

MEMO

CONSULTANT TEAM

TO: Energy Efficiency Council
FROM: EEC Consultant Team
CC: Office of Energy Resources
DATE: October 16, 2025
RE: October 16th 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. REGULATORY PROCEEDINGS UPDATE AND DISCUSSION

Key Considerations

- The Consultant Team and OER will give the Council an overview of recent and ongoing relevant regulatory dockets
- Updates are generally brief and intended to spur interest and discussion amongst Councilors about which are important to follow and/or engage in

Discussion Questions

- Are there any Dockets covered here today that the Council would like to learn more about?
- Should the Council establish a more formal process for following and/or engaging in Dockets (either these or those to-be-established) when timing/schedules may not afford full Council discussion and input?
- Are there certain criteria that the Council has in mind for dockets that may not exist yet

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.

Council Actions

Required Vote

Potential Vote

No Vote

6B. DISCUSSION OF THE COUNCIL'S COMMENTS AND APPROACH FOR ENGAGEMENT IN THE 2026 ENERGY EFFICIENCY PLAN DOCKET PROCEEDINGS

Key Considerations

- The Council has three core mechanisms by which to engage in the Docket: data requests, pre-filed testimony, and participation in hearings.
- The Council plans to file three sets of testimony
 - Development of the Council's proposed 2026 budget
 - C-Team testimony covering engagement in Plan review, Council vote and summary of reasons, etc.
 - Individual Councilor testimony covering broader topics of interest
- Two important goals for today's discussion:
 - Review Council vote and clarify its position
 - Confirm subject areas to be raised in pre-file testimony

Discussion Questions

- Are there any specific topics that the Council wants to be sure are included in the pre-file testimony?
- How does the Council want its testimony to convey its position regarding savings goals (i.e. inform of a general preference for maintaining goals for 2025 versus requesting the Commission approve a level of savings different from what the Company has filed)?
- Is the Council's position on the bullet above the same for Electric vs. Gas?
- What are the pros and cons of utilizing different strategies for conveying the Council's position?

Council Actions

Required Vote

Potential Vote

No Vote

6C. PRESENTATION ON THE COST-EFFECTIVENESS REPORT FOR THE 2026 ANNUAL ENERGY EFFICIENCY PLAN

Key Considerations

- Least Cost Procurement Standards require that the Council submit a report on its assessment of the cost-effectiveness of the 2026 Annual Plan.
- The report must be filed within three weeks of the Plan filing.
- The C-Team has prepared this report for consideration by the Council at the October meeting, which falls within the three-week deadline.

Discussion Questions

- Are there any changes to the report that the C-Team has implemented relative to prior iterations?
- What does the cost of energy efficiency compared to cost of supply analysis say about the value of the suite of programs?
- Did the Council's vote on the 2026 Plan impact any of the content included in the cost-effectiveness report?

Council Actions

Required Vote

Potential Vote

No Vote

Recommended Vote Language

- **Vote to approve without amendments:** *A motion to approve the cost-effectiveness report as currently written and to direct its Consultant Team and Legal Representatives to submit the report to the PUC by the October 22, 2025 deadline.*
- **Vote to approve with amendments:** *A motion to approve the cost-effectiveness report as currently written with the following amendments (state amendments), and to direct its Consultant Team and Legal Representatives to submit the report to the PUC by the October 22, 2025 deadline.*

7. COUNCIL BUSINESS

7A. PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION ON SETTING 2027-2029 ENERGY EFFICIENCY TARGETS

Key Considerations

- The Council is required to develop and submit to the PUC energy efficiency program targets for the period of 2027-2029
- The purpose of the targets is to help establish what is potentially available cost-effective efficiency and to guide establishment of savings goals

- Targets historically have utilized potential study results for the corresponding years. Since the most recent study only goes through 2026, the Council will need to identify resources and a potential approach for ensuring it is able to develop its proposed targets for 2027-2029.

Discussion Questions

- Of the report components that are optional, are there any that the Council would like to include as part of this work?
- How should the Council balance benefits of setting aggressive targets with risks of overestimating market readiness or budget capacity?
- How should other policy/priorities be considered (e.g., equity and access, integration with Act on Climate, etc.)?

Council Actions

Required Vote

Potential Vote

No Vote

7B. PLANNING DISCUSSION FOR THE COUNCIL'S LEARNING, EDUCATION, AND ADVANCEMENT DISCUSSION (LEAD) SESSION

Key Considerations

- Twice per year, the Council holds a Learning, Education, and Advancement Discussion (LEAD) meeting to focus on topics it may not have time to during regularly scheduled meetings.
- While structured, LEAD meetings are typically less formal than normal Council meetings and present an opportunity for more open discussion amongst Council members.
- The C-Team, with input from the Council's Education Committee, has developed a draft agenda to review with the full Council for its Fall LEAD meeting.

Discussion Questions

- Is the proposed agenda detailed enough to give Councilors a clear sense of what to expect for the LEAD session?
- Are the time allocations for the proposed agenda items sufficient?
- Are there other agenda items the Council would like to cover during the LEAD session?

Council Actions

Required Vote

Potential Vote

No Vote

SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIALS

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.

COUNCIL BUDGET TRACKER

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

INITIAL DRAFT OF NOVEMBER 20 COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA

An initial draft of the November 20th Council meeting agenda is included. Councilors are welcome to share any feedback.

MONTHLY DATA SNAPSHOT

The Consultant Team has provided a monthly data snapshot which includes several visuals to display lifetime savings and spending achieved through the month of July, relative to plan goals.

COUNCIL NEWSLETTER

The Consultant Team has provided its next iteration of the Newsletter to the Council. The purpose of the Newsletter is to keep Councilors apprised of activities and developments that are relevant to the Council's interests, but that may not be able to be covered as topics on Council meeting agendas. The Newsletter covers a wide variety of topics such as updates on Equity Working Group and Executive Climate Change Coordinating Council (EC4) meetings, relevant regional energy news, and upcoming energy events.