

MEMO

CONSULTANT TEAM

TO: Energy Efficiency Council
FROM: EEC Consultant Team
CC: Office of Energy Resources
DATE: March 19, 2026
RE: March 19th 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. 2025 CONNECTED SOLUTIONS PROGRAM RESULTS AND NEXT STEPS WITH SYSTEM RELIABILITY PROCUREMENT PRESENTATION

Key Considerations

- Rhode Island Energy will continue its presentation on the 2025 ConnectedSolutions demand response program results
- Rhode Island Energy will preview next steps for the 2027-2029 SRP planning
- The ConnectedSolutions program is Rhode Island Energy’s active demand response program
- 2025 program performance in the ballpark of 2024 performance
- Some participant fatigue evident, particularly with C&I offerings

Discussion Questions

- What strategies could improve participation in underperforming pathways?
- How will the performance of the programs over the past couple of years inform the evolution to the design of these programs in the future?
- How is the Company planning to address customer fatigue/unenrollment from the program?

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

7. COUNCIL BUSINESS

7A. CONSULTANT TEAM PRESENTATION AND VOTE ON SETTING 2027-2029 ENERGY EFFICIENCY TARGETS

Key Considerations

- The Council's C-Team will present an update on recommended energy efficiency targets for 2027-2029
- Targets are a statutory requirement and must reflect potentially available cost-effective efficiency
- Target development relies heavily on existing market potential studies with targeted updates

Discussion Questions

- Do the proposed Targets meet the LCP requirement to identify all potentially available cost-effective efficiency?
- Are there additional findings, analyses, or clarifications the Council needs before it is comfortable recommending these Targets?
- How should other policy/priorities be considered (e.g., including or excluding new efficient gas equipment)?

Council Actions

Required Vote

Potential Vote

No Vote

Recommended Vote Language

- **A motion to approve and adopt the 2027-2029 targets as presented** by the Council's Consultant Team on March 19, 2026 and to direct the Council's legal counsel to file these targets with the Public Utilities Commission.
- **A motion to approve and adopt the 2027-2029 targets, with amendments**, as presented by the Council's Consultant Team on March 19, 2026 with the following amendments {state amendments} and to direct the Council's legal counsel to file these targets with the Public Utilities Commission.

7B. DISCUSSION OF COUNCIL PRIORITIES AND POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

Key Considerations

- Priorities and policy recommendations are intended to provide policy makers, stakeholders, Rhode Island Energy, and regulators with a clear sense of the Council’s strategic direction
- Major legislative proposals, including a cap on program budgets, could significantly reshape the scope and impact of energy efficiency programs
- The Council should be strategic in deciding which topics it prioritizes and how it plans to communicate its priorities and its policy recommendations

Discussion Questions

- Which topics feel most urgent and relevant right now?
- Which recommendations should be carried forward, changed or let go?
- How does the Council want to make its policy recommendations and/or plan priorities actionable, and how can the Council make sure these are clear and timely for key decision makers?

Council Actions



Recommended Vote Language

- **A motion to approve and adopt the Priorities and Policy Recommendations for the 2027-2029 Energy Efficiency Plan as presented** by the Consultant team on March 19, 2026.
- **A motion to approve and adopt the Priorities and Policy Recommendations for the 2027-2029 Energy Efficiency Plan, with amendments,** as presented by the Consultant team on March 19, 2026 with the following amendments {state amendments}.

7C. REVIEW OF THE UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND’S PUBLIC EDUCATION SERVICES

Key Considerations

- The Council will review the results of the URI’s 2025 community of practice and lecture series, EEC’s current contract with URI, and the proposed scope of work for 2026
- The Council will have time for discussion about these services and will have the option to vote to execute a contract extension with URI Cooperative Extension
- The EEC’s Education Committee reviewed and discussed URI’s proposed scope of work at its meeting on March 10th and indicated it was generally ready to move forward with a contract extension

Discussion Questions

- Is the University of Rhode Island Cooperative Extension meeting its expectations and deliverables?

- If electing to issue a contract extension, are there any changes to the existing contract that the Council would recommend?
- If electing not to issue a contract extension, would the Council want to put this work back out to bid? If not, does the Council have thoughts about whether it would reallocate the approved funding for this line item in the Council's budget?

Council Actions

Required Vote

Potential Vote

No Vote

Recommended Vote Language

- **A motion to execute a [state term length] extension of the existing contract with the URI Cooperative Extension** and to direct the Office of Energy Resources to work with the EEC Legal Counsel to execute the contract extension documents.

SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIALS

COUNCIL BUDGET TRACKER

OER has provided an update to the 2025 budget tracker and an initial version of the Council's budget tracker for 2026.

MONTHLY DATA SNAPSHOT

The Company is still finalizing year-end reporting for 2025 and working to ensure there are not 2025 projects included in the 2026 data. The C-Team will begin distributing Monthly Data Snapshots to the Councilors again as soon as possible, likely starting at the April meeting.

DRAFT APRIL COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA

OER has provided an initial draft of the meeting agenda for the Council's April 16, 2026 meeting. Councilors are welcome and encouraged to provide feedback.

EEC ADVISORY MEMBER UPDATE ON EE ADMINISTRATOR RFP

Councilors Gill Case and De La Cruz have provided a memo updating the Council on the outcomes of the state-required energy efficiency administration RFP process.

COUNCIL MEMBER APPOINTMENTS

Councilor Oakley and Gill Case submitted a letter and memo to OER and the Governor's office making recommendations for Council seat appointments. The letter and memo are included as supplemental materials for Councilor awareness.