



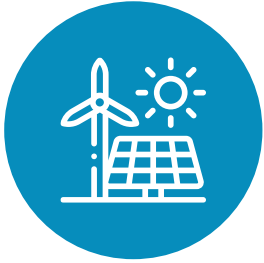
STATE OF RHODE ISLAND
**OFFICE OF
ENERGY RESOURCES**

Location-Targeted Outreach for EE

Energy Efficiency and
Resource
Management Council
11/18/2021



Mission statement



The Rhode Island Office of Energy Resources' (OER) mission is to lead the state toward a **clean, affordable, reliable**, and **equitable** energy future.



OER develops policies and programs that respond to the state's evolving energy needs, while advancing **environmental sustainability, energy security**, and a vibrant **clean energy economy**.



OER is committed to working with public- and private-sector stakeholders to ensure that all Rhode Islanders have access to cost-effective, resilient, and sustainable energy solutions.

Value Categories



Statewide EE/DR

Support statewide supply cost reductions, home and business utility bill management

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Locational Outreach

Enhanced outreach for cost-effective EE/DR on heavily loaded feeders as precursor to non-wires or wires investment

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Non-Wires Solution

Locational targeted incremental investment in EE/DR to avoid more costly wires solution

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Statewide EE/DR

Support statewide supply cost reductions, home and business utility bill management



Locational Outreach

Enhanced outreach for cost-effective EE/DR on heavily loaded feeders as precursor to non-wires or wires investment



Non-Wires Solution

Locational targeted incremental investment in EE/DR to avoid more costly wires solution



Cross-Utility Grid Management

Electric EE/DR programs may support non-pipe solutions for gas utility business



Focus on Locational Outreach

Value Stack – Loc. Outreach

Cost-effective EE/DR

- We already know the EE/DR program is cost-effective, so additional outreach will – at minimum – result in net benefits

May avoid NWA or Wires investment

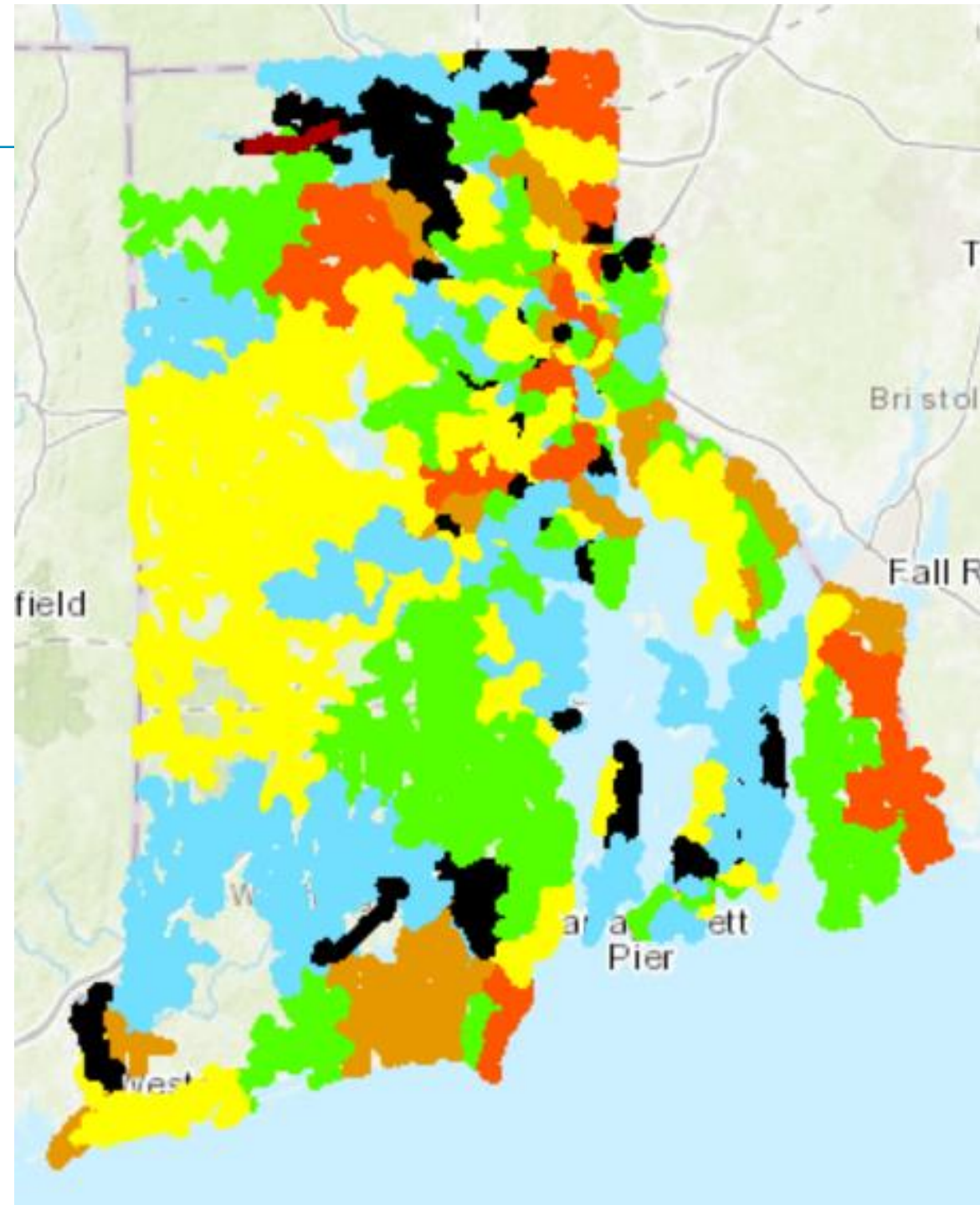
- Non-wires solutions only considered once feeder is forecasted to reach >100% summer normal rating
- Locational outreach can slow a feeder's loading
- May avoid investment expenses

