

MEMO

CONSULTANT TEAM

TO: Energy Efficiency Council
FROM: EEC Consultant Team
CC: Office of Energy Resources
DATE: September 10, 2026
RE: September 10th 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 ON DRAFT DEMAND SIDE MANAGEMENT (“DSM”) INVESTMENT PROPOSAL

Key Considerations

- Rhode Island Energy and the Council’s Consultant Team will present an overview of its Demand Side Management (“DSM”) Investment Proposal plans regarding heat pump credits
- The presentation will review DSM Proposal, DSM guidelines, and the proposed timeline for the 2026 DSM Proposal
- There is flexibility within DSM Proposals to reduce energy costs outside of traditional energy efficiency framework (e.g., decarbonization, discounted heat pump rates)
- Like EE plans, the Council shall vote whether to endorse/not endorse DSM Proposals

Discussion Questions

- Do you feel you understand the intent behind Chapter 7 and DSM Proposals overall?
- Does the Council need any clarification on the guidelines for DSM proposals or its responsibilities?
- Does the preliminary timeline for RIE’s first-ever DSM proposal work for Councilors?

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.

Intended Outcomes

- Understand the purpose of Chapter 7 of the LCP Standards and DSM Proposals
- Collaborate with RIE and provide input to propose a process for review of DSM proposals
- Understand strategy and rationale behind RIE's first-ever DSM proposal

Council Actions

Required Vote

Potential Vote

No Vote

6B. RHODE ISLAND ENERGY PRESENTATION ON THE SECOND DRAFT OF THE 2027-2029 THREE-YEAR ENERGY EFFICIENCY PLAN

Key Considerations

- Rhode Island Energy will present an overview of the Second Draft of the 2027-2029 Three-Year Energy Efficiency Plan
- Filing of the 2027-2029 Energy Efficiency Plan with the PUC will take place on October 1, 2026
- The PUC approved updates to the Least Cost Procurement (LCP) Standards (Docket 26-15-EE) on September 1, 2026
- Key Updates of the Plan since the First Draft:
 - Affordability and Cost Effectiveness – expanded discussion of three-year planning benefits
 - Customer Listening and Equity Working Group Reports
 - Added equity content – Language access and housing-related barriers
 - Advanced Metering Functionality (AMF) & Behavioral Programs – detail on AMF use cases and substitution for Home Energy Reports (HERs)
 - Mid-term Modifications – budget trigger updated from a 10% fuel portfolio increase to a 15% sector increase or decrease
 - Outside funding coordination – more detail on funding sources and amounts
 - Retrofit LED Lighting incentives removed
 - Clarification on requirements for Combined Heat and Power (CHP) projects

Discussion Questions

- Can the Company provide any insights as to what key elements of the Plan it is still working on as it works towards the final draft?
- Does the Plan include sufficient detail for a binding, three-year implementation term?
- Will the updated LCP Standards require any changes to the Plan that were not included in the Second Draft?
- Are there additional areas of input that RIE wants from stakeholders?

Intended Outcomes

- Provide Council input on the Second Draft Three-Year Plan

- Understand updates from the First Draft and notable programmatic changes characterized in the Plan

Council Actions

Required Vote

Potential Vote

No Vote

6C. CONSULTANT TEAM PRESENTATION AND FACILITATED DISCUSSION ON THE SECOND DRAFT OF THE 2027-2029 THREE-YEAR PLAN

Key Considerations

- Key takeaways from review of the Second Draft Plan:
 - Increase in electric savings relative to First Draft, which represented a significant savings increase compared to 2025 actuals and 2026 Plan
 - Second Draft improvements: expanded equity content, more text on AMI roadmap and use cases, tracking of EM&V study recommendations
 - Opportunities for improvement: connecting customer input to program design changes, refined equity metrics, AMI integration beyond Residential
 - RIE does not anticipate making significant changes to the Plan (qualitative or quantitative) prior to filing on October 1

Discussion Questions

- Are there elements of the Plan that the Council would like the Company to focus on in finalizing the Plan?
- Do Councilors feel like the Plan makes a good faith effort to address its priorities and stakeholder input?
- What information does the Council feel like it still needs to better understand before its vote?
- Is there anything the Council would like to prioritize for regulatory review of the Plan?

