

READING MUNICIPAL LIGHT DEPARTMENT

CITIZENS' ADVISORY BOARD REGULAR SESSION MEETING

THURSDAY FEBRAURY 1, 2024

Town of Reading Meeting Posting with Agenda

Board - Committee - Commission - Council:

RMLD Citizens Advisory BoardDate: 2024-02-01Time: 6:30 PMBuilding: Reading Municipal Light BuildingLocation: Winfred Spurr Audio Visual RoomAddress: 230 Ash StreetAgenda:Purpose:General Business

Meeting Called By: Vivek Soni, Chair

Notices and agendas are to be posted 48 hours in advance of the meetings excluding Saturdays, Sundays and Legal Holidays. Please keep in mind the Town Clerk's hours of operation and make necessary arrangements to be sure your posting is made in an adequate amount of time. A listing of topics that the chair reasonably anticipates will be discussed at the meeting must be on the agenda.

All Meeting Postings must be submitted in typed format; handwritten notices will not be accepted.

Topics of Discussion:

ON MARCH 29, 2023, GOVERNOR HEALEY SIGNED INTO LAW A SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET BILL WHICH, AMONG OTHER THINGS, EXTENDS THE TEMPORARY PROVISIONS PERTAINING TO THE OPEN MEETING LAW TO MARCH 31, 2025.

THIS MEETING WILL HELD IN PERSON AND REMOTELY ON ZOOM.

FOR REMOTE AND/OR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: Please email <u>mldevents@RMLD.com</u>. Please include your full name, address, and phone number. Comments and questions will be monitored during the meeting.

Join Zoom Meeting https://rmld.zoom.us/j/89954979925?from=addon

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Town of Reading Meeting Posting with Agenda

- 1. Call Meeting to Order V. Soni, Chair
- 2. Report on the Board of Commissioners Meeting K. Welter
- 3. Approval of Citizens' Advisory Board Meeting Minutes (attachment 1) V. Soni, Chair

Suggested Motion: Move that the RMLD Citizens' Advisory Board approve the October 5, 2023, open session meeting minutes, as presented, on the recommendation of the General Manager and the Board Secretary.

4. Policy Review (attachment 2) – G. Phipps, General Manager

Policy 30: Renewable And Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Reduction Regarding Power Supply Procurement

- 5. RMLD Rates Update (attachment 3) B. Bullock, Director of Integrated Resources
- 6. Certificate Management (attachment 4) B. Bullock, Director of Integrated Resources

Suggested Motion: Move that the Citizens' Advisory Board recommend to the RMLD Board of Commissioners to approve the 2024 annual certificate retirement rate, as presented, on the recommendation of the General Manager.

- 7. In Territory Generation Road Map (attachment 5) G. Phipps, General Manager
- 8. General Manager's Report (attachment 6) G. Phipps, General Manager
- 9. Scheduling V. Soni, Chair

CITIZENS' ADVISORY BOARD MEETING SCHEDULE

Date	Time	Location	BoC Coverage
Thursday February 1, 2024	6:30 PM	RMLD AV Room	Daskalakis
Thursday February 22, 2024	6:30 PM	RMLD AV Room	Pacino
Thursday March 21, 2024	6:30 PM	RMLD AV Room	Bita

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING SCHEDULE

Date	Time	Location	CAB Coverage
Wednesday January 31, 2024	6:30 PM	RMLD AV Room	Welter
Wednesday February 28, 2024	6:30 PM	RMLD AV Room	Small
Wednesday March 27, 2024	6:30 PM	RMLD AV Room	Kelley

10. Adjournment **ACTION ITEM**

<u>Suggested Motion</u>: Move that the RMLD Citizens' Advisory Board adjourn regular session. Note: Roll call vote required.

MATERIALS AVAILABLE BUT NOT DISCUSSED

October 2023 Financials

This Agenda has been prepared in advance and represents a listing of topics that the chair reasonably anticipates will be discussed at the meeting. However the agenda does not necessarily include all matters which may be taken up at this meeting.

ATTACHMENT 1 APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Town of Reading Meeting Minutes

Board - Committee - Commission - Council:

RMLD Citizens Advisory Board

Date: 2023-10-05

Building: Reading Municipal Light Building

Address: 230 Ash Street

Purpose: General Business

Attendees: Members - Present:

Vivek Soni, Chair (Reading); Ken Welter, Vice Chair (Lynnfield); Jason Small, Secretary (North Reading); Dennis Kelley (Wilmington).

Members - Not Present:

George Hooper, (Wilmington)

Others Present:

RMLD Staff: Gregory Phipps, General Manager; Erica Morse, Executive Assistant, Bill Bullock, Director of Integraded Resources; Erin MacDonough, Operational Assistant.

Board of Commissioners Rep: Commissioner Bita

Minutes Respectfully Submitted By: Vivek Soni, Chair

Topics of Discussion:

Documents and exhibits used at this meeting can be found on the RMLD website in the CAB meeting packet and linked here: <u>Citizens' Advisory Board Meeting Agenda & Packet | Reading</u> <u>Municipal Light Dept (rmld.com)</u>

Call Meeting to Order

Chair Soni called the RMLD Citizens' Advisory Board (CAB) meeting to order at 5:30 PM and announced that the meeting would be held in person, remotely on Zoom, and recorded.

Opening Remarks

Chair Soni stated that George Hooper, Town of Wilmington CAB representative, is retiring from the CAB and his role within the Town of Wilmington. Mr. Hooper will be recognized at a future CAB meeting.

CAB Secretary Appointment

Mr. Small was appointed the Secretary of the CAB.

Chair Soni nominated Jason Small for Secretary of the CAB. Mr. Kelley seconded the nomination.

Chair Soni made a **motion**, seconded by Mr. Kelley, that the RMLD Citizens' Advisory Board appoint Jason Small as Secretary to the RMLD Citizens' Advisory Board to be effective immediately after the vote. **Motion Carried: 3:1:1** (3 in favor; 1 abstained; 1 absent). *Roll Call: Chair Soni, Aye; Vice Chair Welter, Aye; Mr. Kelley, Aye; Mr. Small, Abstained. Mr. Hooper was absent from the meeting.*



Time: 5:30 PM

Version: Draft

Location: Winfred Spurr Audio Visual Room

Session: Open Session

Approval of Citizens' Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

Materials: Draft Meeting Minutes (CAB Packet, attachment 1)

The minutes were approved as presented.

Chair Soni made a comparison of the Maple Meadows project's progress from past meeting minutes to now.

Mr. Welter made a **motion**, seconded by Chair Soni, that the RMLD Citizens' Advisory Board approve the October 27, 2022, December 8, 2022, and January 18, 2023, open session meeting minutes, as presented, on the recommendation of the General Manager and the Board Secretary. **Motion Carried: 4:0:1** (4 in favor; 0 abstained; 1 absent). *Roll Call: Chair Soni, Aye; Vice Chair Welter, Aye; Mr. Kelley, Aye; Mr. Small, Aye. Mr. Hooper was absent from the meeting.*

2022 Annual Report Confirmation

Materials: Draft CY2022 Annual Report (CAB packet, attachment 2)

Mr. Phipps presented the CY2022 Annual Report to the CAB.

Annual report format

Mr. Phipps noted that the format of the annual report changed slightly in recent years. The introductory portions include a summary section with key statistics and highlights.

Mr. Phipps mentioned the report's emphasis on power supply, RMLD's art contest, and certificate handling.

BoC feedback

Mr. Phipps highlighted the Board of Commissioner's (BoC) feedback on the characterization of RMLD's non-carbon and carbon energy portfolio, discussed at the recent BoC meeting.

Information on the characterization of RMLD's non-carbon and carbon energy portfolio and certificate handling is outlined on pages 18-19.

Carbon metrics

Chair Soni suggested adding a carbon metric to page 3 of the annual report starting next year. Chair Soni gave an example of something that demonstrates RMLD' status in relation to state compliance.

Mr. Phipps agreed with this recommendation and committed to adding the carbon metric to the 2024 annual report and RMLD's website.

RMLD Strategic Plan

Materials: RMLD Strategy Overview (CAB packet, attachment 3)

RMLD Mission and Vision – Updated (slide 3)

Mr. Phipps introduced the updated mission and vision statements for RMLD, emphasizing simplicity and clarity.

Mission statement

Mr. Phipps emphasized the incorporation of RMLD "Team" and the focus on serving customers with reliable, low-cost, and increasingly non-carbon energy. Increasingly was added to the mission because RMLD's portfolio is not 100% non-carbon.

Vision statement

Mr. Phipps highlighted RMLD's support for electrification and the transition to non-carbon energy with customer engagement. At the suggestion of the BoC, "sensibly facilitate" was added to emphasize the importance of a careful transition to non-carbon energy.

Chair Soni asked when the mission and vision statement were last updated. Mr. Phipps responded that they were recently modified with input from the BoC at the last meeting.

