A. There could be, and some had been discussed during the initial stakeholder process, but none are as stable and reliable as the SBC and LDAC. One of the third-party financing options available is the Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy ("C-PACE") program. The Jordan Institute provided in-depth information during one of the technical sessions, noting that C-PACE falls under the umbrella of third-party financing, specifically for commercial buildings. C-PACE works as follows: "Municipalities voluntarily adopt RSA 53-F which allows them to establish special assessment districts where commercial building owners may finance cash-positive energy-efficiency and renewable-energy projects and tie the financing to the property through a voluntary special assessment/lien. This effectively ties the repayment to the building, not the borrower." The utilities agree with the Jordan Institute that C-PACE could work in combination with the energy efficiency programs administered by the utilities.

Q. Have other New England states used the SBC or other mechanisms to collect funding for their EERS?

Yes. Other New England states have implemented an EERS using a combination of a system benefits charge along with another mechanism to collect incremental funding. In Massachusetts, electric utilities use the Energy Efficiency Reconciliation Factor ("EERF") to collect funding if energy efficiency program costs exceed all other available funding sources. This mechanism recovers and reconciles costs associated with increased energy efficiency. In Connecticut, the Conservation Adjustment Mechanism ("CAM") is used in the same manner as the EERF, collecting incremental energy efficiency funding