Option value

- Slower load growth on heavily-loaded feeders may buy time to improve load forecast certainty
- May result in cost savings or process efficiency

RI System Data Portal – Heat Map:

<https://ngrid.apps.nationalgrid.com/NGSysDataPortal/RI/index.html>

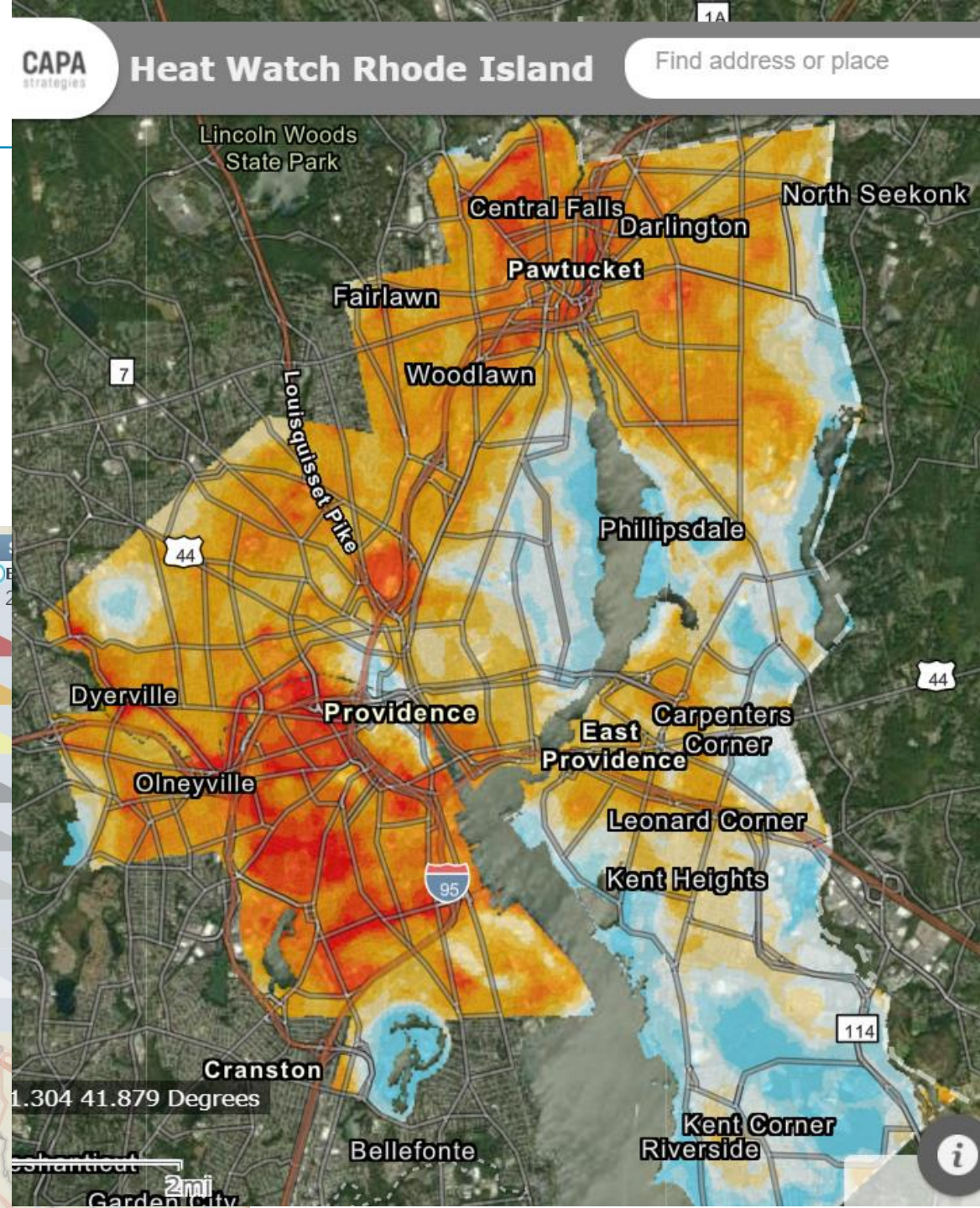
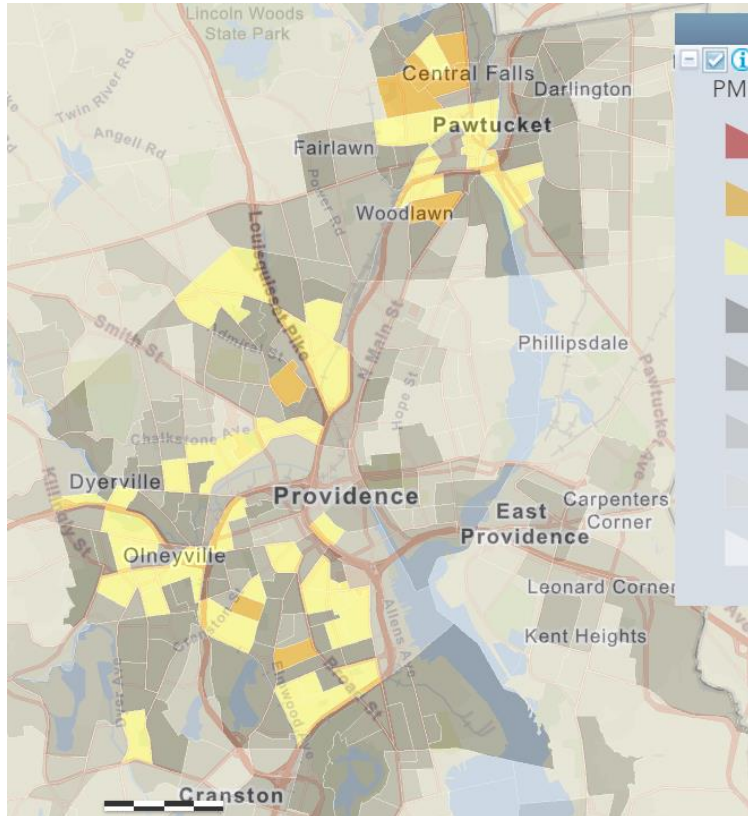
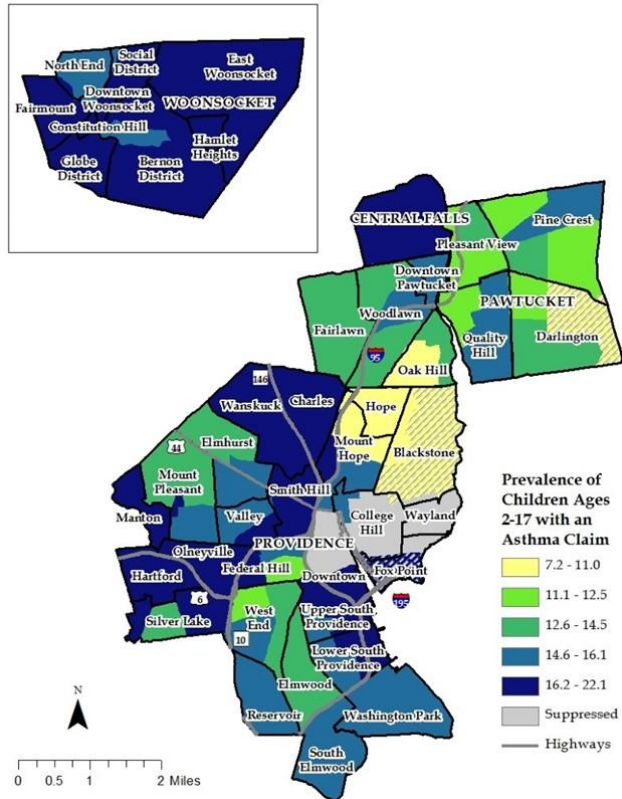


