



STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

# ENERGY EFFICIENCY & RESOURCE MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

CONSULTANT TEAM

## 2023 Energy Efficiency Plan Outline Memo Overview

**Presented By:** EERMC Consultant Team

**Date:** June 16, 2022



# Outline

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General Overview

Program Strategies & Approaches

- Residential
- C&I
- Cross-cutting

Next Steps – key considerations and expectations



# Overall Areas of Strength

Consistent with previous versions of the Outline Memo

Provides descriptions and concrete commitments of how stakeholder priorities and recommendations from prior planning cycles will be implemented

- Prior Plan Outline Memo included less committal language

Shows responsiveness to changing global economic challenges including rising commodity costs and supply chain issues

Includes language that is responsive to recent PUC rulings on 2022 Plan



# Expected Enhancements

Detail on how transition in Company ownership impacts (or doesn't) plan development

Mention of setting energy reduction goals that will contribute to meeting Act on Climate

- EE will need to be a significant contributor to meeting statewide GHG emissions reduction goals – expect to see quantification of EE's contribution to goals

Detail on how the Company will address any potential new recommendations from the Equity Working Group's and/or changes based on experience from 2022 enhancements



# Residential & Income Eligible – Strengths

## EnergyWise

- Providing contractor lists and funding and/or financing options for weatherization barrier remediation
- Utilize Non-Participation study results to target areas with lower participation rates

## Income-Eligible

- Builds on third-party support model with continuation of Inter-Agency Referral pathway that recently started
- More proactive about addressing product shortages for appliance failures

## Multifamily

- Commitment to utilize Multifamily Census Study to target non-participants
- Utilize study to update marketing materials

## HVAC

- Leverage results of Participant and Non-Participant studies to promote cost-effective electric heat opportunities



# Residential & Income Eligible – Expected Enhancements

## EnergyWise

- Exploration of reduced weatherization incentives for non-electric and non-gas heated homes

## Income-Eligible

- Improve connection between AMP audits and Weatherization audits and work
- Improve collection of weatherization barrier data

## Multifamily

- Comprehensive detail on how results of MF Census study will be utilized
- Commitment to start leveraging results of study to target largest multifamily facilities is good, but would like to see more detail about how the results will be used to target smaller facilities as well

## Products

- More detail on what type of new-to-the-program consumer products the Company is screening

## New Construction

- No mention of considerations around sunseting the gas side of this program

## ConnectedSolutions

- No mention of continued or expanded efforts



# Commercial & Industrial – Strengths

Consideration of enhanced incentives to combat supply chain and inflation

Tangible efforts and initiatives to deliver more non-lighting savings

- Building Analytics Program as an extension of Equipment & Systems Performance Optimization (ESPO) initiative
- Workforce development and training efforts
- Small Business weatherization/building envelope measures

Maximizing the remaining lighting savings by focusing on controls



# Commercial & Industrial – Expected Enhancements

Equity continues to be omitted from C&I section of the Plan Outline

- Company/C-Team should investigate whether there is a connection to lower Small Biz participation and underserved communities

Decrease in anticipated savings, despite maintained importance of GHG emissions reductions

- How to achieve climate goals in the face of rising costs and concerns about cost efficiency?





# Cross-Cutting & Other Elements

Performance Incentive Mechanism modification requests

- Removal of the RIIB and OER transfers from PIM-eligible costs
- Inclusion of carbon benefits in the PIM

Commitment to include delivered fuel bill impacts to rate and bill impacts section of plan

New section on leveraging use of RGGI funds in Plan

Other plan elements identified requiring more specifics :

- State Policies (Act on Climate, other potential pending legislation adoption)
- Improved approaches to ensuring participation in the Community-Based Initiatives
- Detail on how the Company will address reduced EM&V budgets, particularly given lower ability/ease of leveraging studies across state lines



# Next Steps

**June 16<sup>th</sup>:** Consultant Team provides Rhode Island Energy with comments on 2023 Plan Outline Memo based on full review and Council input

**July 12<sup>th</sup>:** Rhode Island Energy builds on feedback on the Plan Outline Memo and distributes 2023 Plan First Draft

**Ongoing:** Rhode Island Energy, Consultant Team, OER, Division and other stakeholders engaged in planning discussions



# Council Member Discussion

