STATE OF CONNECTICUT

PUBLIC UTILITIES REGULATORY AUTHORITY

DOCKET NO. 17-12-03RE05
PURA INVESTIGATION INTO DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM PLANNING OF THE ELECTRIC DISTRIBUTION COMPANIES – INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGY APPLICATIONS AND PROGRAMS (INNOVATION PILOTS)

DOCKET NO. 26-09-17
PURA REVIEW OF PROCESS IMPROVEMENTS FOR THE INNOVATIVE ENERGY SOLUTIONS PROGRAM

NOTICE OF PROCEEDING

On March 30, 2022, the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority (Authority or PURA) established the Innovative Energy Solutions (IES) Program, whereby innovative pilot programs, technologies, products, and services can, on a limited basis, be deployed, investigated, and evaluated for overall impact, costs, and benefits, and brought to scale if ratepayer benefits are demonstrated. Decision, Mar. 30, 2022, Docket No. 17-12-03RE05 (17-12-03RE05 Decision), pp. 1, 34. The Authority appended to the IES Program Decision an IES Program Design Document, which sets forth the program design, structure, governance, and implementation of the IES Program. Since issuance of the 17-12-03RE05 Decision, the Authority has opened dockets and initiated proceedings for Cycles 1 through 4 of the IES Program to evaluate cohorts of electric sector innovations through a phased approach. See Docket No. 22-08-07, Innovative Energy Solutions Program Cycle 1; Docket No. 23-08-07, Innovative Energy Solutions Program Cycle 2; Docket No. 24-08-07, Innovative Energy Solutions Program Cycle 3; Docket No. 25-08-07, Innovative Energy Solutions Program Cycle 4.[1]

On September 25, 2026, the Authority initiated the instant proceeding to investigate and evaluate process and program improvements to the IES Program, including incorporating lessons learned from Cycles 1 through 4, and to consider modifications to the 17-12-03RE05 Decision.[2] Notably, the Authority identified "continuous improvement" as a core design element of the IES Program, recognizing the need for an adaptive approach that incorporates lessons learned from program cycles and responds to evolving customer, grid, and market needs. 17-12-03RE05 Decision, p. 6; 17-12-03RE05 Decision, Att. B, p. 9.

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[1] The Authority opened a docket for Cycle 5 of the IES program on December 2, 2025. See Docket No. 26-08-07, Innovative Energy Solutions Program Cycle 5. Rather than initiate the proceeding in Docket No. 26-08-07, the Authority decided to postpone Cycle 5 of the IES program until it had an opportunity to consider process improvements to the program. Docket Closing Memo, Oct. 2, 2026, Docket No. 26-08-07. As such, the Authority closed Docket No. 26-08-07 on October 2, 2026. Id.

[2] Docket No. 26-09-17 will serve as the administrative record for the investigation and evaluation of process and program improvements to the IES Program.

Additional information is available at the Authority's website, https://portal.ct.gov/pura, regarding the procedural practices of the Authority. All of the filings in this docket are available on the Authority's website under the "Docket Information" link. Persons may register to receive e-mail notifications when documents are filed or issued in this docket. For assistance with any Authority online service, contact the PURA case coordinator assigned to this docket, **Yanika N. Stewart, who can be reached via email at yanika.n.stewart@ct.gov.**

PANEL OF COMMISSIONERS AND PRESIDING OFFICER

In accordance with General Statutes § 16-2(c), the chairperson assigns this proceeding to a panel of all appointed and qualifying commissioners—presently, Chairman Wiehl, Vice-Chairman Arconti, and Commissioners Beecher, Smith, and Cheeseman. The panel designates Vice-Chairman Arconti as the presiding officer.

PARTICIPANTS TO THE PROCEEDING

The Authority has designated the participants in Docket No. 25-08-07, Innovative Energy Solutions Program Cycle 4, which includes the participants in Docket Nos. 17-12-03RE05, 22-08-07, 23-08-07, and 24-08-07, as participants to this proceeding. Conn. Agencies Regs. § 16-1-15 requires participants to serve a copy of each filed document to every person or entity on the service list, which is available on the Authority's website at http://www.ct.gov/pura.