Intended Outcomes

- Discuss quantitative and qualitative highlights from the Second Draft Plan
- Understand Council responsibilities and possible courses of action in preparation for a vote on the Plan on September 24th
- Discuss initial priorities for regulatory review of the Plan

Council Actions

Required Vote

Potential Vote

No Vote

7. COUNCIL BUSINESS

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

Key Considerations

- Councilors prioritized the following three topics for the upcoming LEAD Session:
 - Energy Affordability & the Value of Energy Efficiency
 - Heat Pumps, Rates & Demand-Side Management
 - The Future of Energy Efficiency Planning
- The Consultant Team will facilitate a discussion to finalize the fall LEAD Session agenda
 - Option #1: cover two topics (~70 minutes of presentation and discussion each)
 - Option #3: cover three topics (~45-50 minutes for presentation and discussion each)

Discussion Questions

- Does the Council support the following topics for the upcoming LEAD session?
 - Energy Affordability & the Value of Energy Efficiency
 - Heat Pumps, Heat Pump Rate Case, & Demand-Side Management
 - The Future of Energy Efficiency Planning
- Would the Council like to learn and discuss two topics, Energy Affordability & the Value of Energy Efficiency and Heat Pumps, Rates & Demand-Side Management (Agenda Option #1), or dive into all three topics (Agenda Option #2) during the LEAD Session?

Intended Outcomes

- Finalize the topics for the upcoming LEAD Session on October 5th
- Understand and discuss the two agenda options for the LEAD Session
- Discuss external presenters for the LEAD Session (e.g., third parties, implementers, other C-Team members)

Council Actions

Required Vote

Potential Vote

No Vote

The Council may vote to enter an Executive Session (also referred to as a closed meeting) pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-46-4(a) to discuss the Council budget and potential procurement as described in Agenda Items #7.b. The business to be discussed and the statutory purpose of entering into an Executive Session, is R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-46-5(a)(7): "A matter related to the question of the investment of public funds where the premature disclosure would adversely affect the public interest."

7B. COUNCIL DISCUSSION AND VOTE ON THE 2027-2029 DRAFT EEC BUDGET PROPOSAL

Key Considerations

- The Office of Energy Resources will present the Council’s proposed 2027-2029 budgets
- The Council’s 2027 budget proposal must be finalized and submitted to the Company for inclusion in its 2027-2029 Energy Efficiency Plan filing, which is on October 1, 2026
- LCP Standards state that the Council should manage to its total three-year budget which provides flexibility over the Plan term
- Statutory maximum EEC budget: 40% of 3% of total EE program collections

Discussion Questions

- What public education activities would the Council like to pursue in 2027?
- Are there Dockets or regulatory activities on the horizon in which the Council may want to participate in 2027-2029?
- Are there any modifications or additional information that you would like regarding Council services (consultants, legal, etc.)?
- Are there sponsorship opportunities of interest for 2027-2029?
- Is there other information that would help the Council shape its budget proposal for 2027-2029?

Intended Outcomes

- Understand each component of the Council’s budget proposal for 2027-2029
- Identify any items that may be added to, or removed from, the Council's budget proposal
- Discuss justification of items included in the budget proposal
- Refine the budget proposal to prepare for a Council vote to ensure timely inclusion in the 2027-2029 Plan

Council Actions

Required Vote

Potential Vote

No Vote

Recommended Vote Language

- **Approve the EEC Budget for 2027-2029**
 - A motion to approve the EEC Budget for 2027-2029 as presented by the Office of Energy Resources on September 10th, 2026.
- **Approve the EEC Budget for 2027-2029 with amendments**
 - A motion to approve the EEC Budget for 2027-2029 as presented by the Office of Energy Resources on September 10th, 2026 with the following amendments {state amendments}.

SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIALS

COUNCIL BUDGET TRACKER

OER has provided an update to the 2026 Council budget tracker, which includes spending through Q2 2026 and pending payments for August 2026.

DRAFT SEPTEMBER COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA

OER has provided an initial draft of the meeting agenda for the Council's September 24th, 2026 meeting. Councilors are welcome and encouraged to provide feedback.

DRAFT OCTOBER COUNCIL LEARNING, EDUCATION, AND ADVANCEMENT DISCUSSION (LEAD) AGENDA

The Consultant Team has provided a draft of the Learning, Education, and Advancement Discussion (LEAD) meeting agenda for the Council's October 5th, 2026 meeting. Councilors are welcome and encouraged to provide feedback.

COUNCIL CALENDAR OF EVENTS

The Consultant Team has provided a 2026 version of the Council's Calendar of Events which includes meeting dates, topics, and proposed milestones for planning activities related to the 2027-2029 EE Plan.