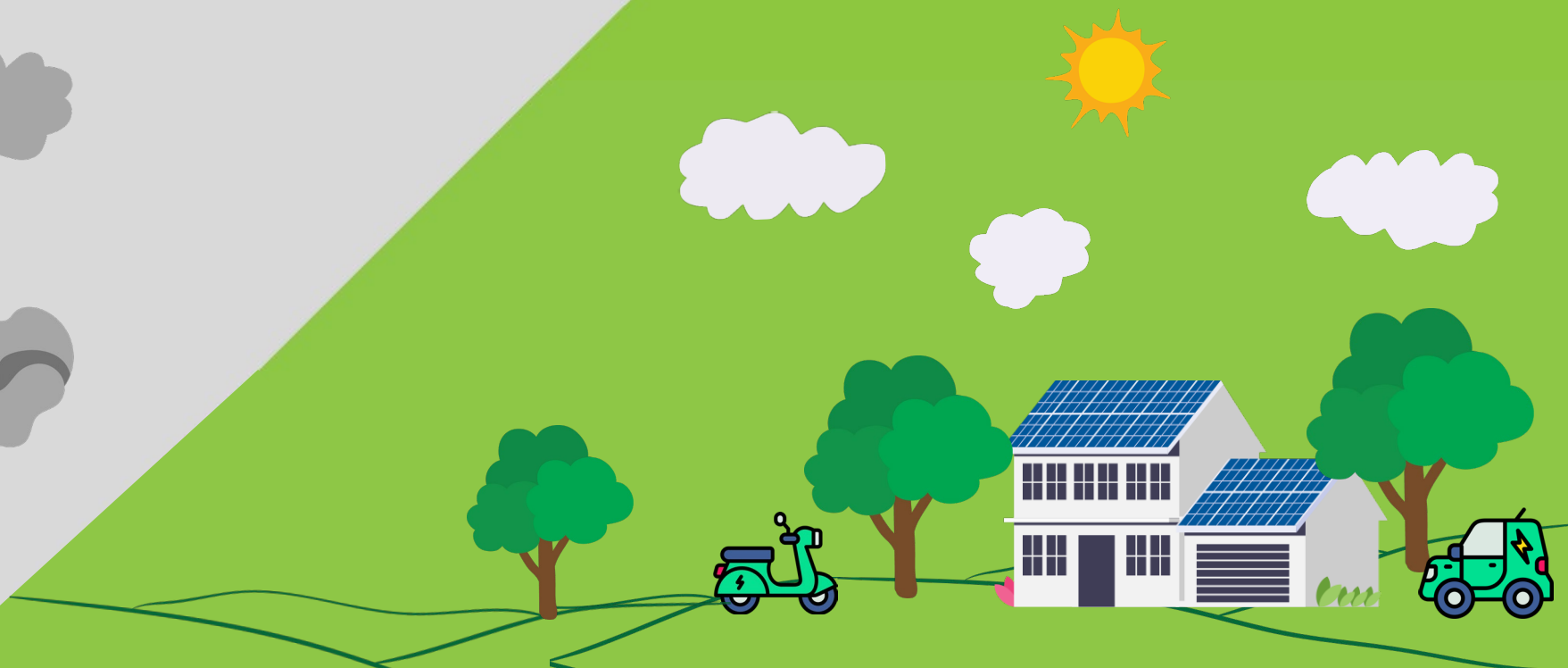
Fostering Gridtech in MA

Josh Ryor

Assistant Secretary of Energy, MA EEA



Equitable Modern Grid: Innovative Energy Solutions Program

Connecticut PURA Docket No. 17-12-03RE05

Josh Ryor Assistant Secretary of Energy

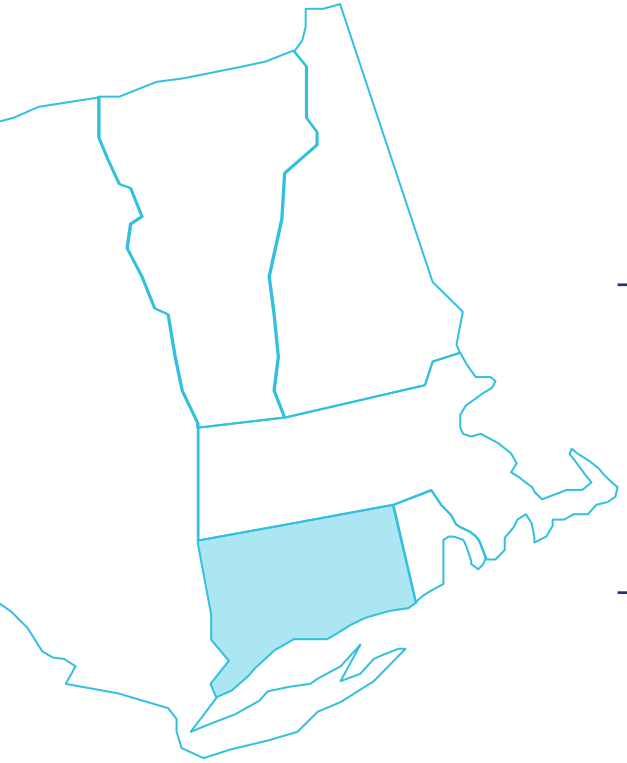
Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs

Innovation Platforms

	Test Beds	Expedited Pilot Frameworks	Regulatory Sandboxes
Purpose	Explore impacts from increased deployment of specific technology-focused projects	Expedite pilots by facilitating 'fast track' regulatory approval	Rapidly demonstrate new customer offerings and accelerate their integration into market
Regulatory Mechanisms	Traditional pilot mechanisms	Specific deployment and collaboration pathways	Bounded scope of potential waivers or exemptions, opening opportunity for new business models
Participation Pathways	Usually led and operated by EDCs	Led and operated by EDCs, often with third-party partnerships	Open to EDCs and third parties

Regulators have a spectrum of tools in their toolbox to foster an ecosystem of innovation

Connecticut: Innovation Energy Solutions (IES) Program



Purpose	Support the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority's framework for an Equitable Modern Grid
	Deploy high-value project solutions that might not otherwise be possible or expedient within the current regulatory environment
Participation Pathways	EDC-led
	Third-party developer-led
	Partnerships between EDCs and third parties
Program Structure	4 phases over a 2-year cycle
	New cohort of projects each year

Connecticut is currently designing a first-of-its-kind approach to regulatory innovation

