implementation of modern energy codes and standards for building construction in our state. The EESE Board has long recognized that energy efficiency and conservation are the least-cost energy resources available to our state. The EESE Board was created by the legislature “to promote and coordinate energy efficiency, demand response, and sustainable energy programs in New Hampshire.”¹ Its members include representatives of state agencies, consumers, the Legislature, nonprofit groups, and private industry.

The EESE Board recognizes that buildings are long-term assets and that each building constructed today could affect energy consumption for the next 50 to 100 years.² The EESE Board further recognizes that incorporating energy efficiency measures at the time of construction is one of the most cost-effective strategies for reducing fuel and utility costs otherwise borne by the consumer.³

The International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) is a vital strategy for reducing energy use, thereby reducing direct costs to consumers for their fuel and utility purchases. By taking advantage of recent technological advances - through adoption of modern building construction standards and code compliance strategies - New Hampshire consumers can benefit from opportunities to reduce the total cost associated with building ownership by reducing building energy consumption costs over the lifetime of their homes and businesses. Further, as the 2014 New Hampshire Ten-Year Energy Strategy recognized, the cost savings of building energy code update and compliance efforts will help consumers keep more of their dollars in our local economy.⁴

A building energy-use model, developed for the U.S. Department of Energy, projected that residential buildings in New Hampshire would experience a 20.8 percent reduction in energy consumption if built to the 2015 edition when compared to the 2009 edition of the IECC, the current NH building-energy code. This reduced energy consumption equates to an average annual avoided-energy cost of \$542 across single and multi-family homes in the southern tier of the state, and an average annual avoided-energy cost of \$693 in the northern tier. Over the life of a 30-year mortgage, homeowners were projected to realize \$8,575 in avoided-energy costs in southern New Hampshire and \$10,258 in the North.⁵ Adoption of modern energy codes and standards will not only provide cost savings for heating, cooling, and lighting for homeowners, but it will help keep New Hampshire economically competitive.

The EESE Board strongly encourages the Building Code Review Board and the Legislature to recognize the value provided by improvements and updates to the International Energy Conservation Code as they consider updating the definition of the NH Building Codes in RSA 155-A. The EESE Board also recommends that modern codes be adopted in a comprehensive way that recognizes the direct savings in energy bills to the consumer.

The EESE Board remains ready to assist in the discussion and provide its input to the Legislature and the Building Code Review Board for the development of meaningful and modern energy improvement codes.

¹ RSA 125-O:5-a Energy Efficiency and Sustainable Energy Board, available at: <http://www.gencourt.state.nh.us/rsa/html/X/125-O/125-O-5-a.htm>.

² US Department of Energy. Quadrennial Technology Review 2015. Supplemental Information. (2015) Page 19. Available at: <https://energy.gov/sites/prod/files/2016/10/f33/Ch1-SI-Additional-Information-on-Energy-Challenges.pdf>

³ The Edison Foundation. Utilities and Building Energy Codes: Air Quality and Energy Savings Opportunities. (Describing the cost of energy codes and standards as 1.1 cents/kWh, or 1/3 the cost of the average residential program) Available at: http://www.imt.org/uploads/resources/files/IEE-IMT-UtilitiesAndBuildingEnergyCodes_FactSheet.pdf

⁴ New Hampshire Office of Energy and Planning. New Hampshire Ten Year State Energy Strategy. (2014) Page 31-35. Available at: <https://www.nh.gov/osi/energy/programs/documents/energy-strategy.pdf>

⁵ The average percent energy reduction, the avoided-energy costs, and 30-yr life-cycle avoided-energy costs were calculated for the EESE Board using more recent state energy cost data and revised tax rate assumptions. The revised projections were calculated using the US DOE's State Savings Calculator available on the US DOE Building Energy Codes Program's Residential Energy & Cost Savings Analysis webpage: <https://www.energycodes.gov/residential-energy-cost-savings-analysis>. Version 163 of the Excel based calculator was used.

This calculator provides a means to tailor state-level energy code cost-effectiveness analysis. While the tool mimics the DOE methodology used by the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL) to complete official state analysis reports, the calculator allows the customization of economic assumptions and other parameters. These include parameters such as local cost adjustments, energy prices and escalation rates, inflation and taxes, loan terms, and the overall study period used for the analysis. The calculator generates reports that summarize results in a format similar to the PNNL state reports.

For the EESE Board, only the per unit energy costs, the marginal income tax, and the property tax rate were revised to develop the values for the annual avoided-energy costs and the 30-yr life-cycle cost. The property tax assumption was revised from 1.1 percent to 2 percent and the marginal income tax was revised from 5 percent to 0 percent. The revised per unit energy costs of \$2.96/gallon of heating oil, \$1.28/therm of natural gas, and \$0.18/kWh were obtained from the New Hampshire Office of Strategic Initiatives "Fuel Prices" website: <http://www.nh.gov/oeep/energy/energy-nh/fuel-prices/index.htm> on March 12, 2018. A digital summary of the calculator's output is available on the EESE Board webpage: <https://www.puc.nh.gov/EESE.htm>.

