



Via electronic mail – April 5, 2016

**Request of Northeast Energy Efficiency Partnerships (NEEP)
To be Considered for Participation in the Working Group Established Per
IR 15-296, Electric Distribution Utilities, Investigation into Grid Modernization**

Debra A. Howland, Executive Director and Secretary
New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission
21 South Fruit Street
Concord N.H. 03301

Dear Ms. Howland,

On behalf of Northeast Energy Efficiency Partnerships (NEEP), I respectfully request to serve in the forthcoming Grid Modernization Working Group, per IR-15-296.

NEEP is a non-profit organization, established in 1996, whose mission is to accelerate energy efficiency in homes, buildings and industry across the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic region. NEEP is one of six Regional Energy Efficiency Organizations (REEOs) designated by the U.S. Department of Energy to support states and communities with their energy efficiency policies and programs.

To briefly summarize my own and NEEP's qualifications to serve in this capacity, please consider that:

- I served as a member of the Grid Modernization Working Group in Massachusetts's proceeding under Department of Public Utilities Order 12-76-B. This was, as you know, an extensive stakeholder process, taking place over 2012 and 2013. In this capacity, advocated for the role that energy efficiency can and should play in a modernizing electric grid. I also learned a tremendous amount about the various issues and considerations in both customer-facing and grid-side efforts, including: costs, benefits, equity, privacy and health concerns, communications protocols and equipment overview, utility planning, new rate structures, cost recovery, and so forth. I believe that this experience will make me an asset to the New Hampshire Working Group, which will be borrowing and learning from prior work other states.
- NEEP has followed and offered comments on a number of similar proceedings, including in New York, the District of Columbia, and Rhode Island. We also provided input under the New Hampshire PUC's initial Grid Modernization scoping order last September. Those comments are posted on NEEP's website.
- As part of our organization's strategic focus on "Next Generation Energy Efficiency," we count the modernization of the electric grid, new utility models, and the integration of efficiency with other demand side resources.



- We encourage the Commission to review our 2016 *Regional Roundup Report* for more insights on our expertise and areas of work, which include tracking, analyzing and sharing best practices on energy efficiency policy and market transformation efforts across the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic states. Next Generation Energy Efficiency is the theme of this year's report.
- NEEP staffers have been active participants in stakeholder meetings, initiatives and Commission proceedings related to energy efficiency in New Hampshire for more than a decade — most recently, as expert non-interveners in DE 15-137, the docket pertaining to the creation of an Energy Efficiency Resource Standard. More on our work in New Hampshire can also be found on our website, [here](#).

Thank you for your consideration of including NEEP in the Working Group. If you have further questions, please do not hesitate to contact me. Following is my contact information for the service list, with my colleague Brian Buckley as an alternate.

1. Natalie Treat, NTreat@NEEP.org
2. Brian Buckley, BBuckley@NEEP.org (alternate)

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Natalie H. Treat".

Natalie H. Treat
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