Strategic Vision

Guiding Principles of Program Design

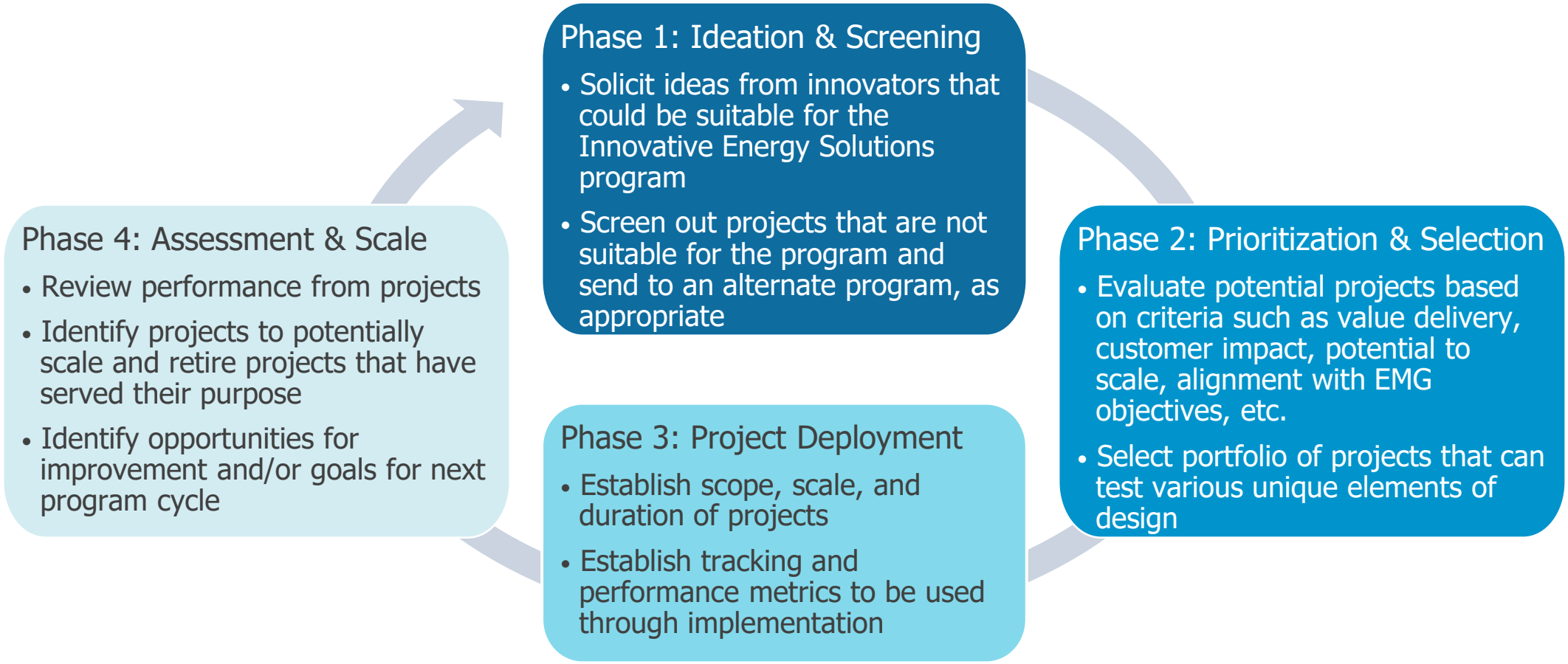




Economic Viability and Equity	Transparency	Diversity & Market Gaps	Scalability	Continuous Learning
• Deliver benefits to all customer classes & segments • Develop green jobs • Cost-effectively use customer funds to deploy projects	• Clearly communicate pilot project economics, goals & objectives for proposed projects, and decision-making criteria	• Bridge gaps in existing programming • Enable breadth and diversity of customer-facing solutions	• Demonstrate the potential to scale up past the initial pilot phase • Deliver benefits to a wide set of customers	• Integrate feedback and lessons learned from applicants, innovators, and stakeholders • Improve the program over time

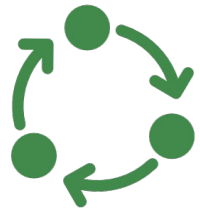
Program Schedule

Four Phases – Ideation through Scaling



Core design element is to break away from traditional 'pilotitis' and affirmatively accelerate successful pilots to full-scale deployment

