

2025 EE Plan Docket – Open Meeting Recap



Rhode Island Energy™
a PPL company



STATE OF RHODE ISLAND
OFFICE OF
ENERGY RESOURCES

Joint Consultant Team, Rhode Island Energy, and OER Presentation

Date: January 16, 2025

Outline



Council Topics

Rhode Island Energy Topics

Office of Energy Resources Topics

Next Steps



Council Topics

Commission Discussion on Council Topics



Council's 2025 Budget of \$980,175 was approved as proposed

Commission appreciative of Councilor Teichert's participation

Commission discussed some of the Council's Priorities

- Savings Goals
- Act on Climate
- Equity

Council requested ruling for Equity Performance Incentive Mechanism (PIM) roadmap not granted by Commission

- Expects Company to continue to act in good faith
- Commission confident that existing PIM framework addresses concerns about underperformance in Income Eligible and Multifamily programs



Rhode Island Energy Topics

Rhode Island Energy Slides- Main Takeaways



Overall Unanimous Approval

- No changes ordered or follow-on requirements

Positive feedback from PUC on the plan and support from DPUC

- Supported our justifications for keeping negative Cost of Supply programs

Address DPUC recommendations on OER coordination and carbon accounting

PIM is working as intended

- Changes last year led to utility system benefits increasing in Income Eligible, Multi-Family
- Current PIM structure accounts for Equity through Service Quality Adjustments on Income Eligible and Residential programs

Rhode Island Energy Slides- PUC Perspective



Comm. Anthony: changes “represent program planning decisions that will make program a better deal for customers”

- EWSF audit budget- shifted a chunk from elec to gas- smart move by utility, reduces pressure on elec rates, makes electrification more appealing
- Spending less on Oil Wx, but spending more efficiently
- IESF- budget slightly lower but kWh up. Kind of movement we want to see.
- C&I- reductions foretold in Market Potential Study- 3 trends- reduction in lighting, increasing codes and standards, increasing freeridership. No surprise
- Easiest and cheapest EE has been secured first, increasingly harder to get, would be surprised by the opposite.
- Doesn't represent a failed program, consistent with expectations, absent new EE tech.
- Asking elec customers to pay for oil is challenging. Transfer of wealth from urban to rural/suburban customers. Inconsistent with other equity concerns. Always keep in mind- who pays in and who gets benefits.

Rhode Island Energy Slides- Other Highlights



Using Gas SBC for delivered fuels measures

Non-Energy Impacts were scrutinized

Moving from annual plans to 3-year plans



Office of Energy Resources Topics

Coordination and Communication



Interest in future discussion of coordination between OER programs and Rhode Island Energy programs

- Example: Clean Heat Rhode Island and weatherization programming

Interest in increasing communication between PUC staff and the Council throughout the year

- Example: Invite PUC staff to present at future Council meetings



Next Steps

What's Next?



Docket is complete and 2025 programs are now set to be implemented

Identifying key outcomes from the Docket that should be considered when developing the 2026 Plan

Continue and improve ongoing coordination and engagement amongst parties

Council Discussion





APPENDIX

Schedule, Data Requests, Cross-Examination Summary from December Council Meeting

Regulatory Schedule



- ☑ **10/1:** 2025 Annual Plan filed with the PUC
- ☑ **10/21:** Council Cost-Effectiveness Report filed
- ☑ **10/25:** Deadline for parties to file motion to intervene
- ☑ **10/30:** Objections to motions to intervene
- ☑ **10/31:** Council Testimony regarding budget
- ☑ **11/15:** Intervenor/Division Pre-Filed Testimony/Comments

Regulatory Schedule (con't)



- ✓ Ongoing: Data Requests
- ✓ 11/22: RI Energy Reply Testimony/Comments
- ✓ 12/10: PUC Hearings
- ✓ 12/11: PUC Hearings, continued
- ✓ 12/12: PUC Hearings, continued
- ✓ 12/15: Council deadline for providing estimate of remaining 2024 expenses
- ✓ 12/19: PUC Open Meeting

Summary of Data Requests



PUC and Division issued 147 questions to Rhode Island Energy and Office of Energy Resources

- Coordination with Other Initiatives (Clean Heat RI, IRA funded programs, etc)
- Cost of Energy Efficiency/Cost of Supply
- GHG Reductions Accounting
- Delivered Fuels
- Rate and Bill Impacts
- Non-Energy Impacts
- Pre-Weatherization Barriers
- Miscellaneous Program Proposals

Council Data Requests



Council issued 9 questions to the Company, Division, and OER to inform pre-file testimony

- Economic Impacts in RI Test BCR
- Equity Based Performance Incentive Mechanism (PIM) Roadmap
- Rate and Bill Impacts
- Heating System Replacements

Council received 10 questions from PUC

- Equity PIM Roadmap and Equity Working Group
- Impact of funding delivered fuels weatherization through electric programs
- Rate and Bill impact testimony follow-ups
- Council's 2024 RFPs & Consultant Services subcontractors

Themes of Division Cross-Examination



The Division posed questions to the Company on several topics:

- Timing and coordination of audits, weatherization, and heat pumps
- Emissions accounting
- Program marketing
- Moving allocation of gas energy audits from electric to gas portfolio
- Criteria for large (\$3M+ incentive) projects
- Assumptions for subsidizing income eligible programs

Themes of Commission Cross-Examination



The Commission also engaged in many of the Division's areas of cross-examination

The Commission identified several other areas of interest for its cross-examination of the Company:

- Measure-specific questions
- Cost of EE vs. Cost of Supply
- Non-Energy Impacts
- Equity metrics

Council Cross-Examination



Consultant Team and Councilor Teichert responded to cross-examination from both the Commission and the Division

Key Themes:

- Equity Working Group and roadmap for equity-based PIM
- Ratepayer impacts
- EE contribution to Act on Climate Mandates
- Council website
- Council budget presentation
- EE & Climate Awareness Campaign

Commission was pleased to have a member of the Council testify!