Executive Summary (slide 4)

Mr. Phipps noted that slide 4 is meant to be a quick summary of the highlights.

Context – External to RMLD (slide 5)

Mr. Phipps discussed the external factors influencing RMLD's strategic planning, as outlined on slide 5.

Legislative compliance

Mr. Phipps noted that the transition to electrification and decarbonization is driven by legislation and is a key factor in RMLD's strategy. The transition involves increasing electric vehicle adoption and electrification of building heating and cooling.

The 2021 Climate Bill (now Law) mandates increased use of non-carbon energy sources, particularly in transportation (e.g., Electric Vehicles) and aims to phase out light-duty vehicles with internal combustion engines by 2035.

Mr. Phipps emphasized RMLD's focus on complying with current legislation. The organization operates under the assumption that current laws will remain in place and may become stricter.

Chair Soni made a comment on Mr. Phipps' point about electrification moving fast, adding that other industries will need to have green power coming in as well.

Energy generation and network stability

Mr. Phipps discussed energy generation and network stability, emphasizing the fragility inherent in the transition to non-carbon sources. Mr. Phipps clarified that ISO New England maintains the reliability of the network.

Mr. Phipps highlighted the potential impacts on the natural gas network due to the closure of large generation plants like the Mystic Generation Plant.

Mr. Phipps discussed the challenges with Offshore Wind Projects. significant external challenges include delays and cost increases in offshore wind projects, as well as the need for new transmission systems to handle increased capacity beyond 6,000 MWs.

Context –Internal to RMLD (slide 6)

Mr. Phipps discussed the internal context, highlighting RMLD's power supply portfolio and infrastructure.

Portfolio management & hedging

Mr. Phipps emphasized that the current power supply portfolio is in good condition but requires ongoing management due to the shift towards more intermittent resources. Currently, RMLD's hedging is nearly 95%, influenced by a milder year and lower than anticipated kilowatt-hour sales.

Transmission system – reliability

Mr. Phipps explained that RMLD uniquely ties to both Eversource and National Grid transmission systems, which is important from a reliability perspective. Substation 6 will create a third tie point (with National Grid), and the Maple Meadows site will establish a fourth tie point (with Eversource).

Battery storage

RMLD currently has a 5 MW 2-hour battery system and plans to expand this to 30 megawatts of nearly 3-hour capacity by 2025. This expansion aims to enhance both reliability and peak management.

Annual Load (MWHs) nearly doubles by 2050 (slide 7)

Mr. Phipps presented RMLD's annual load forecast from 2023 to 2050, projecting nearly a doubling of load.

projected growth

MWh sales are expected to increase from \sim \$700K to \sim 1.3m by 2050.

Key drivers of load increase

Electric Vehicles (EVs) are a major contributor to load growth. Residential EV adoption is distinguished from fleet vehicles (industrial and commercial).

Air Source Heat Pumps (ASHPs) also contribute to the increase, though to a lesser extent than EVs and the net increase is only during winter months.

Adoption rates

The forecast assumes a slightly less than 100% adoption rate of EVs by 2050, with current EVs in the service territory around 1,000 vehicles out of 55K total vehicles.

Notable growth years

Significant increases in EV-related load are anticipated starting in 2026, becoming more substantial by 2038 -2050.

Legislation impacts

The forecast is designed around current legislation, with acknowledgment that adoption rates could vary based on potential legislative changes.

Monthly Load Shape Changes by 2050 (slide 8)

Mr. Phipps discussed the monthly load shape for the years 2023, 2038, and 2050, emphasizing the impact of increased electrification.

Monthly load shape changes

Mr. Phipps explained that the charts show the addition of load, primarily due to ASHPs and EVs.

Summer load increase

Between 2023 and 2050, the summer load is projected to be about 60% higher.

Winter load doubling

The winter load in January 2050 is nearly twice that of January 2023, attributed mainly to ASHPs and EV charging.

EV charging efficiency

RMLD assumes that EVs are about 15% less efficient in winter, requiring additional power supply.

Chair Soni commented that relative to generation in 2024, Mystic closing will be a big risk to the ISO system. Mr. Phipps agreed that the closing within itself is a challenge, but temperature is the key driver of load in the region.

Dramatic daily load shape change possible (slide 9)

Mr. Phipps discussed the average daily load curves for RMLD, illustrating energy consumption patterns from midnight to midnight.

Load curve characteristics

Mr. Phipps explained that the curve appears flat, but this is due to the factor of 2x from the bottom to the top.

EV charging impact

Mr. Phipps noted that the model for 2043 assumes 80% EV adoption in the territory. The orange line on the chart represents the load with EV charging primarily overnight.

<u>rate structure design</u>

Mr. Phipps explained that a rate structure focused on overnight charging works near-term but is not viable long-term dur to overnight being triple day time load.. The bottom lefthand chart shows a scenario that aims for a flatter load curve through different rate blocks (overnight, morning, peak afternoon).

EV rate structure

Mr. Phipps noted that RMLD is working on introducing a dedicated EV rate. The assumption is that residential customer habits won't change significantly. The only difference will be EV charging, which is a new and learnable behavior.

Rate design flexibility

Mr. Phipps explained that recent analysis is leading RMLD to rethink rate design, especially for EVs, to encourage desired charging behaviors and maintain grid stability. In response to Vice Chair Welter's inquiry, Mr. Phipps confirmed that V2G stands for Vehicle to Grid.

Demand (MWs) 75% higher by 2050 (slide 10)

Mr. Phipps differentiated between load (MWh sold) and demand (network peak), clarifying that slide 10 references demand.

Current network peak

Mr. Phipps stated that RMLD's network peak typically occurs in July (around 170 MWs) with a network capacity designed for 220 MWs.

2050 Forecast

Mr. Phipps mentioned that by 2050, demand is expected to approach 300 MWs, exceeding current network capacity.

Substation impact

Mr. Phipps noted that the addition of the new substation will raise capacity to \sim 270 MWs, but further enhancements will be necessary to meet future demands.

Network stress forecast

Mr. Phipps emphasized that anticipated EV adoption will significantly increase network stress by the early to mid-2030s.

Infrastructure planning

RMLD is analyzing future load to plan network upgrades, with consideration of the lifespan of transformers, substations, and wiring.

Safety buffer and charging patterns

Mr. Phipps highlighted the need for a safety buffer above 300 MWs.

Mr. Phipps discussed assumptions around simultaneous EV charging, which significantly influences demand projections.

In response to an inquiry regarding commercial demand, Mr. Phipps confirmed that commercial is primarily composed of offices and commercial stores.

Chair Soni commented that commercial is risky and in big cities people are beginning to rethink energy use. Mr. Phipps agreed, and noted this is happening in Boston.

Investment Timing – Key Initiatives (slide 12)

Mr. Phipps outlined RMLD's investment timeline and key initiatives, which will be detailed in the upcoming budget review in October and November.

Mr. Phipps highlighted RMLD's responsible and balanced approach to investments, incorporating grants and Investment Tax Credits to ease the financial burden on ratepayers.

Acquiring land

Mr. Phipps emphasized the importance of acquiring land immediately for future projects.

Energy storage expansion

RMLD plans to implement 30 MWs of short-term battery storage and continue exploring long-term storage solutions.

In territory generation

Mr. Phipps highlighted RMLD's focus on building generation within its territory to mitigate capacity and transmission costs, which form a significant part of the cost structure.

Metering project

RMLD plans to enhance monitoring capabilities through updated metering systems.

Software and security updates

Mr. Phipps emphasized RMLD's priority of keeping internal platforms up-to-date and ensuring robust security.

Transforming ash street campus

RMLD is considering options for the Operations building and overall site, with potential actions planned for 2025-2027.

Finance & Accounting Update

Materials: Financial Update (CAB packet, attachment 4)

Mr. Phipps presented a financial update to the BoC, on behalf of Mr. Bloomenthal.

Finance and Accounting Milestones (slide 1)

Mr. Phipps provided an overview of the RMLD financial status and milestones.

CY2024 budget

The CY2024 budget is in the final stages of preparation, and the RMLD staff is collaborating to finalize details. A formalized CY2024 budget presentation and related discussion is scheduled for the October BoC and CAB meetings.

Staffing updates

Mr. Phipps provided a staffing update, highlighting the recent promotions detailed on slide 1.

Mr. Phipps noted that RMLD has increased both hires and training.

Mr. Kelley inquired about the Director of Engineering and Operations position. Mr. Phipps responded that the position is being split into two roles: Director of Operations and Director of Engineering.

Above the line payment

Mr. Phipps reported on the above the line payments to the four service towns, detailed on slide 1.

Below the line payment

Mr. Phipps reported on the payment schedule and amount for the below the line payment to the Town of Reading, detailed on slide 1.

Preliminary Cash Balances – As of 6/30/2023 (slide 2)

Mr. Phipps reported on RMLD's preliminary cash balances.