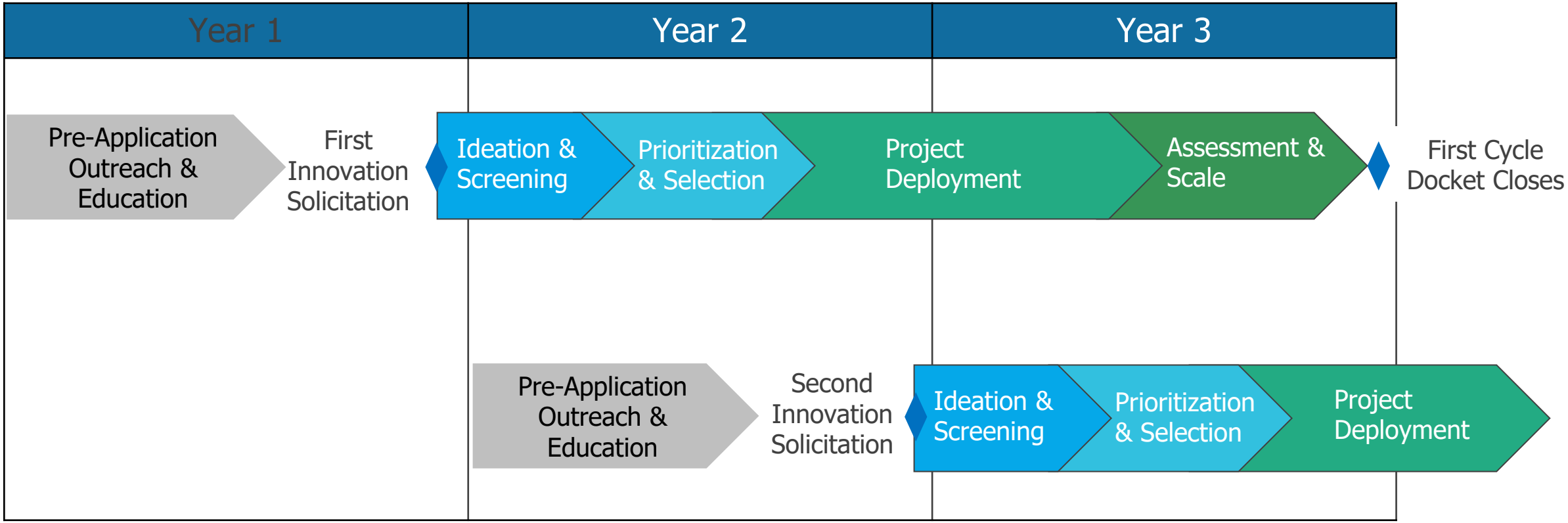
Approach to Program Schedule



Fostering an Ecosystem of Innovation	"Fail Fast" Approach	Continuous Learning and Evolution
• Focus on education and outreach • Encourage participation from the full ecosystem of potential solutions providers	• Build in an "off-ramp" at each step of the process • Aim to support projects that have the potential to provide scalable solutions	• Incorporation of lessons learned to future program cycles • Adapt to suit an array of customer, grid, and market needs

Program Schedule

Initial Timeline of Program Schedule



Anticipated Program Evolution

- Acceleration of early phases
- Increasing focus on collaborative projects
- Feedback and lessons learned from previous cycles
- Gaps and needs identified in other EMG dockets
- Shifting policy objectives

The Innovative Energy Solutions Program is designed for iteration and continuous improvement

Connecticut: Context + Resources

Framework for an Equitable Modern Grid (EMG)

+ **Framework released on October 2, 2019 (Framework and website)**
+ **Objectives**
  - Support/remove barriers to green economy
  - Cost-effective decarbonization
  - More resilient, reliable, and secure commodity
  - Advance energy affordability
+ **11 EMG "tracks" or "reopeners" including:**
  - *Phase II:* Affordability, AMI, Storage, EV, and Interconnection
    - RE05: Innovation Pilots
  - *Phase III:* NWA, Resilience, DER analysis and review
  - *Phase IV:* Resource Adequacy, Rate Design

Innovation Energy Solutions Design Process + Resources

+ **Docket Process (17-12-03RE05)**
  - Solutions Day (December 13, 2019)
  - Retained Consultant – Strategen (H2 2020)
  - Strategic Vision (December 22, 2019)
  - Straw Proposal (March 29, 2021)
  - Stakeholder Workshop (April 8, 2021)
  - Final Straw Proposal (July 23, 2021)
  - Utility Implementation Plan (October 12, 2021)
  - Final Decision and Program Design Document (March 30, 2022)
+ **Cycle 1 Docket (22-08-07)**
  - Decision selecting seven projects (December 23, 2023)
+ **Cycle 2 Docket (23-08-07)**

Contact Information

- **Program Website (ct-ies.com)**
- **Innovation Advisory Council, PURA Co-Chair (Julia Dumaine)**