Fostering Gridtech in MA

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Equitable Modern Grid: Innovative Energy Solutions Program

Connecticut PURA Docket No. 17-12-03RE05

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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
H Sn		Third-party developer-led
h		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

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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

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Program Schedule

Four Phases – Ideation through Scaling

Phase 4: Assessment & Scale

- Review performance from projects
- Identify projects to potentially scale and retire projects that have served their purpose
- Identify opportunities for improvement and/or goals for next program cycle

Phase 1: Ideation & Screening

- Solicit ideas from innovators that could be suitable for the Innovative Energy Solutions program
- Screen out projects that are not suitable for the program and send to an alternate program, as appropriate

Phase 3: Project Deployment

- Establish scope, scale, and duration of projects
- Establish tracking and performance metrics to be used through implementation

Phase 2: Prioritization & Selection

- Evaluate potential projects based on criteria such as value delivery, customer impact, potential to scale, alignment with EMG objectives, etc.
- Select portfolio of projects that can test various unique elements of design

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

Program Schedule

Approach to Program Schedule



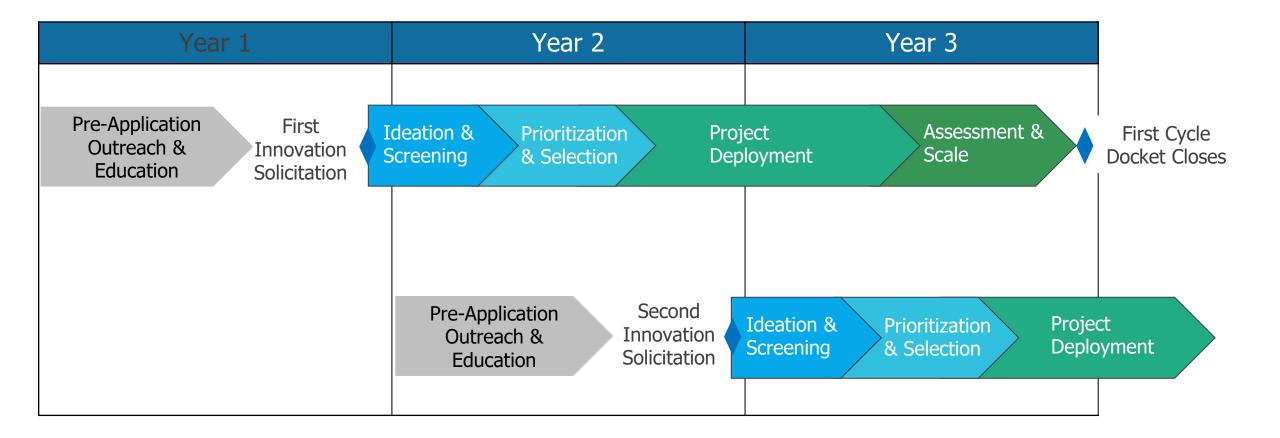




Fostering an Ecosystem of Innovation	"Fail Fast" Approach	Continuous Learning and Evolution
 Focus on education and	 Build in an "off-ramp" at	 Incorporation of lessons learned
outreach Encourage participation from	each step of the process Aim to support projects that have	to future program cycles Adapt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

Program Schedule

Initial Timeline of Program Schedule



Program Evolution

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 (<u>17-12-03RE05</u>)
 - 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)



HOME APPLY PROGRAM DETAILS ~ ABOUT RESOURCES FAQ

Innovative Energy Solutions Program

Accelerating Innovative Energy Partnerships in Connecticut.

Contact Information

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

Learn More

Program Overview

The Connecticut Innovative Energy Solutions (IES) Program is a statewide initiative to identify, pilot, and scale innovative ideas that enable a decarbonized, affordable, and equitable electric grid for Connecticut.