Mr. Phipps highlighted RMLD's strong financial position, with ~\$55m in cash as of June 30, 2023. This includes restricted cash, restricted investments, and unrestricted cash.

Mr. Phipps emphasized RMLD's fiscal consciousness and awareness of industry changes. Strong cash reserves, both restricted and unrestricted, are crucial for upcoming capital projects.

Preliminary Operating Budget vs. Actuals through 6/30/2023 (slide 3)

Mr. Phipps reported on RMLD's preliminary operating budget vs. actual spending. RMLD's actual spending is currently below budgeted numbers. The June financials were finalized with ~\$10m in operating costs.

The organization managed employee head count, which allows RMLD to ensure these expenses remain under budget. Expense management continues to be effective, with forecasted expenses expected to be below budget for the year.

Cash Expenditures through 7/31/2023 (slide 4)

Mr. Phipps reported on capital expenditures, highlighting that transformers are a critical component. Transformers represent \sim \$7 million of the 2023 capital budget.

Mr. Phipps noted that as of July 21, 2023, RMLD has spent \$5.1m out of the \$22.85m total capital budget for 2023. Capital spending is increasing but projected to be around \$12m by the fiscal year-end, due to delays in transformer delivery.

DOE Awards as of 9/1 (slide 5)

Mr. Phipps reported on the DOE awards as of September 1, 2023.

RMLD is actively pursuing federal funding in various forms: grants, IRA tax credits, and rebates. These funding sources are crucial for advancing RMLD's upcoming capital program.

<u>Rebates</u>

RMLD was authorized to receive up to \$25K in rebates for transformers as of September 1.

<u>Grants</u>

RMLD is collaborating with the Congressional delegation for grant application follow-ups, ensuring RMLD's prominence in fund allocation.

IRA tax credits

RMLD is exploring direct IRS payment tax credits, akin to rebates but under a different program.

NEPPA 2023 Annual Conference Report

Materials: Summary Notes: NEPPA 2023 Annual Conference (CAB Packet, attachment 5) Materials: 2023 NEPPA Conference Presentations (referenced not presented)

Mr. Phipps provided a summary of the 2023 NEPPA Annual Conference presentations to the CAB.

Gordon van Welie – Keynote (slide 3)

Mr. Phipps summarized the highlights of keynote speaker Gordon van Welie's presentation.

legislative impact & increase in non-carbon energy sources

Mr. van Welie's presentation stated that legislation is driving changes in the energy world, leading to a shift in the energy mix from primarily natural gas. It was emphasized that non-carbon energy sources are growing in the energy mix.

Solar PV funding and challenges

Mr. van Welie's presentation discussed Solar PV, which is well-funded, but facing cancellations, price increases, and delays.

Offshore wind project issues

Mr. van Welie's presentation highlighted offshore wind projects, which are facing transmission challenges and higher costs than initially planned.

Transmission system needs

Mr. Phipps explained that as the energy mix becomes more non-carbon and distributed, more transmission is needed to get energy to the load centers. Mr. van Welie's presentation emphasized the significant requirement for additional transmission systems to distribute non-carbon energy.

Natural gas as a critical resource

Mr. van Welie's presentation emphasized that despite a phase-out, natural gas will remain important for periods of low renewable energy generation, such as during cold periods with no wind.

Energy adequacy and reliability

Mr. van Welie's presentation highlighted that reliability is a critical issue, significantly for the period between 2027 and 2032. Mr. Phipps emphasized that RMLD's response to this issue is focusing on energy storage and within-territory generation.

Distribution network and winter peaking

Mr. Phipps reported that Mr. van Welie's presentation was consistent with RMLD data on winter peaking and load changes.

EVs and ASHPs as key load drivers

Mr. van Welie's presentation discussed the dynamic nature of land, reinforcing RMLD's focus on EVs and ASHPs, particularly in relation to EV charging.

Key implications for RMLD

Mr. Phipps highlighted the need to adapt to the changing energy landscape driven by legislation and market trends as well as the importance of storage, generation, and network adaptation in response to these changes.

Mr. Phipps emphasized the consistency between RMLD's strategy, and the trends outlined in Mr. Van Welie's presentation.

Mike Zenker – NE Regional Energy Outlook (slide 4)

Mr. Phipps summarized the highlights of speaker Mike Zenker's presentation.

natural gas market and LNG (liquefied natural gas)

Mr. Zenker's presentation emphasized the recent developments in the natural gas market, particularly the impact of LNG exports and the influence of the European market.

Impact of war and pipeline issues

Mr. Zenker noted that the redirection of LNG tankers to Europe due to higher prices and geopolitical factors has influenced energy prices.

winter weather impact

Mr. Zenker's presentation explained that mild winters in both Europe and the US have eased energy demands, contributing to lower energy prices.

Volatility of energy pricing

Mr. Zenker's presentation highlighted the increase in volatility in energy pricing since 2010, driven by exports of natural gas.

Future of natural gas demand

Mr. Zenker's presentation predicts an increase in natural gas demand in New England until 2032, followed by a decline, leading to potential excess and reduced prices in the mid-

2030s.

Legislative influence

Mr. Zenker's presentation noted that the legislative agenda is driving the shift towards non-carbon, renewable sources.

Key implications for RMLD

Mr. Phipps confirmed that RMLD has transitioned to higher hedging strategies (up to 95%) in response to market volatility and reduced volume requirements due to milder winters.

Mr. Phipps emphasized RMLD's focus on long-term contracts for stability amidst market fluctuations.

Mr. Phipps reiterated the legislative agenda's impact on RMLD's strategic planning and operations.

Mike O'Connor – Millstone Nuclear (slide 5)

Mr. Phipps discussed speaker Mike O'Connor's presentation in relation to RMLD's power supply strategy and portfolio.

Mr. O'Connor's presentation discussed Millstone Power Station; a nuclear power facility operated by Dominion Energy.

RMLD's nuclear portfolio

Mr. Phipps emphasized that RMLD's nuclear portfolio is approximately a third of the total portfolio, with potential to go up to 40%.

Mr. Phipps explained that RMLD has contracts with two nuclear facilities in New England: Millstone, in Connecticut, and Seabrook, in New Hampshire.

RMLD's Contracts with Millstone and Seabrook were established in the 1980s and are perpetual until the end of the facilities' life.

Mr. Phipps noted that Millstone is considered reliable and important for base load energy but is not highly responsive to customers.

RMLD is engaging in ongoing efforts to secure additional purchases from Millstone to balance risk.

Key implications for RMLD

Mr. Phipps stated that RMLD continues to rely on nuclear power as a key part of its energy portfolio, and the ongoing strategy to balance the portfolio.

John Parsons – MIT Pathways to Non-Carbon (slide 6)

Mr. Phipps discussed highlights from speaker John Parson's presentation.

Increased economic volatility

Mr. Parsons's presentation discussed the economic volatility for natural gas generators, and the future value of natural gas generators for back up capacity.

Chair Soni mentioned Bloom Energy Solutions' carbon capture fuel cell technology.

Key implications for RMLD

Mr. Phipps stated that RMLD is exploring Hydro Qubec as a storage/balancing resource through leveraging ownership rights.

Mr. Phipps noted that RMLD will continue to investigate out-of-the-box solutions to ensure network reliability.

General Managers Report

Mr. Phipps provided a General Manger's Report to the BoC.

Station 6 development

Mr. Phipps reported that ISO New England completed the system impact study for Station 6, indicating no adverse impact on the transmission system. Final approval is expected by the end of November.

flexible work schedules

Mr. Phipps noted that RMLD is implementing flexible 4-day, 10-hour work schedules for line crews from mid-October through Christmas. Overtime will be offered on Fridays, aligning with subcontractor obligations.

In response to Mr. Kelley's inquiry about overtime, Mr. Phipps noted that due to the nature of the contracts, there will always be overtime.

Mr. Small commented that some jobs require a decent amount of line crews.

Storm preparedness

Mr. Phipps emphasized RMLD's priority of ensuring storm preparedness.

Employee survey

Mr. Phipps stated that RMLD is planning another employee survey in November.

Communication enhancements

Mr. Phipps mentioned increased engagement in quarterly webinars and newsletters.

Mr. Phipps introduced RMLD's new podcast, with two sessions already recorded and live. The podcast is available on YouTube and linked in the latest RMLD newsletter.

Mr. Phipps emphasized that RMLD will continue the promotion and recording of the podcast series as a new communication channel for better customer engagement.

Scheduling

The next CAB meeting will be a joint meeting with the BoC on October 25, 2023.

