Key Takeaways

1. Scope of our work is defined by the Commission Order No. 26,095 in Docket DE 17-136 which approved the Settlement Agreement. Through 2018, lost revenue will continue to be calculated using the Utilities’ methodology for 2018 (i.e., so-called “combined” methodology); but, starting in 2019, lost revenue shall be calculated using Staff methodology (i.e., so-called “separate” methodology).

2. Preliminary meetings with the EM&V Working Group were held to integrate some overlapping LBR issues. We take this opportunity to thank Miles Ingram for setting aside time for our questions. Please see his slides that are attached to the Agenda for further insights as to how EM&V activities overlap with LBR activities.

3. Staff noted that a lot of research information has been circulated by the participants and takes this opportunity to thank everyone. Staff believes that this early research effort will definitely help us to meet our planned deadline of completing the LBR Working Group by June, 2018. That will allow the Utilities to do the necessary data input, planning, etc. required for the Annual Update.

4. With respect to postings, Staff has set up a webpage for posting documents (99% complete). Go to the Commission’s Home Page, then to Energy Efficiency and Sustainable Energy Board (EESE) (on the left of the home page) and then to EERS Working Group.

   The Utilities B/C Model provides extensive granular data which is the underlying data that supports the calculation of kW demand savings. The Model was provided in response to discovery requests in DE 17-136, Staff 1-001. Staff will post these responses to the Commission’s website. In order to make the Model more user friendly, Staff developed a Template that summarizes the data.

5. Prior to today’s meeting, Kate Peters suggested that Staff might look ahead with the various groups and see if there are topics coming up where we should prepare to share or present specific information. In that regard, Staff prepared a homework assignment for the Utilities (Eversource, Liberty and Unitil) and asked for it to be completed by the next LBR Working Group meeting on February 14th. The homework assignment, and associated blank Template, was circulated and discussed at the meeting. The Utilities indicated they would try to circulate their responses a day or two before the next meeting on February 14th. The homework assignment and the Template has been posted to the Commission’s website.

6. With respect to process, Staff will circulate key takeaways from each LBR meeting and post them to the Commission’s website. Staff will also circulate an Agenda in advance of each upcoming meeting.
7. We added several new participants to the LBR Working Group: Deb Jarvis (Unitil), Rebecca Ohler (DES), and Donald Kreis (OCA). Also, we may have some additional Utility participants with specific expertise that the Utilities may call upon when needed.

8. Next Steps: The Agenda for the February 14th meeting (Hearing Room B) will pertain to the Utilities’ response to the homework assignment. The Utilities will utilize the suggested Template to show the derivation of demand savings (kW) that will be used for purposes of calculating LBR.

The Agenda for the March 15th (Thursday) meeting will be devoted to the Utilities’ explanation of how average distribution rates are calculated and applied to kWh and kW savings for purposes of calculating LBR. The discussion will include how the impacts of Tariffs are considered, especially ratchet provisions, and any other adjustments that need to be incorporated in the calculation of average distribution rates for purposes of calculating LBR.

9. For planning purposes, subsequent meeting are scheduled as follows:

   April 11, 2018 (9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.): Utilities provide Initial Draft LBR Narrative and Schedules.

   May 16, 2018 (9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.): Utilities provide Interim Draft of LBR Narrative and Schedules.

   June 13, 2018 (9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.): Utilities provide Final Draft of LBR Narrative and Schedules.