Non-Grid Benefits

Higher probability of incremental public health benefits

- Higher rates of asthma
- Particulate matter pollution
- Urban heat islands

Locational outreach on strategic offerings



Locational Equity in Massachusetts

Enhanced Incentives

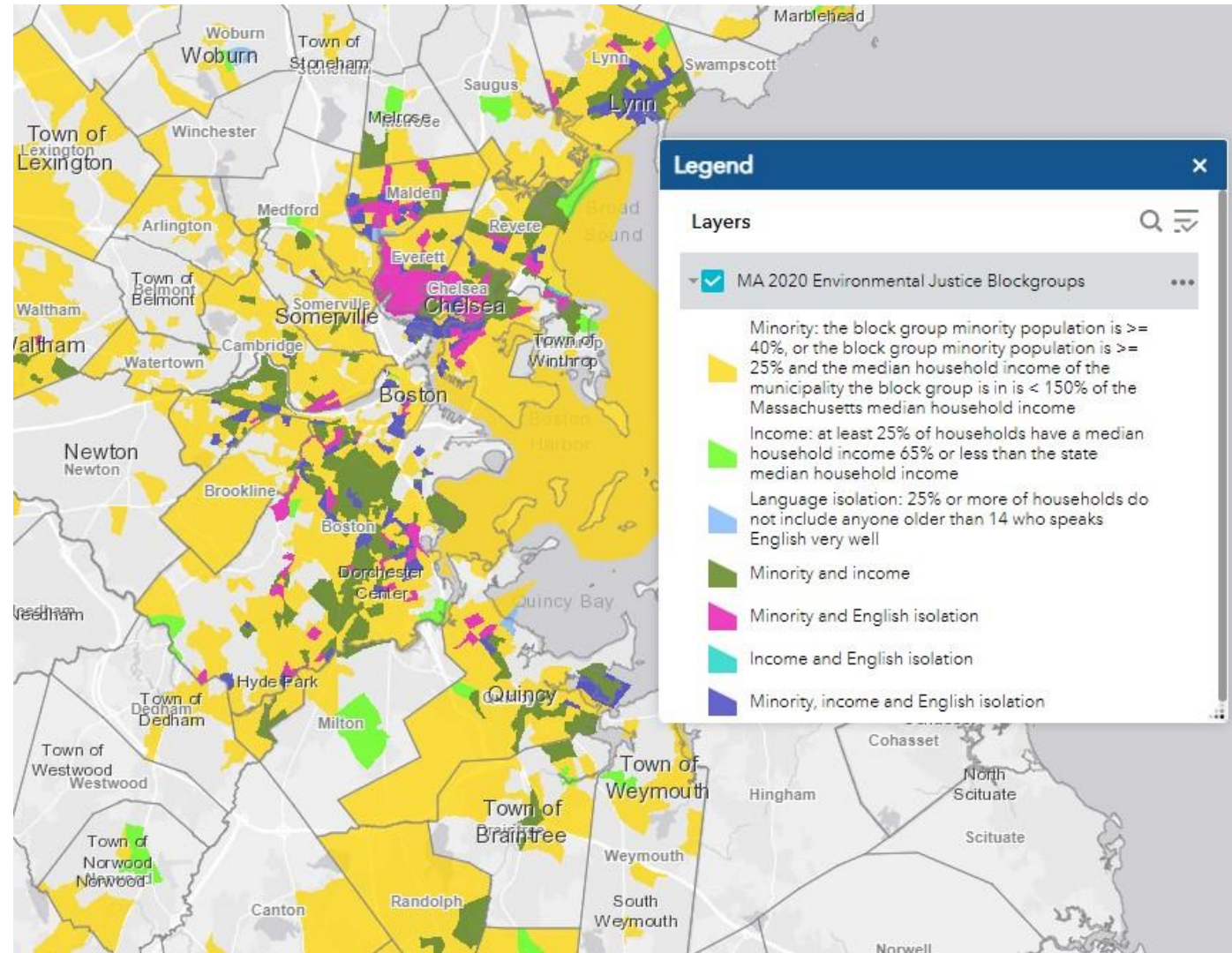
- Significant increases in income eligible budgets, enhanced incentives designed to better reach targeted customer segments, including moderate income customers