Executive Session

Chair Soni made a motion, seconded by Vice Chair Welter, that the RMLD Citizens' Advisory Board go into Executive Session pursuant to Massachusetts G.L. c.164 section 47D, exemption from public records and open meeting requirements in certain instances, to consider the purchase, exchange, lease or value of real property relative to Maple Meadow and Route 125 in Wilmington, if the chair declares that an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the public body, and return to regular session, for the sole purpose of adjournment. Note: Roll call vote required. **Motion Carried: 4:0:1** (4 in favor; 0 abstained; 1 absent). *Roll Call: Chair Soni, Aye; Vice Chair Welter, Aye; Mr. Kelley, Aye; Mr. Small, Aye. Mr. Hooper was absent from the meeting.*

<u>Adjournment</u>

The CAB meeting was adjourned at 7:31 PM.

Chair Soni made a **motion**, seconded by Mr. Small, that the RMLD Citizens' Advisory Board adjourn regular session. **Motion Carried: 4:0:1** (4 in favor; 0 abstained; 1 absent). *Roll Call: Chair Soni, Aye; Vice Chair Welter, Aye; Mr. Kelley, Aye; Mr. Small, Aye. Mr. Hooper was absent from the meeting.*

ATTACHMENT 2 POLICY REVIEW

Policy 30 Revision 2 Renewable and Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Reduction Regarding Power Supply Procurement

RMLD Board of Commissioners Meeting January 31, 2024 Policy 30: Non-Carbon Power Portfolio Mix



In accordance with the Board's periodic policy review, attached is the review package for Policy 30: Non-Carbon Power Portfolio Mix (Revision 2).

Included are the following four components for Policy 30: Non-Carbon Power Portfolio Mix R2:

- 1) Summary & highlights (this page)
- 2) Final clean copy with all changes accepted.
- 3) Redlined copy, showing edits from the December 13, 2023, meeting.
- 4) Redlined copy, showing all edits from 2021 (R1).

Based on two years of experience with the 2021 Climate Bill, proposed Revision 2 is a streamlined draft that provides more clarity and simplicity. Note that the 2021 Climate Bill was passed the month after (March 2021) BoC approval of Revision 0 and Revision 1 (Feb 2021). Key changes for Revision 2 include:

- a) Title changed to reflect the non-carbon metric from the actual text of the 2021 Climate Bill.
- b) Background and redundant verbiage deleted to simplify this policy and also avoid potential conflicts with other RMLD policies.
- c) Responsibilities for Boc, CAB and GM refined and moved to Policy 19. Added that annual certificate retirement targets are to be proposed by the GM, for decision making input by the BAC, and approval by the BoC.
- d) 2021 Climate Bill replaces Roadmap 2050 in earlier Revisions.
- e) Non-Carbon is the metric replaces renewable or greenhouse gas (GHG), per the 2021 Climate Bill.

Additional policy modifications are outlined below.

Section I: Preamble	• Deleted; redundant to numerous other RMLD documents, including other policies.
	• Some elements, such as the reminder that RMLD has franchise
Section 2: Purpose	 obligations via M.G.L. 164 are already included in Policy Elements. Non-carbon replaces renewable as the metric per the 2021 Climate Bill.
	 Majority of remaining text remains, capturing some of the key verbiage from the deleted Preamble.
Section 3: Responsibilities	Review every three years or earlier moved to Policy 19.
	• The remaining text, much of which being covered in the 20 Year Agreement, moved to Policy 19.
Section 4: Policy Elements	 Added compliance to Policy 19 at end of paragraph E (BoC to approve). Additional word replacements as noted above. BoC may vote on policy changes moved to Policy 19.
Attachment 1: Update 2	 Added note that RMLD will explore other generation technologies, specific examples noted.

RMLD Policy No. 30 NON-CARBON AND GREENHOUSE GAS (GHG) REDUCTION REGARDING POWER SUPPLY PROCUREMENT

Revision No. 2

Commission Vote Date

General Manager/Date

Next Review Date

I. PURPOSE

- A. To establish general policy guidelines to aggressively pursue practical and costeffective non-carbon and GHG reduced power supply opportunities that balance RMLD's customers' priorities, its franchise obligations, reliability, power supply risk mitigation, and financial risk mitigation, while complying with applicable laws and regulations
- B. To provide an opportunity for customers who wish to go above and beyond RMLD's non-carbon energy goals and requirements.

II. POLICY ELEMENTS

- A. RMLD shall comply with all laws applicable to Municipal Light Plants, pertaining to renewable, non-carbon, and GHG reduction power procurement requirements, including 2021 Climate Bill requirements, while balancing its customer priorities and franchise obligations. RMLD shall strive to make incremental changes on an annual basis, especially certificate retirement targets, where possible, to mitigate potential rate shocks. 2021 Climate Bill requirements that are applicable as of the date of this Policy are attached hereto as Attachment 1.
- B. RMLD remains committed to supporting the Commonwealth's goals for Green House Gas (GHG) reduction and electrification, in the context of RMLD's customer obligations and RMLD's Mission.
- C. RMLD will continue to improve its utility operations, including power supply, to support the Commonwealth's goals of reducing GHG emissions. RMLD has a unique mix of location, geography, and demographics. Given this context, RMLD will apply its unique capabilities to proactively explore and implement new programs, business models, and technologies to contribute to the reduction of GHG in its operation as an electric utility.
- D. The RMLD shall develop the Renewable Choice Program, as an option available to all ratepayers. The Renewable Choice Program will allow RMLD customers to purchase "blocks" of Class 1 energy certificates ("RECs") for an additional monthly fee. Customer REC purchases (for subsequent retirement) through the Renewable Choice Program are above and beyond RMLD's other GHG reduction power procurement goals and requirements and are intended to help customers who have stated that they would be willing to pay more.

- E. In order to balance RMLD's customer priorities and franchise obligations with compliance with all applicable laws pertaining to non-carbon and GHG reduction power procurement requirements, the General Manager may retain or may market RECs as she/he deems to be in the best interest of the RMLD and in compliance with all applicable law and Policy 19.
- F. If applicable laws pertaining to non-carbon and GHG reduction power procurement change after the effective date of this Policy, the General Manager will review such changes and report to the RMLD Board on such changes and shall present for review and comment by the Board a plan for compliance with such changes that is consistent with RMLD's customer priorities and franchise obligations.

RMLD POLICY 30

ATTACHMENT 1 – Update 2

ROADMAP to Net-Zero Carbon by 2050 (a.k.a., S.9 or MLP GGES Legislation, amending chapter 25A) Legislation effective (March 2021)

Provision	Key Elements
Goals	This Legislation sets a minimum percentage of non-carbon emitting energy sold by MLPs (retail sales): 2030 - 50% non-carbon emitting energy sales 2040 - 75% non-carbon emitting energy sales
	2050 - net-zero greenhouse gas emissions energy sales
Sources	In this Legislation, "non-carbon emitting" is defined as energy generated from: (1) solar photovoltaic; (2) solar thermal electric; (3) hydroelectric, including imports (4) nuclear; (5) marine or hydrokinetic energy; (6) geothermal energy; (7) landfill methane; (8) anaerobic digester gas; (9) wind energy; (10) biomass (The RMLD Board of Commissioners approves the exclusion of future wood burning biomass as an acceptable non-carbon or greenhouse gas reduction resource of generation under this Policy); and (11) any other generation qualifying as special cases per this Legislation. Note that RMLD will explore other generation technologies that are compliant with MGL CH 25A, Section 11f3/4, including carbon capture fuel cells, hydrogen system, and low-temperature geothermal general systems.
Make / Buy	MLPs may either purchase or generate non-carbon emitting energy. Existing energy supply contracts that meet Legislation requirements count as compliance.
Certificates	Qualification requires the MLP retirement of certificates for these energy retail sales. These certificates consist of non-carbon energy credits, emission-free energy certificates, or other evidentiary non-carbon emitting documentation.
Reporting / Alternative Compliance Payment	MLPs shall file an annual report demonstrating compliance. If an MLP fails compliance, it shall make an alternative compliance payment (ACP). This ACP shall not exceed \$0.010 / kWh. This ACP shall be deposited into an MLP maintained and administered fund and shall be used by the MLP to fund greenhouse gas emissions reduction and related programs in its service territory. RMLD shall establish this fund effective the date of the Legislation.

RMLD POLICY 30

ATTACHMENT 2 – Update History of Attachment 1

Update	Effective Date	Exclusion/ Change	Description	Recommended by General Manager and approved by BOC and CAB (vote and date)
0	02/24/2021	New	Attachment 1 created to reflect MLP GGES pending Legislation that will apply to MLPs.	02/24/2021
1	02/24/2021	Exclusion	Insert under Sources Provision, Item 10, next to the word biomass (The RMLD Board of Commissioners approves the exclusion of future wood burning biomass as an acceptable non-carbon or greenhouse gas reduction resource of generation under this Policy)	02/24/2021

RMLD Policy No. 30 NON-CARBON AND GREENHOUSE GAS (GHG) REDUCTION REGARDING POWER SUPPLY PROCUREMENT

Revision No. 2

Commission Vote Date

General Manager/Date

Next Review Date

I. PURPOSE

- A. To establish general policy guidelines to aggressively pursue practical and costeffective non-carbon and GHG reduced power supply opportunities that balance RMLD's customers' priorities, its franchise obligations, reliability, power supply risk mitigation, and financial risk mitigation, while complying with applicable laws and regulations
- B. To provide an opportunity for customers who wish to go above and beyond RMLD's non-carbon energy goals and requirements.

