



State & Local Public Policy Tracking, Analysis, and Technical Assistance

Advanced Efficiency & Decarbonization Leadership Network

MISSION

Tracking, analyses, reports, and technical assistance to inform state and local public policy adoption, implementation, tracking and evaluation to reduce building sector energy consumption and carbon emissions to reach carbon neutrality by 2050.

Northeast states lead the nation in energy efficiency policies and most have adopted aggressive carbon emission reduction goals for 2030 and beyond. Increasingly, states include strategic electrification for “carbon efficiency” in ratepayer-funded energy efficiency programs along with demand response, energy storage, and distributed generation to respond to electric grid reliability needs for flexible loads. This integrated approach to efficient building decarbonization addresses a growing range of public policy goals including energy affordability, grid reliability, peak load management, environmental sustainability, resilience in light of more extreme weather events, economic development, energy justice, and public health. These broader policy goals change program strategies as well the purpose, audiences, and approaches to program evaluation, measurement, and verification (EM&V).

NEEP assists state and local policy makers in the Northeast to assess, adopt, and implement integrated energy efficiency and demand-side policies and programs. This includes evolving best practices for EM&V and cost-effectiveness analyses, supporting the inclusion of efficiency in regional capacity markets, and maintaining NEEP’s Regional Energy Efficiency Database (REED) to provide free public access to efficiency program results in Northeast states.

Regional Trends and Leaders:

- Eight Northeast states (CT, MA, MD, ME, NJ, NY, RI, VT) and many cities (e.g. Boston, MA, Burlington, VT, New York City, and Washington D.C.) have adopted mandatory requirements to dramatically reduce carbon emissions.
- Four states (MA, ME, RI, and VT) adopted strategic electrification legislation to reduce buildings and/or transportation GHG emissions while five cities (Boston, MA, Burlington, VT, New York City, Providence, RI, and Washington DC) completed detailed roadmaps to increase building energy efficiency including heating electrification to reduce GHG emissions.
- MA and NY include all-fuels (MMBtu) savings as a key metric for ratepayer-funded energy efficiency programs, ME has savings goals for all major fuels, with two more states (RI and VT) preparing to follow suit in 2020 to set goals to reduce total building energy consumption.
- Three states (CT, NH, RI) have gone through the National Standard Practice Manual process and adopted energy efficiency cost-effectiveness testing policies that consider multiple benefits aligned with state policies.

LONG-TERM MARKET TRANSFORMATION GOALS

By 2025:

- All Northeast States adopt mandates to reduce carbon emissions 40% by 2030 and 80% by 2050, and implement statewide plans to reduce building sector carbon emissions.
- At least five Northeast States adopt a suite of policies and programs that effectively engage homes and buildings to serve as flexible load and avoid costly T&D additions.
- All Northeast States adopt ratepayer-funded demand-side resource programs to improve total building energy performance including electrification to displace direct fossil fuel use, and achieve at least 3% of prior year energy sales.

By 2030:

- All Northeast States adopt a suite of policies and programs that effectively engage homes and buildings to serve as flexible load and avoid costly T&D additions.



2020 Project Outcomes

NEEP's 2020 Project Outcomes:

1. At least one more state joins NY with laws that require carbon emission reductions aligned with IPCC climate stabilization goals.
2. At least two states join MA and NY in adopting all-fuel savings targets (MMBTU) for ratepayer-funded energy efficiency programs including electrification.
3. Two more states join NH and RI to adopt cost-effectiveness analyses that value of all energy efficiency program benefits that align with state policy goals.
4. All states in the NEEP region require demand-side resources, including efficiency, demand response and electrification, as a first strategy to defer more costly electric and gas transmission or distribution additions.



2020 Strategies and Deliverables

Stakeholder Engagement: NEEP convenes and facilitates information sharing among federal, state and local government agencies, efficiency program administrators, industry, researchers and other stakeholders to advance and implement public policies, including advanced EM&V and cost-effectiveness analyses, to accelerate energy efficiency and other demand side resources. 2020 activities and assistance include:

- Weekly public policy tracking updates for NEEP Allies and State Partners
- Six public policy update included in webinars for NEEP Allies and State Partners
- Two public webinars on advanced EM&V and cost-effectiveness analyses
- Topical blogs, exemplars, newsletters
- Convene: Northeast Regional Advanced EM&V Working Group
- Convene: Multi-State Technical Advisory Group on End-Use Loadshape Priorities
- A Regional Building Decarbonization Public Policy and Advanced EM&V Workshop

Tracking and Analysis: NEEP tracks key metrics and state and local policies across the region to identify and report on best practices and trends in advancing efficient demand-side solutions. NEEP maintains an online policy tracker for legislative tracking by state in addition to updating and maintaining public access to the Regional Energy Efficiency Database (REED).

- **Update!** [Web-based Legislative Policy Tracker](#)
- Bi-monthly regional policy tracker blogs (e.g., [September 2019 Policy Tracker Blog](#))
- Regional Energy Efficiency Database ([REED](#))
- Revamped state-by-state public policy efficiency resource center focused on building decarbonization
- Revamped EM&V Resource Center

Technical Assistance: NEEP provides customized technical assistance to respond to state and local government requests for research, analysis and/or comment in regulatory or other public policy proceedings or technical sessions, and /or to conduct research and/or analysis).

Research and Reports: NEEP prepares topical analyses and reports that highlight progress and leadership across the region for public policies that accelerate energy efficiency and building decarbonization including.

- Annual Regional EE Snapshot Report with REED results (e.g., [2018 EE Snapshot](#))
- Policy tracking and analysis via topical blog posts, newsletters & reports
- Quarterly “[REED Renderings](#)” - regional analyses of reported efficiency program costs and savings
- White Paper: Advanced EM&V for Building Decarbonization – Key Principles and Strategies
- Report: Northeast States End-Use Load Shape Needs Assessment
- Brief: Data Sharing Best Practices

National/Regional Collaboration: NEEP leverages and contributes to state, federal and national resources to inform state and local public policy for energy efficiency and building decarbonization development. This includes sharing information with, contributing to, and presenting at regional and national public policy and EM&V conferences and collaborations (e.g., Association of Energy Service Professionals, American Council for an Energy Efficient Economy, International Energy Program Evaluation Conference, National Association of State Energy Officials, Northeast Smart Heat Collaborative, U.S. DOE/U.S. EPA SEE Action, etc.).

Project Staff



Carolyn Sarno Goldthwaite



Elizabeth Titus



Samantha Caputo



Cecily McChalicher