Equity and EJ Municipality Targets

- Setting equity targets, including tracking and reporting for identified customer segments and EJMs identified in the non-participant study across both residential and small/micro business segments

Equity Commitments

- Specific commitments related to expansion of Community First Partnership Program, equity metric tracking and reporting across both residential and small/micro business segments



[Massachusetts Environmental Justice Map Viewer](#)
displaying 2020 EJ block groups

Locational Equity in Massachusetts

Cost-effective EE/DR

- Locational focus based on Environmental Justice Municipalities (EJMs)* and historically underserved demographics identified in 2020 Non-Participant Study (renters, English-isolated customers, etc.)
- Community First Partnerships – targeted community engagement in 75% of the EJMs
- Workforce diversity:
 - Reporting on DBE contracts and spending
 - Two workshops per year to educate DBEs on PA programs, annual direct targeted outreach to all DBEs in Mass Supplier Diversity Office database
 - Clean Energy Pathways program – EE internships targeting disadvantaged students
- Specific equity targets in 2022-2024 Plan Term Sheet
 - Renter, mod-income, English Isolated customer participation and savings goals; WFD
 - Equity included in Performance Incentive

*EJMs are communities where:

- 1) Greater than 33% of the population resides in an environmental justice block group and the municipality (as a whole) meets the EJ municipality's income criteria and at least one additional criterion (e.g., minority or English isolation);and
- 2) Consumption weighted participation rate from the Non-Participant Study \leq 30%