II. POLICY ELEMENTS

- A. RMLD shall comply with all <u>laws</u> applicable <u>laws-to Municipal Light Plants</u>, pertaining to renewable, non-carbon, and GHG reduction power procurement requirements, including 2021 Climate Bill requirements, while balancing its customer priorities and franchise obligations. RMLD shall strive to make incremental changes on an annual basis, especially certificate retirement targets, where possible, to mitigate potential rate shocks. 2021 Climate Bill requirements that are applicable as of the date of this Policy are attached hereto as Attachment 1.
- B. RMLD remains is committed to supporting the Commonwealth's goals for Green House Gas (GHG) reduction and electrification, and will continue to implement changes in support of those goals in the context of RMLD's customer obligations and RMLD's Mission. RMLD will stay informed of legislative and regulatory changes specific to GHG emissions.
- C. RMLD will continue to improve its utility operations, including power supply, to support the Commonwealth's goals of reducing GHG emissions. RMLD has a unique mix of location, geography, and demographics. Given this context, <u>RMLD will apply its</u> unique capabilities to proactively explore and implement new programs, business models, and technologies to contribute to the reduction of GHG in its operation as an electric utility.
- **B.**D. The RMLD shall develop the Renewable Choice Program, as an option available to all ratepayers. The Renewable Choice Program will allow RMLD customers to purchase "blocks" of Class 1 energy certificates ("RECs") for an additional monthly fee. Customer REC purchases (for subsequent retirement) through the Renewable Choice Program are

above and beyond RMLD's other GHG reduction power procurement goals and requirements and are intended to help customers who have stated that they would be willing to pay more.

- **C.E.** In order to balance RMLD's customer priorities and franchise obligations with compliance with all applicable laws pertaining to non-carbon and GHG reduction power procurement requirements, the General Manager may retain or may market RECs as she/he deems to be in the best interest of the RMLD and in compliance with all applicable law_and Policy 19.
- D.F. If applicable laws pertaining to non-carbon and GHG reduction power procurement change after the effective date of this Policy, the General Manager will review such changes and report to the RMLD Board on such changes and shall present for review and comment by the Board a plan for compliance with such changes that is consistent with RMLD's customer priorities and franchise obligations.
- E. The RMLD Board may vote on changes to this Policy from time to time and at afrequency note to exceed three years, and any changes to Attachment 1 shall be setforth below as shown and updated on Attachment 2.

RMLD POLICY 30

ATTACHMENT 1 – Update 2

ROADMAP to Net-Zero Carbon by 2050 (a.k.a., S.9 or MLP GGES Legislation, amending chapter 25A) Legislation effective (March 2021)

Provision	Key Elements
Goals	This Legislation sets a minimum percentage of non-carbon emitting energy sold by
	MLPs (retail sales):
	2030 - 50% non-carbon emitting energy sales
	2040 - 75% non-carbon emitting energy sales
	2050 - net-zero greenhouse gas emissions energy sales
Sources	In this Legislation, "non-carbon emitting" is defined as energy generated from: (1) solar
	photovoltaic; (2) solar thermal electric; (3) hydroelectric, including imports (4) nuclear;
	(5) marine or hydrokinetic energy; (6) geothermal energy; (7) landfill methane; (8)
	anaerobic digester gas; (9) wind energy; (10) biomass (The RMLD Board of
	Commissioners approves the exclusion of future wood burning biomass as an
	acceptable non-carbon or greenhouse gas reduction resource of generation under this
	Policy); and (11) any other generation qualifying as special cases per this Legislation.
	Note that RMLD will explore other generation technologies that are compliant with
	MGL CH 25A, Section 11f3/4, including carbon capture fuel cells, hydrogen system, and
NATION / During	low-temperature geothermal general systems.
Make / Buy	MLPs may either purchase or generate non-carbon emitting energy. Existing energy supply contracts that meet Legislation requirements count as compliance.
	supply contracts that meet Legislation requirements count as compliance.
Certificates	Qualification requires the MLP retirement of certificates for these energy retail sales.
	These certificates consist of non-carbon energy credits, emission-free energy certificates,
	or other evidentiary non-carbon emitting documentation.
Reporting /	MLPs shall file an annual report demonstrating compliance. If an MLP fails compliance,
Alternative	it shall make an alternative compliance payment (ACP). This ACP shall not exceed
Compliance	\$0.010 / kWh. This ACP shall be deposited into an MLP maintained and administered
Payment	fund and shall be used by the MLP to fund greenhouse gas emissions reduction and
	related programs in its service territory. RMLD shall establish this fund effective the
	date of the Legislation.

RMLD POLICY 30

ATTACHMENT 2 – Update History of Attachment 1

Update	Effective Date	Exclusion/ Change	Description	Recommended by General Manager and approved by BOC and CAB (vote and date)
0	02/24/2021	New	Attachment 1 created to reflect MLP GGES pending Legislation that will apply to MLPs.	02/24/2021
1	02/24/2021	Exclusion	Insert under Sources Provision, Item 10, next to the word biomass (The RMLD Board of Commissioners approves the exclusion of future wood burning biomass as an acceptable non-carbon or greenhouse gas reduction resource of generation under this Policy)	02/24/2021

RMLD Policy No. 30 <u>RENEWABLENON-CARBON</u> AND GREENHOUSE GAS (GHG) REDUCTION REGARDING POWER SUPPLY PROCUREMENT

Revision No. 21

Commission Vote Date

General Manager/Date Next Review Date

II. PREAMBLE

- A. Established in 1894, Reading Municipal Light Department is a public power, notfor-profit electric utility that serves its four communities.
- B. Public power means local control and local decision making. Our customers help determine our electric rates and the policies and programs that meet local needs.
- C. RMLD's electric rates reflect our customers' priorities as expressed in RMLD's-Customer Satisfaction Surveys and adopted Mission and Vision statements:
 - a. Reliability Customers expect and value excellent electric reliability.
 - b. Low Cost of Electricity Customers value low-cost electricity.
 - c. Greenhouse Gas Reduction Goals Our environmentally-consciouscommunity wants RMLD to set greenhouse gas reduction goals whilehaving little to no impact on rates.
 - RMLD's electric rates also reflect RMLD's franchise obligations. As a municipal light plant, RMLD is a public service corporation, having a legalfranchise obligation to provide low-cost, reliable electric service to itsratepayers.
- D. Consistent with RMLD's customers' priorities and its franchise obligations, the RMLD adopts the following Policy addressing renewable and sustainable energy:

HI. PURPOSE

A. To establish general policy guidelines to aggressively pursue practical and costeffective <u>renewablenon-carbon</u> and GHG reduc<u>edtion</u> power supply opportunities that balance RMLD's customers' priorities, its franchise obligations, reliability, power supply risk mitigation, and financial risk mitigation, while complying with applicable laws and regulations

-pertaining to GHG power procurement requirements

B. To provide an opportunity for customers who wish to go above and beyond RMLD's other greenhouse gas reduction<u>non-carbon</u> energy goals and requirements.

IV. RESPONSIBILITIES

A. RMLD Citizens' Advisory Board

1. Review and comment expeditiously on power purchase contractsrecommended by the General Manager under this Policy.

Policy 30 R02 GHG Reduction Draft 2023-12-13- Tracked Changes from 2021

- B. RMLD Board of Commissioners
 - 1. Responsible for approving this Policy every three years by December 31 of the third year.
 - 2. Review and comment expeditiously on power purchase contractsrecommended by the General Manager under this Policy.
 - 3.—Review, deliberate and vote on deviations and changes to this Policy.
- C. General Manager
 - 1. Responsible for implementing this Policy.
 - 2. Present power purchase contracts covered by this Policy to the RMLD-Citizens' Advisory Board and the RMLD Board of Commissioners forreview and comment.
 - 3. Present monthly updates to the RMLD Board concerning the RMLD'scompliance and ability to comply with this Policy and any deviations orchanges established by the RMLD Board, which will include impacts oncost and reliability.

