

An Update on PURA's Equitable Modern Grid Initiative

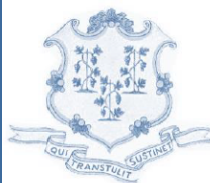
Connecticut Public Utilities Regulatory Authority

May 23, 2022



Equitable Modern Grid Framework

On October 2, 2019 PURA released its
Framework for an Equitable Modern Grid
in Docket No. 17-12-03



STATE OF CONNECTICUT PUBLIC UTILITIES REGULATORY AUTHORITY

For Immediate Release

Connecticut Public Utilities Regulatory Authority Announces Landmark Equitable Modern Grid Framework

Decision expected to transform electric sector in the state

(New Britain, CT – October 3, 2019) – In a decision expected to have far-reaching implications for the state's electric sector and green economy, the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority (PURA or the Authority) voted yesterday to approve its plan to modernize the electric grid. The unanimous [decision](#) outlined PURA's vision for the next several years, including a framework for achieving an Equitable Modern Grid to benefit all Connecticut ratepayers. Next steps on the eleven near-term pathways identified by the decision begin this month, with all investigations targeted to realize four main objectives.



Connecticut Public Utilities Regulatory Authority

Objectives of the Framework



Framework Topics (17-12-03 “REOs”)



Energy Affordability



Advanced Metering Infrastructure



Electric Storage



Zero Emissions Vehicles



Innovation Pilots



Interconnection Standards



Framework Topics (17-12-03 “REOs”)



Non-Wires Alternatives



Resilience & Reliability Standards & Programs



Distributed Energy Resource Analysis & Program Review



New Rate Designs



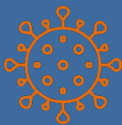
Related Topics



New Tariff Programs



Arrearage Forgiveness / Financial Assistance Programs



COVID Response



Emergency Planning + Response



Energy Affordability (RE01)

Led by the CAE unit, this docket investigated energy affordability among all customer classes, while uncovering barriers to energy affordability and equity and developing solutions to those barriers. Key findings from the Interim Decisions in this Docket were implemented in [Docket No. 21-07-01](#) and Docket [No. 20-03-15](#), and will be included in future utility affordability programs.

- [Interim Decision, 12/18/2019](#)
- [Interim Decision, 07/01/2020](#)
- [Interim Decision, 12/02/2020](#)
- [Interim Decision, 06/09/2021](#)
- [Docket No. 21-07-01 Interim Decision, 09/24/2021](#)
- [Docket No. 21-07-01 Final Decision, 04/20/2022](#)



AMI (RE02)

Led by the RSR Unit, the Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) docket is investigating the business case for the statewide deployment of AMI. The Authority's investigation includes exploring AMI technologies and systems, including information technology, data management, and billing systems, among others. PURA has released a straw proposal to provide guidance to electric distribution companies (EDCs) and stakeholders regarding the goal, expectations, and requirements for EDC investments in AMI. The EDCs subsequently submitted revised AMI proposals.

- [PURA Straw Proposal, 08/17/2021](#)
- [UI AMI Proposal, 11/08/2021](#)
- [Eversource AMI Proposal, 11/08/2021](#)



Electric Storage (RE03)

Led by the CAE Unit, Docket No. 17-12-03RE03 investigated the initiation of a statewide electric storage program, culminating in a Final Decision published on July 28, 2021 authorizing the Energy Storage Solutions Program. In Docket No. 21-08-05, PURA established the rules and final program documents for the first year of the program, which began on January 1, 2022. Docket No. 22-08-05 will serve as the Year 2 annual review docket; subsequent review dockets will use a similar numbering convention.

- [Final Decision, 07/28/2021](#)
- [21-08-05 Year 1 Implementation, 12/08/2021](#)



Zero Emission Vehicles (RE04)

Led by the CAE Unit, Docket No. 17-12-03RE04 investigated the initiation of a statewide electric vehicle (EV) charging program, culminating in a Final Decision published on July 14, 2021 authorizing the Connecticut EV Charging Program. In Docket No. 21-08-06, PURA established the rules and final program documents for the first year of the program, which began on January 1, 2022. Docket No. 22-08-06 will serve as the Year 2 annual review docket; subsequent review dockets will use a similar numbering convention.

- [Final Decision, 07/14/2021](#)
- [21-08-06 Year 1 Implementation, 12/15/2021](#)



Innovation Pilots (RE05)

Led by CAE Unit, the Authority is investigating a framework to support the development and deployment of innovative technologies that will provide electric customers net benefits at scale and utilizes the Electric Efficiency Partners (EEP) Program as a guide for lessons learned. Key principles of the Innovation Framework ultimately developed will be to encourage competition, minimize ratepayer exposure, and further Connecticut's public policy goals.

- [Strategic Vision, 12/20/2021](#)
- [Final Straw Proposal, 07/23/2021](#)
- [Final Decision](#) and [IES Program Design Document](#)



Interconnection Standards (RE06)

The RSR Unit led and continues to monitor the Authority's investigation into ways to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the EDCs' current interconnection standards, processes, and procedures. All proposed changes to the EDCs' interconnection standards, processes, and procedures come before the Authority through this docket.