The original US Department of Energy and Pacific Northwest National Laboratory's report Cost-Effectiveness Analysis of the Residential Provisions of the 2015 IECC for New Hampshire (2016), is available at: https://www.pnnl.gov/main/publications/external/technical_reports/PNNL-24937Rev1.pdf.

I. General NHLA Comments

1. We support the adoption of priorities and think it this is an important discussion that is worth having on an annual basis.
2. However, this is an ambitious list for a volunteer board. Many of the items would require a significant amount of work for a volunteer board. We think the Board should discuss how to narrow this list to perhaps two priorities that would reflect the Board's anticipated work on 1) building codes and 2) the continued development and implementation of the EERS. Please see NHLA's draft language below. A third potential priority that is not included below could be a review of the EESE Board bylaws, known as the Rules of Governance.

II. NHLA's Draft Language for Two Specific Priorities:

1. Define the EESE Board's role as an enhanced stakeholder in the continued development and implementation of the EERS by:
 - a. Formalizing a mechanism to receive updates and provide input to the Board's designee on the Evaluation, Measurement and Verification Working Group (priorities for EM&V include, but are not limited to, achieving clarity with respect to the independent consultant's role and NH specific data for NEIs);
 - b. Reconvening the EERS Subcommittee to make recommendations for the filing of the 2019 Plan Update (potential topics include, but are not limited to, peak demand reduction, NEIs, a low-income adder, DRIPE, and possible modification of the NH benefit-cost test);
 - c. Providing a forum for regular updates from the other EERS working groups.
2. Coordinate with the Building Code Review Board in educating the Legislature and the public about the value and importance of building codes – particularly the code for energy efficiency in new building construction – that adequately reflect the current state of building technology while taking into account the economic realities of real estate.

III. NHLA's Specific Comments on the Six Draft Priorities Dated 3/14/18

Priority #1: The development of messaging materials and platforms for presentation to legislative committees would require dozens of hours of work from a volunteer Board that only meets once per month. Furthermore, leading an effort before the legislature could invite pushback at a time when the EERS is still getting off the ground. We think it would be beneficial to wait until we get some hard data and numbers about the EERS through the EM&V studies and quarterly reports before starting these efforts. Perhaps this could be a priority for 2019. Once we have more data, we can determine how to best build support going forward, including with the development of the next triennium plan.

Priority #2: We attempted to incorporate aspects of this draft priority into NHLA’s proposed Priority #1. We see this as a future priority and would suggest deferring this as a priority for 2019.

Priority #3: We attempted to incorporate aspects of this draft priority into NHLA’s proposed Priority #1. We also wonder if using the words “engage actively” could concern the Commission in light of their words of caution with respect to the working groups becoming too big, and therefore unproductive.

Priority #4: We are concerned that the development of a Technical Resource Manual is rather technical for the Board, and that recommendations on peak demand might be better deferred until 2019 since we are waiting on the results from the EM&V studies and the results from peak demand demonstration projects in other states.

Priority #5: We included this draft priority as NHLA’s suggested Priority #2 above.

Priority #6: We think that this issue is more of a future priority that would be better to defer until 2019 and until we have the results of the 2018 Annual Energy Efficiency Report. There is still a lot of work that can be done to make sure that we implement the 2018-2020 Plan effectively, and we think the Board should spend its limited time this year on those efforts before looking too far ahead to the next triennium plan.

Some Minor Edits to the 3/14/18 Draft Priorities:

2018 Priorities [3.14.18 draft]

1. Build public, business and legislative support for ratepayer-funded energy efficiency programs by demonstrating how such programs provide economic, social and environmental benefits to the State, including to the commercial and industrial sector.
 - a. This may include presenting timely and topical information at monthly meetings and inviting targeted audiences to attend and seeking opportunities to provide information at C&I sector forums, having the education and outreach committee to develop appropriate messaging materials and platforms, and developing materials for presentation to relevant legislative committees on specific topics.
 - b. These efforts should be designed to highlight the EERS programs as valuable infrastructure initiatives that advance economic development objectives and deliver meaningful cost savings to individual customers.
2. In collaboration with PUC Staff, achieve clarity with respect to the role of the independent planning expert that will, beginning in 2019, assist the EESE Board and the PUC with development of the next three-year plan (2021-2023).
3. Engage actively with the working groups established by the PUC when it approved the 2018-2020 EERS implementation plan (Benefit/Cost; Performance Incentives; Lost Based Revenue; Funding and Financing; Evaluation, Measurement & Verification (EM&V)) to maximize alignment of EESE Board efforts with working group recommendations.
4. Through the EESE Board representative on the EM&V Working Group, and via additional avenues as needed:

- a. Assure development of Technical Resource Manual for New Hampshire.
 - b. Develop recommendations for the incorporation of peak demand reduction into EERS programs utilizing the utility reports required by DE 17-136 Order regarding peak demand reduction demonstration efforts elsewhere in New England and their possible applicability in New Hampshire.
5. Assist the Building Code Review Board in educating the Legislature and the public about the value and importance of building codes – particularly the code for energy efficiency in new building construction – that adequately reflect the current state of building technology while taking into account the economic realities of real estate.
 6. Begin to explore the question of whether any future changes are warranted – i.e., after the current triennium – to the present system of relying entirely on the utilities, working together as a consortium, to serve as the Program Administrator.