∀.<u>II.</u> POLICY ELEMENTS

- A. The RMLD shall comply with all <u>laws</u> applicable <u>law_to Municipal Light Plants</u>, pertaining to renewable, <u>non-carbon</u>, and GHG reduction power procurement requirements, including, <u>but not limited to</u>, <u>so called Roadmap 20502021 Climate Bill</u> requirements, while balancing its customer priorities and franchise obligations.<u>The RMLD shall strive to make incremental changes on an annual basis</u>, <u>especially certificate retirement targets</u>, where possible, to mitigate potential rate shocks. <u>Roadmap 20502021 Climate Bill</u> requirements that are applicable as of the date of this Policy are attached hereto as Attachment 1.
 - RMLD remains committed to supporting the Commonwealth's goals for Green House Gas (GHG) reduction and electrification, in the context of RMLD's customer obligations and RMLD's Mission.
- C. RMLD will continue to improve its utility operations, including power supply, to support the Commonwealth's goals of reducing GHG emissions. RMLD has a unique mix of location, geography and demographics. Given this context, RMLD will apply its unique capabilities to proactively explore and implement new programs, business models, and technologies to contribute to the reduction of GHG in its operation as an electric utility.
- C.D. The RMLD shall develop the Renewable Choice Program, as an option available to all ratepayers. The Renewable Choice Program will allow RMLD customers to purchase "blocks" of <u>Class 1-renewable</u> energy certificates ("RECs") for an additional monthly fee. Customer REC purchases (for subsequent retirement) through the Renewable Choice Program are above and beyond RMLD's other GHG reduction power procurement goals and requirements and are intended to help customers who have stated that they would be willing to pay more. to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The program will be developed as a tariffed rate.

- **D.E.** In order to balance RMLD's customer priorities and franchise obligations with compliance with all applicable laws pertaining to <u>renewablenon-carbon</u> and GHG reduction power procurement requirements, the General Manager may retain or may market RECs as she/he deems to be in the best interest of the RMLD and in compliance with all applicable law<u>and policy 19</u>.
- **E.F.** If applicable laws pertaining to <u>renewablenon-carbon</u> and GHG reduction power procurement change after the effective date of this Policy, the General Manager will review such changes and report to the RMLD Board on such changes and shall present for review and comment by the Board a plan for compliance with such changes that is consistent with RMLD's customer priorities and franchise obligations.
- F. The RMLD Board may vote on changes to this Policy from time to time and at a frequency of no more than every three years, and any changes to Attachment 1 shall be set forth below as shown and updated on Attachment 2.

RMLD POLICY 30

ATTACHMENT 1 – Update

<u>2</u>1

ROADMAP to Net-Zero Carbon by 2050 (a.k.a., S.9 or MLP GGES Legislation, amending chapter 25A) Legislation effective (<u>March 2021</u>XX/XX/XXXX)

Provision	Key Elements
Goals	This Legislation sets a minimum percentage of non-carbon emitting energy sold by
	MLPs (retail sales):
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Sources	In this Legislation, "non-carbon emitting" is defined as energy generated from: (1) solar
	photovoltaic; (2) solar thermal electric; (3) hydroelectric, including imports (4) nuclear;
	(5) marine or hydrokinetic energy; (6) geothermal energy; (7) landfill methane; (8)
	anaerobic digester gas; (9) wind energy; (10) biomass (The RMLD Board of Commissioners
	approves the exclusion of future wood burning biomass as an acceptable renewablenon-
	carbon or greenhouse gas reduction resource of generation under this Policy); and (11)
	any other generation qualifying as special cases per this Legislation. Note that RMLD will
	explore other generation technologies that are compliant with MGL CH 25A, Section
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	geothermal general systems.
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Reporting /	MLPs shall file an annual report demonstrating compliance. If an MLP fails compliance,
Alternative	it shall make an alternative compliance payment (ACP). This ACP shall not exceed
Compliance	\$0.010 / kWh. This ACP shall be deposited into an MLP maintained and administered
Payment	fund and shall be used by the MLP to fund greenhouse gas emissions reduction and
	related programs in its service territory. RMLD shall establish this fund effective the
	date of the Legislation.

RMLD POLICY 30

ATTACHMENT 2 – Update History of Attachment 1

Update	Effective Date	Exclusion/ Change	Description	Recommended by General Manager and approved by BOC and CAB (vote and date)
0	02/24/2021	New	Attachment 1 created to reflect MLP GGES pending Legislation that will apply to MLPs.	02/24/2021
1	02/24/2021	Exclusion	Insert under Sources Provision, Item 10, next to the word biomass (The RMLD Board of Commissioners approves the exclusion of future wood burning biomass as an acceptable <u>renewablenon-carbon</u> or greenhouse gas reduction resource of generation under this Policy)	02/24/2021

POLICY 19 REVISION MEMO

RMLD Board of Commissioners Meeting January 31, 2024 Policy 19 Board of Commissioners Proposed revisions relative to Policy 30 removals



Please find below proposed verbiage to be incorporated into Policy 19 Board of Commissioners so as capture verbiage removed from Policy 30 Non-Carbon Power Portfolio Mix (Revision 2). The intent is to capture the Responsibilities of the Board of Commissioners in one location to minimize conflicting text.

Policy Review

• Board of Commissioners:

Responsible for reviewing all policies under a 3-year review cycle. Policies may be reviewed at any time at the Board of Commissioners request, at the recommendation of the General Manager, and in response to internal procedure or federal/state legislation changes.

General Manager

Responsible for periodically reviewing all policies and applicable laws/regulations and making recommendations to the Board of Commissioners for changes to the policies.

• Citizens' Advisory Board (CAB)

Has the right to make recommendations on Board of Commissioner policies relative to its responsibilities as specified in Paragraph 9 and Attachment 4 of the "20 Year" Agreement. CAB Policy 1 outlines the responsibilities of the Citizens' Advisory Board relative to CAB policy review.

Policy Approval/ Implementation

• Board of Commissioners

Approves policies governing RMLD to be implemented and discharged by the General Manager within the constraints of M.G.L. c. 164 and other applicable statutes and regulations.

- <u>General Manager</u> Responsible for the implementation, oversight, and enforcement of all RMLD policies.
- Citizens' Advisory Board

Has no authority to approve or implement Board of Commissioner/RMLD policies. CAB Policy 1 outlines the responsibilities of the Citizens' Advisory Board relative to CAB policy approval.

Power Supply

Board of Commissioners

Approves long-term power supply contracts and agreements, unless otherwise voted through a strategic risk mitigation plan, i.e., ("TFA") and approves annual certificate retirement targets.

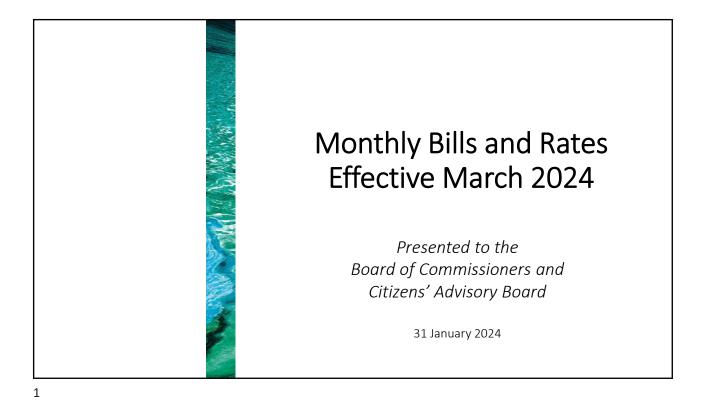
<u>Citizens' Advisory Board</u>

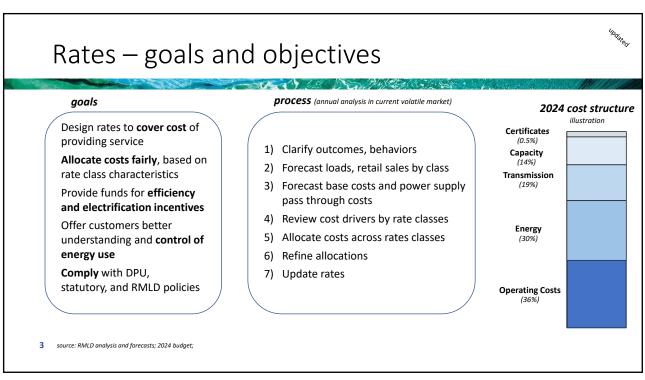
Provides decision-making input to the Board of Commissioners on issues concerning long term power supply contracts and agreements and annual certificate resource mix targets

Reporting

• General Manger will present quarterly updates to the Board of Commissioners and Citizens' Advisory Board concerning the RMLD's legal and regulatory compliance regarding power supply portfolio, including certificate management and impact of new or changed legislation.

ATTACHMENT 3 RMLD RATES UPDATE





2024 RMLD monthly bills – 3.2% average increase

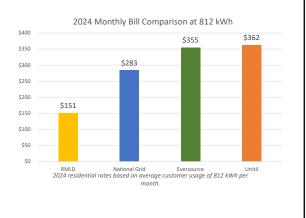
RMLD forecasts 2024 monthly bills to increase an average 3.2%

Two key variables drive monthly bills

- 1) Customer monthly electric usage (kWhs)
- 2) Rate elements (power supply costs, ...)