ATTORNEYS

Attorneys not admitted to practice law before the Connecticut Superior Court must comply with Connecticut's *pro hac vice* procedures in order to participate in any administrative proceeding before the Authority.

REQUEST FOR PARTICIPANT STATUS

Other persons seeking participant status in this proceeding must file a motion in accordance with General Statutes § 16-19pp no later than **October 27, 2026, by 4:00 p.m. Eastern Time.** Each person seeking participant status may designate up to two persons for inclusion on the service list. Others who wish to receive e-mail notifications, but do not seek official status in the matter, may register on the PURA website for an e-mail notification account at http://www.dpuc.state.ct.us/DPUCPublicList.NSF.

MOTIONS

Any person seeking a procedural change or other Authority approval must file a motion with the Authority. Motions must be served on the service list for this proceeding. Motions for extension of time shall be filed in advance of the prescribed deadline and should provide sufficient time for the Authority to consider timely objections and to rule on the motion. Objections and responses to all other motions are due no later than seven (7) calendar days following Authority receipt.

ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION OF FILINGS

Unless otherwise specified, the Authority requires electronic submission of all filings, including applications and motions, using the Authority's online filing system (links and instructions at https://portal.ct.gov/pura). Persons filing electronically or wishing to be listed as a contact must first create an account through the Authority's website under Docket Services (Make a Filing). Unless otherwise specified, filings are to be submitted no later than 4:00 p.m. on the due date.

INFORMATION PROTECTED FROM PUBLIC DISCLOSURE

The Authority operates with the strong presumption that all documents filed with it are public records subject to the right of public inspection and copying in accordance with the Connecticut Freedom of Information Act, General Statutes § 1-200 *et seq*. In those exceptional circumstances where a party or intervenor believes that information is exempt from public disclosure under law, a motion for a protective order may be filed. The motion must provide specific facts and legal arguments, with reference to state or federal law, explaining why the information should not be filed publicly. A certified affidavit supplied by a competent witness in support of the motion must be appended to the motion. **Until otherwise directed by the Authority, all prospective protected material must be submitted electronically by email to Jeff.Gaudiosi@ct.gov contemporaneously with the filing of a motion. The email's subject line and each page of any attached documents shall state in all capital letters "PROTECTED MATERIAL - NOT FOR PUBLIC DISCLOSURE."** The associated motion for a protective order shall be filed publicly.

EX PARTE COMMUNICATION PROHIBITED

This uncontested proceeding is not subject to the legal restrictions on *ex parte* communications applicable to contested proceedings. Given the nature of this proceeding, and to facilitate the free flow of information, the Authority will not invoke or observe restrictions on ex parte communications related to this matter. Nevertheless, in keeping with the Authority's commitment to transparency and public accessibility to its proceedings, whenever practicable, communications with the commissioners or PURA staff should (1) occur only during a noticed public hearing or meeting or (2) be submitted in writing through the public case management system, with service to all other parties and intervenors. Communication with the PURA case coordinator regarding scheduling or administrative matters is permitted.

REQUESTS FOR ACCOMMODATION

The Authority, which is within the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) for administrative purposes only, is committed to complying with the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). If you are seeking a communication aid or service, have limited proficiency in English, wish to file an ADA or Title VI discrimination complaint or require some other accommodation, including equipment to facilitate virtual participation, please contact the DEEP Office of Diversity

and Equity at (860) 418-5910 or via email at deep.accommodations@ct.gov. Any person needing an accommodation for hearing impairment may call the State of Connecticut relay number, 7-1-1. In order to facilitate efforts to provide an accommodation, please request all accommodations as soon as possible following notice of any agency hearing, meeting, program, or event.

Dated at New Britain, Connecticut, this 13th day of October, 2026.

By direction of the presiding officer,



Jeffrey R. Gaudiosi, Esq.
Executive Secretary