- [Final Decision, 11/25/2020](#)
- [Motion Ruling, 03/29/2022](#)
 - Grants request to consider cost sharing policies and proposals for residential distributed energy resource interconnection upgrades



Non-Wires Alternatives (RE07)

In the Non-Wires Alternatives (NWA) docket, overseen by the RSR Unit, the Authority is seeking to establish a transparent and competitive process for comparing potential non-wires alternative solutions against traditional distribution system capacity upgrades and other utility expenses to ensure that ratepayer benefits are maximized.

- [PURA Straw Proposal, 07/30/2021](#)
- [Proposed Program Mechanics Document, 05/13/2022](#)



Resilience and Reliability (RE08)

Guided by the RSR Unit, the Authority established this docket to more comprehensively and effectively evaluate the effectiveness of the EDCs' reliability and resilience programs. Underpinning PURA's investigation is that the establishment of specific reliability and resilience targets and metrics will improve the effectiveness of these programs. As a related matter, the Authority is also reviewing the EDCs' emergency response plans (ERPs) in this docket, incorporating key learnings from Tropical Storm Isaias.

- [PURA Straw Proposal – Reliability & Resilience Framework, May 2, 2022](#)
- Final Decision, August 31, 2022 (Tent.)



DER Analysis & Program Review (RE09)

Led by the CAE Unit, this proceeding includes a full assessment of the current clean and renewable energy programs administered by the EDCs, such as, but not limited to, the Low Emission Renewable Energy Credit and Zero Emission Renewable Energy Credit Programs, the Shared Clean Energy Facility Program, Virtual Net Metering, execution of the clean and renewable energy projects selected through Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) procurements, and compliance with Connecticut's Renewable Portfolio Standards.

- [Final Decision, 02/23/2022](#)
- [Clean & Renewable Energy Report, 02/23/2022](#)



Building Blocks of Resource Adequacy (RE10)

In response to DEEP's 2020 [Integrated Resource Plan](#), the Authority established this proceeding, led by the CAE Unit, to ensure that cost-effective and efficient approaches are in place to deliver on the recommended pathways to achieving a one hundred percent zero carbon electric grid by 2040.

Docket Events:

- First Technical Meeting, 02/18/2022
 - [Eversource/UI Joint Presentation](#)
 - [DEEP Presentation](#)
- Second Technical Meeting, 06/20/2022 (Tent.)



New Rate Designs (RE11)

The Authority established this proceeding, led by the CAE Unit, to (1) consider an interim rate decrease, (2) explore new rate designs that address the disproportionate impact of increased electric rates on the lowest income customers and (3) explore the need for Connecticut businesses to remain competitive with neighboring states through the consideration of economic development rates.

- [Decision - Phase Ia, Eversource Rate 30, 06/23/2021](#)
- [Decision - Phase Ib, Interim Rate Decrease \(UI\), 06/23/2021](#)
- [Decision - Phase IIa, Interim Rate Decrease \(Eversource\), 10/27/2021](#)

Upcoming Milestones:

- [PURA Straw Proposal issuance on Low-Income Discount Rate Design, 05/04/2022](#)



More to Come

- **DN 21-09-17: Medium- & Heavy-Duty Vehicle Electrification**
 - [Docket Timeline](#)
 - Second Technical Meeting, 06/07/2022
- **DN 21-05-15: Performance-Based Regulation**
 - Authorized pursuant to [Public Act 20-5](#)
 - PURA envisions a multi-year; multifaceted stakeholder process
 - Public listening session held on 03/16/2022 ([video](#))
 - Staff Concept Paper ([link](#))
 - Stakeholder Workshop, 04/05/2022 ([notice & agenda](#))



Additional Resources

New Clean Energy Programs

Learn more about the Clean Energy Programs established as part of PURA's [Equitable Modern Grid initiative](#) and Public Act 19-35. All four programs will launch in 2022.



**ELECTRIC
VEHICLE
CHARGING
PROGRAM**

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**ENERGY
STORAGE
SOLUTIONS
PROGRAM**

[MORE INFO](#)



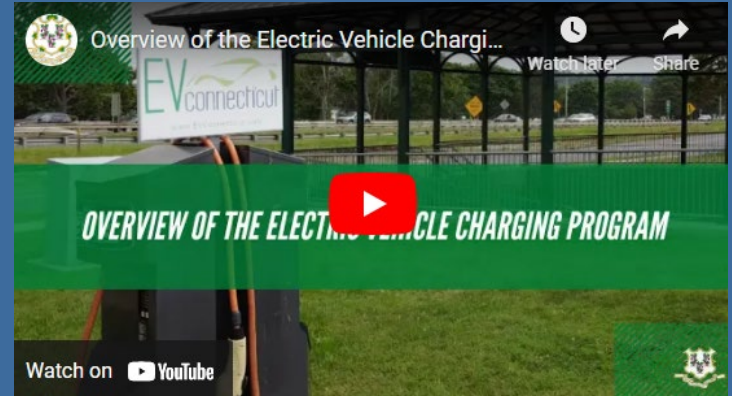
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Questions?

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