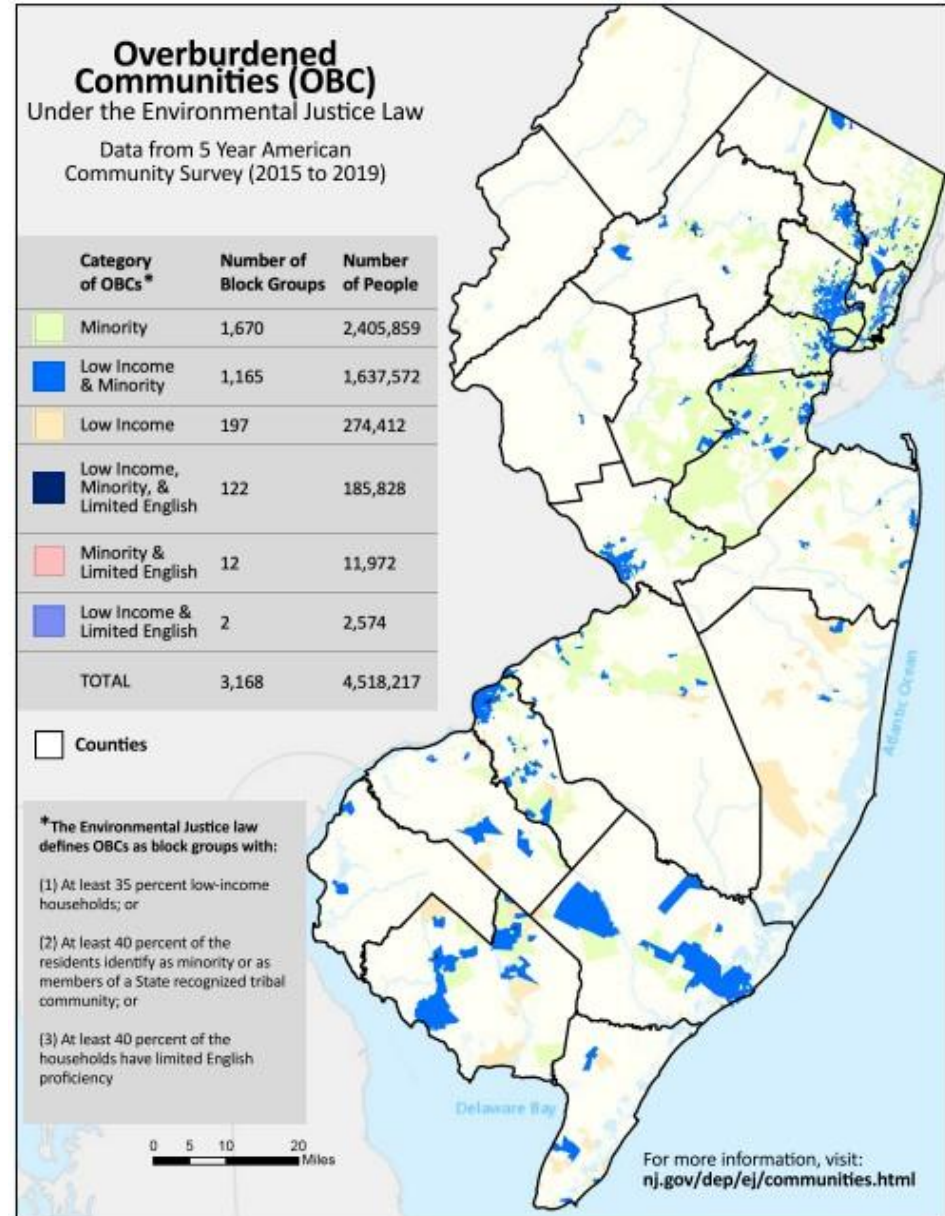
Locational Equity in New Jersey

Legislative Guidance

- 2018 Clean Energy Act called for programs that allow “universal access to energy efficiency measures, and serve the needs of low-income communities”
- Legislature designated an overburdened community (OBC) as any census block group meeting certain thresholds for income, minority population, or English proficiency
- NJ Clean Energy Equity Act – supports low-income access to NJ clean energy programs

Environmental Justice Community Targets

- BPU Framework Order for utility EE programs to coordinate automatic or alternative program eligibility requirements based for OBCs
- Clean Energy Equity Act set specific targets for energy savings, low-income solar capacity, and workforce development for OBCs



Locational Equity in New Jersey

Legislative Guidance

- 2018 Clean Energy Act: “universal access to energy efficiency measures, and serve the needs of low-income communities”
- NJ Clean Energy Equity Act helps low-income NJ families benefit from solar, storage, and energy efficiency through bill savings, job training, and targeted investment.
 - Established the Office of Clean Energy Equity
 - Specific deployment goals for overburdened communities (OBCs)

An overburdened community (OBC) is as any census block group in which:

- 1) At least 35 percent of the households qualify as low-income households (at or below twice the poverty threshold as determined by the United States Census Bureau); or
- 2) At least 40 percent of the residents identify as minority or as members of a State recognized tribal community; or
- 3) At least 40 percent of the households have limited English proficiency (without an adult that speaks English “very well” according to the United States Census Bureau).

Environmental Justice Community and DBE Targets

- BPU Framework Order required automatic or alternative eligibility requirements for OBCs, as well as support for supplier diversity
- Utilities required implementation vendors to have Diverse Business Enterprise (DBE) Supplier Utilization Plans, to indicate how much work and spending would be allocated to minority, women, LGBTQ+, veteran, and service-disabled veteran-owned businesses
 - These Supplier Utilization Plans also included reporting on spend and job creation in seven target disadvantaged NJ cities

National Grid Remarks

Discussion prompts

What other objectives may be considered when conducting incremental outreach?

Could external funding sources be leveraged to support locational outreach?

Under what circumstances might we consider locational adders for additional incentives?

(Aside from SRP/non-wires solutions)