

Workforce Development in RI through Energy Efficiency

RI EERMC

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Workforce Development Goals

- Support continued job growth in the energy efficiency sector in RI (804 FTE workers associated with EE plan expenditures in 2018)*
- Support the development of the local workforce necessary to enable continued growth in customer participation, delivery of traditional EE measures
- Position Rhode Island for rapid growth in heating electrification

Workforce development investments provide economic benefits today, position programs for continued growth, alignment with state policy goals

Source: Analysis and Recommendations regarding the Current and Future Workforce associated with Rhode Island Energy Efficiency Programs, <http://rieermc.ri.gov/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/2018-attachment-5-workforce-report-final.pdf>

Background – 2020 Plan Proposals

- **Building Operator Certification Training**
 - Curriculum includes building equipment, systems and controls, benchmarking, maintenance and optimization, and EE programs
 - To hold one Level I BOC Class in RI, one Level II BOC Class in MA, as well as provide sponsored BOC webinars for customers and staff
- **Code Compliance Enhancement Initiative (CCEI)**
 - Engagement and education of wide array of construction and design industry stakeholders builds market capacity to comply with progressively more efficient energy codes
 - 35-40 trainings (at least 500 aggregate participants) in 2020, plus several other activities
 - Focus on new construction (residential & commercial), as well as code-triggering renovations
- **Online Trade Ally Training on Advanced Lighting Systems**
 - Electronic, on-demand learning platform targeting ESCO's, contractors, vendors, architects, designers, manufacturers' reps, distributors and customers
- **Electrification Workforce Development**
 - **HVAC Check Training:** Offered to contractors, trade schools – curriculum focused on equipment sizing, installation best practices, distribution system improvement, quality control and customer education
 - Commitment to ongoing coordination with OER, RI Oil Heat Institute, and NEEP, including support for Real-Jobs Grant program (electric HVAC and weatherization training for oil and propane contractors)

EERMC Discussion on 2021-2023 Priorities and Goals

- 1) In the RI EE Market, what areas do you see needing more training? (either expansion of an ongoing effort or a new series)
- 2) How do you define success for workforce development as it relates to EE? What metrics would demonstrate this success?
- 3) How do your organizations contribute to workforce development? How can we co-promote EE workforce development opportunities?