Actual 2024 monthly bills will reflect actual monthly usage and pass through power supply costs

3 source: Rate and Analysis by Cost Stream v33 2024-10-19, 2024 Competitor Electric Rates Comparison IOUs



1/31/2024

Summary of monthly bill changes – March 2024

Philes

Charly.

total average monthly bill – effective March 2024

	c	2023 turrent		March 2024 timated		\$ change	% change		current 2023 net \$/kwh	I	estimated March 2024 net \$/kwh
Residential A	\$	148	\$	151	\$	2.96	2.0%	\$	0.1819	\$	0.1855
Residential TOU A2	\$	125	\$	130	\$	4.11	3.3%	\$	0.1545	\$	0.1595
Commercial C	\$	1,096	\$	1,131	\$	35.36	3.2%	\$	0.1600	\$	0.1652
Industrial TOU	\$	30,241	\$	31,698	\$	1,456.77	4.8%	\$	0.1506	\$	0.1578
Municipal C	\$	603	\$	623	\$	19.95	3.3%	\$	0.1540	\$	0.1591
School	\$	4,603	\$	4,675	\$	72.15	1.6%	\$	0.1431	\$	0.1453
							3.2%	rev	venue weighte	d a	verage

Effective March 2024 – overall average 3.2% higher compared to 2023

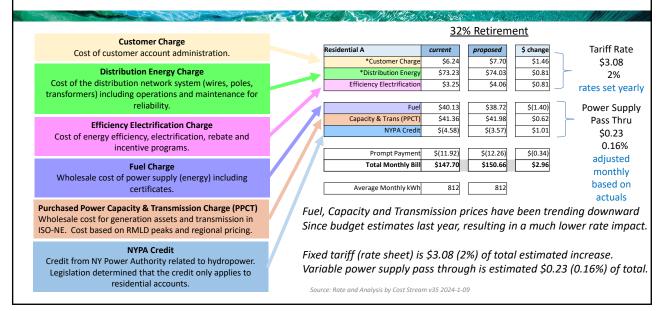
5 source: Rate and Analysis by Cost Stream v35 2024-01-19

Updated

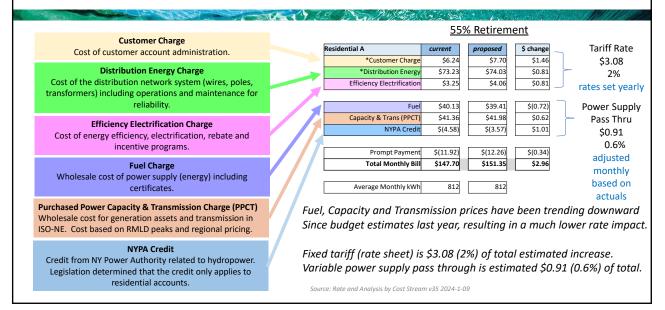
Effective March	2024 bills
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MDPU	MDPU	description	total monthly change	notes and key drivers
247		Municipal Street Lighting Schedule F Formula Rate	no change	
275		Backup and Standby Rate	no change	
285		Cooperative Resale Schedule G Rate	no change	
286		Residential Customer Owned Generation Under 20kW	no change	evaluating facilities charge and higher credit for exported kWh
287		Commercial/Industrial Customer-Owned Generation	no change	0 0
288		Purchase Power Capacity and Transmission Charge	market	pass through cost
289		Private Street Lighting Rate Schedule D	no change	
290		Municipal LED Street Lighting Rate	no change	
291		Standard Fuel Charge Clause	market	pass through cost
294		Renewable Choice	no change	
295		Solar Choice Rider	adjusted semi-annually	monthly credits
306		Electric Vehicle Supply Equipment Schedule EVSE Rate	0%	
307		Economic Development	no change	
308		Coincident Peak - Large Industrials	no change	
301	309	Residential Schedule A Rate	2.0%	base rate, EEC
302	310	Residential Time of Use Schedule A2 Rate	3.3%	base rate, EEC
303	311	Commercial Scheduled C Rate	3.2%	base rate, EEC
304	312	Industrial Time of Use Schedule I Rate	4.8%	base rate, EEC
305	313	School Schedule SCH Rate	1.6%	base rate, EEC
292		Efficiency Electrification Charge	25%	increase \$0.004 / kWh to \$0.005 / kwh
		A3 residential TOU (EV focused)	future	update, approve, and release
 		Total monthly bill incl	rease estimated	d at 3.2%

2024 Rates – Residential A at 32% retire example



2024 Rates – Residential A at 55% retire example

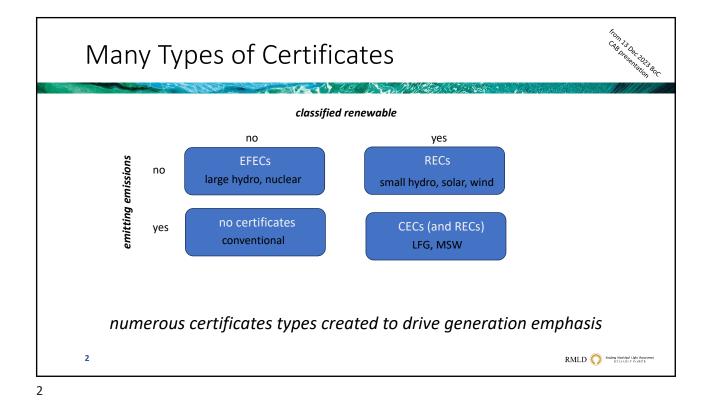


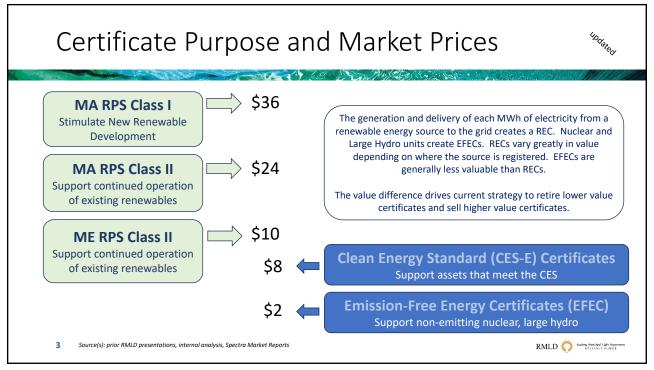
1/31/2024



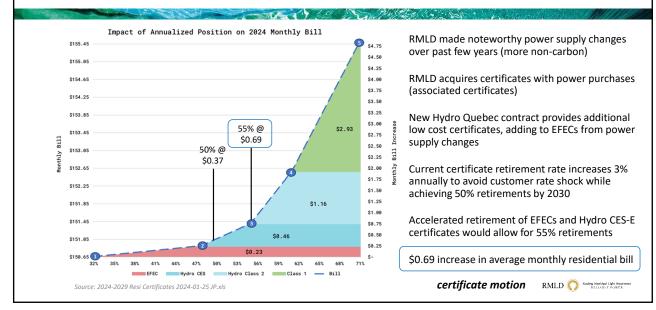
ATTACHMENT 4 CERTIFICATE MANAGEMENT





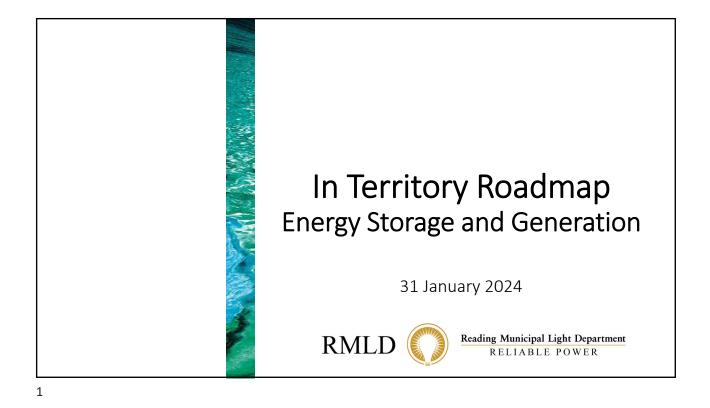


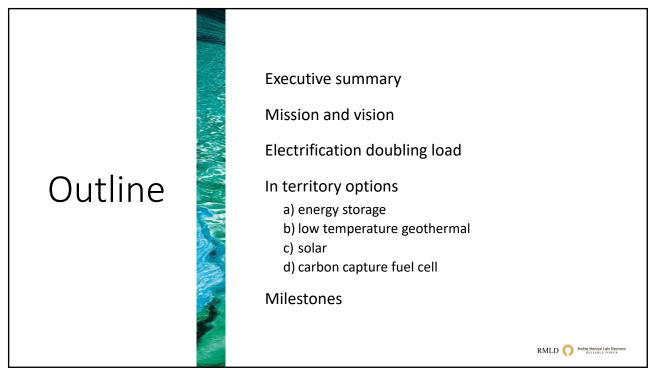
Accelerating Certificate Retirements to 55% in 2024

