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Witness: Stevens, Amanda K
Request from: Public Utilities Regulatory Authority

Question:

Program Administrator Order No. 20 Compliance, Att. 1, p. 66. Explain whether the EDCs' current DERMS platforms are capable of dispatching, monitoring, and verifying bidirectional EVs using the technical requirements recommended in the Bidirectional EV Report. If not, identify each capability that remains to be implemented, along with the estimated implementation timeline and estimated implementation cost for each.

Response:

Eversource works with four different DERMS Vendors across ESS and Managed Charging programs. Each vendor indicated that they have the ability to dispatch, monitor, and verify bidirectional EVs participating in a load management programs.

The timeline and cost of including V2G assets into the ESS program and dispatching through the any DERMS are contingent upon the integration of the program's approved OEMs. Eversource supports the Program Administrator's Bidirectional Report phased approach beginning with eligible commercial applications that are most likely to be able to successfully enroll and implement V2G, maximizing benefits to the grid, while minimizing program integration and other administrative costs associated with a still nascent technology. Eversource's experience to date with the Bidirectional EV pilots in CT and MA, while still limited, has shown that integrations are still nascent, evolving and data exchange has involved manual steps and review. For example, Eversource is still waiting upon performance data for the two participating Bidirectional EV customers in Massachusetts, one of which has been enrolled since the start of Summer 2026 dispatch events.

At a very high level, the timeline to implement hinges on the OEM provider's existing communications capabilities, whether they have a partnership and/or existing integration with the DERMS, and the type of integration that is pursued by the OEM and DERMS. As an example, one of the Eversource DERMS partners has estimated that OpenADR integration costs per individual OEM can range from $12,000 to $20,000 not including annual recurring upkeep costs or integration costs for the OEM vendors themselves, and could take 6 to 12 weeks, or in some cases more, depending on the integration maturity of the OEM. Alternatively, integration costs may be built into the cost of services and platforms. The full scope of new program set-up, services and integration costs would need to be scoped and assessed through a contract amendment or new procurement process.