

## NEW HAMPSHIRE



### GRID MODERNIZATION ADVISORY GROUP (GMAG)

RSA 12-P:16

### Minutes of the August 1, 2024, Meeting

**Meeting Date:** August 1, 2024, 11:00 AM to 12:30 PM

**Location:**

Walker Building, Hearing Room B  
New Hampshire Department of Energy  
21 S. Fruit St, Concord NH

**Attendees:** Full attendance list attached

In person: Don Kries (The Consumer Advocate), Mark Toscano (Department of Energy), Chris Skoglund (Clean Energy NH), Deanna Dennis (Community Power Coalition of New Hampshire), John Bonazoli (Unitil Energy Services).

Remote: Richard Labrecque (Agilitas Energy), Robert Hayden (Standard Power of America) Ryan West (Eversource), Sandra Gagnon (Eversource), Kirsten Koch (Business and Industry Association of NH), (Marc Brown (Consumers Energy Alliance), Brian Callahan (Community Power Coalition of New Hampshire), Charles Underhill (Office of the Consumer Advocate), Michael Taniwha (Eversource).

Mr. Kreis called the meeting to order shortly after 11:00am., those present, in person and remotely, introduced themselves briefly.

#### **I. Meeting minutes of the June 20, 2024, meeting**

On motion of Mr. Toscano and seconded by Mr. Bonazoli, the GMAG unanimously approved the minutes of the June 20, 2024, meeting as drafted.

## II. Discussion of Interconnection Cost Allocation Group

Mr. Skoglund provided an update on the Working Group's efforts and highlighted the following:

- Work on the report is on-going. Mr. Toscano provided some draft input based on previous Cost Allocation Group and full GMAG discussions.
- Reminder the report is due September 1<sup>st</sup>.
- The GMAG needs to determine a review and approval process for the report.
- SB 391 was signed by the Governor on July 26<sup>th</sup>. It directs the NH DOE to open a proceeding to examine and assess draft rules for uniform procedures for interconnections of distributed energy resources, including "cost responsibilities".

A discussion of the expectations for the Interconnection Cost Allocation Subgroup report took place with the following key points discussed:

- Mr. Skoglund and Mr. Toscano reminded the group that a request for preferred cost allocation options was previously sent to the full GMAG and this information would be used in the drafting of the report. However, no responses had been received to-date.
- Mr. Toscano stated one option would be to use the report as input to the new NH DOE proceeding on interconnection rules, and not necessarily make strong recommendations given the complexities discussed during the previous GMAG meetings.
- Mr. Kreis read the GMAG mission and stated the need to schedule a meeting to vote on recommendations.
- Mr. Labrecque feels recommendations should be made in the GMAG report.
- Mr. Bonazoli stated he believes any rules/recommendations developed as part of the SB 391 directed proceeding also address all generation interconnections and not be limited to net-metering customer-generators. Mr. Toscano stated he agrees, but this issue requires clarification and further discussion.
- The group discussed the issue of potential cost impacts to utility customers and whether a PUC adjudicated proceeding was necessary in addition to the DOE proceeding.
  - Mr. Kreis stated SB 391 gives the NH DOE the ability to approve rules regarding "cost responsibilities".
- Mr. Kreis recommended that Mr. Skoglund and Mr. Toscano should submit the draft report prior to the next GMAG meeting so a vote can be taken on recommendations. Mr. Skoglund committed to a draft report by August 21<sup>st</sup>.

- It was agreed that report comments and feedback should be directed to Mr. Toscano for consolidation.
- Since this August 1<sup>st</sup> meeting was originally scheduled for July it was recommended a second GMAG meeting be scheduled at the end of August to allow for a final vote on Cost Allocation recommendations.
  - It was tentatively agreed to schedule a meeting for August 26<sup>th</sup> or 27<sup>th</sup>.

### **III. Transactive Energy Working Group**

- Ms. Dennis provided the following:
  - NHEC’s transactive energy program was discussed during the July 18<sup>th</sup> working group meeting. Mr. Callahan discussed issues and problems from the customer’s perspective.
  - We (GMAG) need to define expectations regarding transactive energy issues for the annual GMAG report.
  - NHEC will discuss lessons learned and why the program was cancelled at the July 13<sup>th</sup> meeting.
- Mr. Toscano stated lessons learned from other areas of the country could be helpful.
- Mr. Kreis inquired on the level of interest in transactive energy from the NH DOE. Mr. Toscano to inquire and provide follow-up.
- Mr. Callahan discussed some of the NHEC’s experience including the need for appropriate price incentives and how to give access of pricing to users. He also highlighted:
  - Goal is to shift demand.
  - Need for appropriate temporal price signals.
- Mr. Kreis stated Maine is undertaking a substantial effort for transactive energy.
- Mr. West expressed a need for a “technical road map” for transactive energy endeavors. Mr. Toscano expressed his support.
- Ms. Dennis indicated a need to share information among GMAG members. Mr. Kreis suggested NH DOE develop a GMAG site. Mr. Toscano to follow-up.

### **IV. Future Meeting Schedule**

The group discussed future meetings to be able to address the Cost Allocation and Transactive Energy group efforts and the annual report due in November. The following were agreed to:

- Transactive Energy: August 13<sup>th</sup>.

- GMAG Dates:
  - August 26<sup>th</sup> (or 27<sup>th</sup>) to vote on Cost Allocation report.
  - September 19<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Toscano to act as Chair due to Mr. Kreis's schedule.
  - October 10<sup>th</sup>
  - October 17<sup>th</sup>
  - October 24<sup>th</sup>

## **V. Adjournment**

With no other topics to discuss Jon Bonazoli motioned to end the meeting, seconded by Mark Toscano, the GMAG unanimously voted to adjourn at approximately 12:30 a.m., planning to meet **tentatively August 26<sup>th</sup> at 10 a.m.**, location TBD with a confirmation to follow.

Minutes compiled by Mark Toscano and Don Kreis