

MEMO

CONSULTANT TEAM

TO: Energy Efficiency Council
FROM: EEC Consultant Team
CC: Office of Energy Resources
DATE: July 17, 2025
RE: June 17th EEC Meeting Briefing Memo



PURPOSE OF BRIEFING MEMO

The purpose of this briefing memo is to assist members of the Energy Efficiency Council¹ with digesting the many materials and decisions they may need to make at each meeting. It follows a similar format to the meeting agenda so Councilors can follow along throughout the meeting. For each agenda item, this memo will highlight key considerations for the Council and clearly indicate what actions (if any) the Council needs to take. The Consultant Team (C-Team) has worked with the Office of Energy Resources (OER) to also incorporate the content that Councilors are used to seeing in the “Recommended Vote Language” document. This ensures the Council has a single point of reference during meetings. This memo will also note any supplemental materials that are provided, but not associated with, specific agenda items. The C-Team and OER welcome any feedback on the format and content.

6. PROGRAM OVERSIGHT

6A. PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION OF 2025 Q1 PROGRAM RESULTS

Key Considerations

- The Company’s presentation includes program highlights, performance updates, and equity metrics updates
- Many of the Q1 savings and spending figures are marked as preliminary due to tracking system issues and typical early-year reporting lags
- Full reporting of equity metrics are included in the appendix of the Company’s presentation
- The Company’s formal First Quarter report with significantly more detail is included as a material

Discussion Questions

- Given the reporting lags and data limitations in Q1, what is the Company doing to ensure that the next quarterly update will be complete and provide a more reliable assessment of how programs are performing?
- What programs is the Company concerned about not hitting goal, and what is the Company doing to drive increased activity.

¹ All materials associated with the Energy Efficiency Council are the work of the “Energy Efficiency and Resource Management Council” and any public meetings materials posted on the RI Secretary of State website should be searched using that title.

- Are there resources that the Company does not have (or does not have enough of) that would help improve portfolio and/or individual program performance?
- Why has the Company chosen to share annual savings (instead of lifetime savings) in the year-to-date performance charts?

Council Actions

Required Vote

Potential Vote

No Vote

6B. RHODE ISLAND ENERGY PRESENTATION ON 2026 PLAN DEVELOPMENT UPDATES

Key Considerations

- Stakeholder input on the first draft is strong and diverse, with comments spanning critical areas like budget priorities, alignment with Act on Climate, and equity.
- Budget adjustments are a central concern that all commenters weighed in on, with four stakeholder groups opposing cuts and the Division of Public Utilities and Carriers in favor of them.
- Program-level breakouts of spending categories are included for recent plans and actuals, but unclear what story that data tells.

Discussion Questions

- Can the Company give an early preview, or any insights, as to how it is incorporating the feedback received on the first draft into the second draft?
- With several stakeholders strongly opposing the proposed reductions in program budgets, is there anything the Company will do to address those concerns, or should stakeholders expect budget levels to remain in the ballpark of what was proposed in the 2026 Plan?
- What does the Company see as the key takeaway from presentation of spending categories by program?

Council Actions

Required Vote

Potential Vote

No Vote

6C. PRESENTATION AND FACILITATED DISCUSSION ON THE 2026 DRAFT PLAN

Key Considerations

- The C-Team will present on the outcomes of its review of the first draft of the 2026 Plan, including key drivers of change, quantitative elements reviewed, and feedback provided on the Plan narrative
- Reducing near term bills and “right-sizing” programs are frequently references as key reasons for reduced goals and budgets

- There is plenty of room for improvement of the proposed Plan, including opportunities to improve effectiveness and clarity of program designs and their resulting impacts.

Discussion Questions

- With significant reductions in proposed electric and gas budgets, what programs are changing the most in terms of savings impact? Which are changing the least?
- In developing the budget and savings for the first draft of the plan, what was the Company's approach to reducing budgets?
- What areas of the budget, especially for non-incentive costs, does the Company feel it can be more efficient with?
- What level of cost-effective savings is the Company proposing to forgo by reducing program budgets?

Council Actions

Required Vote

Potential Vote

No Vote

6D. PRESENTATION ON COUNCIL COMMENTS SUBMISSION IN DOCKET 25-16-NG ("OLD MILL LANE")

Key Considerations

- The C-Team will give an overview of a comment memo it has drafted based on its review of Rhode Island Energy's filing related to the Old Mill Lane Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) vaporization facility
- The Company's filing and report concluded that it is technically feasible to use non-pipe alternatives to address the gas capacity gap, it would require levels of heat pump adoption that far exceed what it believes is possible
- The study was well research and put together, though the C-Team does provide comments on cost-effectiveness, cost assumptions, and adoption assumptions.
- The Council may vote to approve the submission of the draft comments included in the memo for inclusion in the Public Utilities Commission Docket on this matter. Comments are due today, though the Council's legal representative will ask for a brief extension.

Discussion Questions

- What are the next steps on this matter, and will there be additional opportunity to provide input or comment?
- Are there mechanisms in place to revise or revisit the conclusions of the study if market conditions or policy landscapes change?
- How does the Company plan to use the outcomes of this analysis to inform any future program design?

Council Actions

Required Vote

Potential Vote

No Vote

7. COUNCIL BUSINESS

7A. COUNCIL DISCUSSION OF THE 2026 DRAFT EEC BUDGET PROPOSAL

Key Considerations

- OER will present a first draft of the Council's proposed 2026 budget.
- The Council's 2026 budget proposal must be finalized and submitted to the Company for inclusion in its 2026 Energy Efficiency Plan filing.
- The Council should plan to work towards a vote on its proposed 2026 budget in either July or August.
- The Company's proposed budget reductions for 2026 and associated collections needed from ratepayers may result in the maximum statutory allocation for the Council being near or below its 2025 budget.

Discussion Questions

- What public education activities would the Council like to pursue in 2026?
- Are there Dockets or regulatory activities on the horizon for 2026 that the Council may want to participate in?
- How would the Council like to determine its energy efficiency targets for 2027-2029 and approach any market potential studies?
- Are there any modifications or additional information that you would like regarding Council services (consultants, legal, etc.)?
- Are there sponsorship opportunities of interest for 2026?

Council Actions

Required Vote

Potential Vote

No Vote

SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIALS

MONTHLY DATA SNAPSHOT

The Company's process for transitioning from its legacy data-reporting systems to its new one is continuing to take longer than initially expected. The C-Team will begin distributing Monthly Data

Snapshots to the Councilors again as soon as possible once the Company's data reporting system transition is complete.

COUNCIL BUDGET TRACKER

OER has provided an updated version of the Council's budget tracker for 2025.

COUNCIL CALENDAR OF EVENTS

The Consultant Team has provided a 2025 version of the Council's Calendar of Events which includes meeting dates, topics, and proposed milestones for planning activities related to the 2026 EE Plan.

INITIAL DRAFT OF AUGUST COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA

An initial draft of the August Council meeting agenda is included. Councilors are welcome to share any feedback.