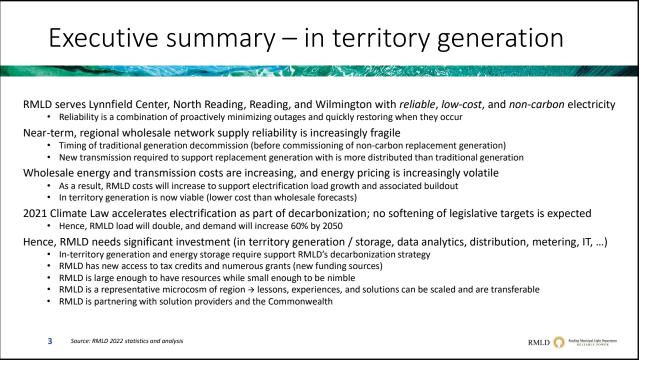




ATTACHMENT 5 IN TERRITORY GENERATION ROAD MAP

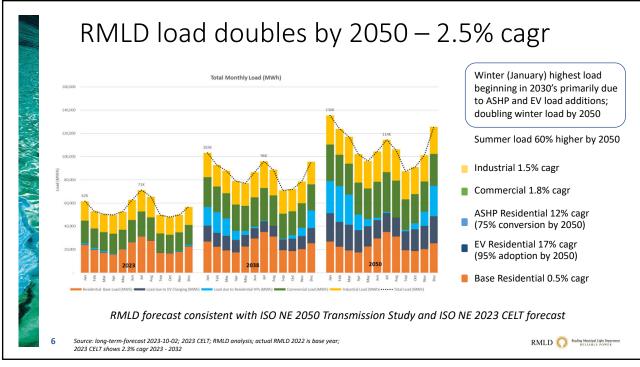


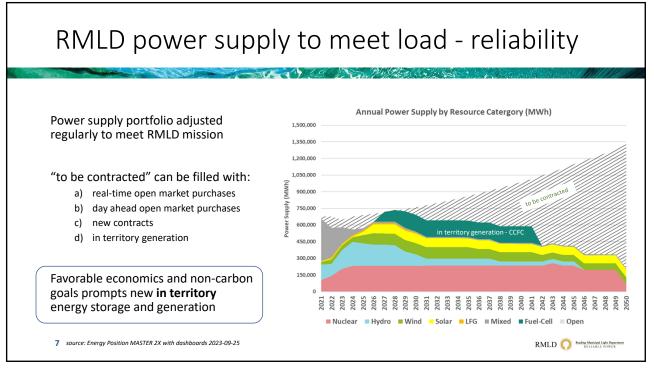




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Context - in territory storage and generation FA-1.0. Reliability enhanced via in territory energy storage and generation assets • Regional wholesale more fragile • More direct control (and responsibility) In territory generation targeted to support ~40% of load by 2040 Favorable economics for in territory generation • Wholesale costs increasing (energy, transmission, capacity, certificates) • New funding sources (state / fed grants, tax credits, vendor contributions) • RMLD has scale to implement Compliant (2021 Climate Bill → non-carbon electricity sales 50% by 2030, 75% by 2040, and net zero by 2050) • Actual lower CO2 emissions, well ahead of compliance targets Clean energy certificates produced by a fuel cell with >90% carbon capture provides compliance pathway in the near term Carbon captured fuel cells compliant for life of assets (>20 years) Generation asset timing • First 20 MW base load gen commissioned 2026 Additional 3 MWs of RMLD owned rooftop solar PV commissioned in 2026, then Maple Meadows solar PV (7 MW) in 2027 Additional 20 MW base load gen commissioned in 2032, followed by two additional units in mid 2030's 5 Source(s): RMLD presentations and internal analysis RMLD () Reading Municipal Light Departmen





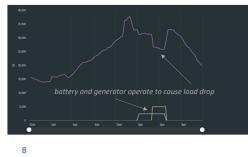
Energy storage – key puzzle piece

Storage systems time shift energy (ex. afternoon solar to evening use)

Time shifting enables benefits:

- a) Economic (coincident ISO NE / RMLD peak management)
- **b)** Reliability (network hot spots)
- c) Resiliency (limited backup)

Storage systems are not generators



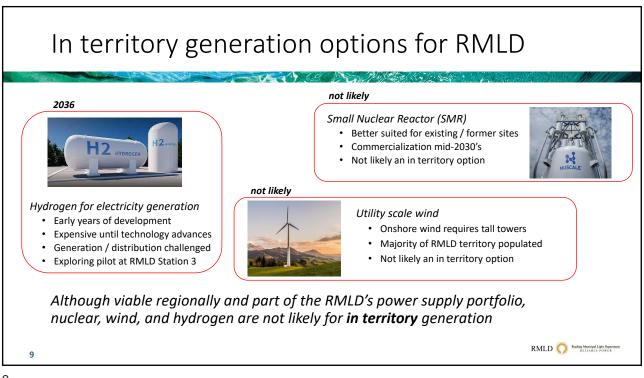


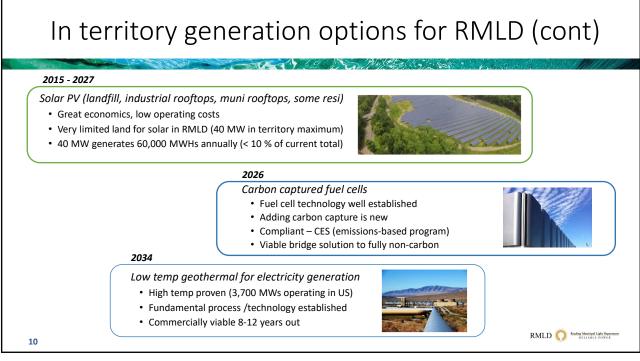
RMLD adding ~30 MW (2-3 hour) of battery storage Existing 5 MW at Station 3 - 2019

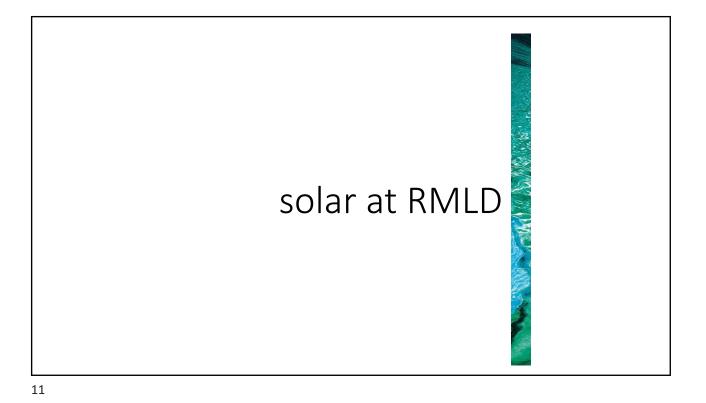
- New mobile 500 kw at Station 2 2024
- New 10 MW on Fordham Road 2024 •
- New 10 MW at Station 3 2025 •
- Planning 10 MW at Station 6 2026
- ٠
- Exploring 2.5 MW (10 hour) grant submitted
- Exploring 10 MW (100 hour) analysis in process ٠

Energy storage - important component of reliability, low-cost, non carbon mission and decarbonization









Little room for much additional solar at RMLD

The start of the second s

				annual output
	location	on-line	MW AC	(MWHs)
	Burlington Ave	2015	2.0	2,978
5	Ballardvale Road	2017	1.0	1,489
	Fordham Road	2017	1.7	2,532
	Residential roof top	2010 - ongoing	2.0	2,978
	Commercial roof top	2011 - ongoing	2.5	3,723
	subtotal		9.2	13,701
	new Maple Meadows	2026	7.5	11,169
	new Lynnfield Water	2026	2.5	3,723
1	new Town buildings	2025	1.5	2,234
	other industrial roof PV	2028	7.5	11,169
	other PV (ground, canopy,)	2028	12.0	17,870
	grand total		40.2	59,866

Solar PV is viable for RMLD (good economics, non-carbon, ...)

Solar PV requires horizon area (limited locally)

Local solar PV has very low capacity factor due higher latitude

Bottom-line, RMLD will max out solar, supplying 5-10% of total load

12 source: in territory assets 2024-01-23

RMLD () Reading Municipal Light Department

Maple Meadow – RMLD can unlock community value

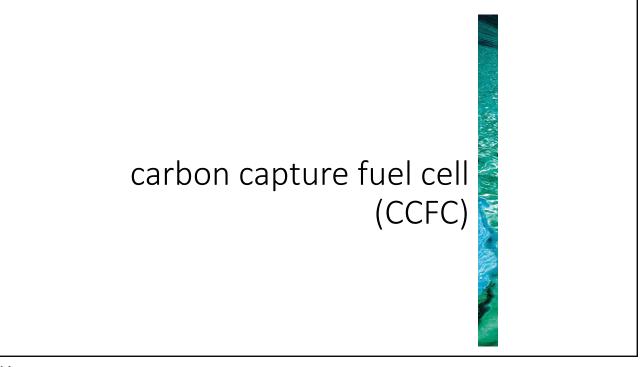
Charles and the state

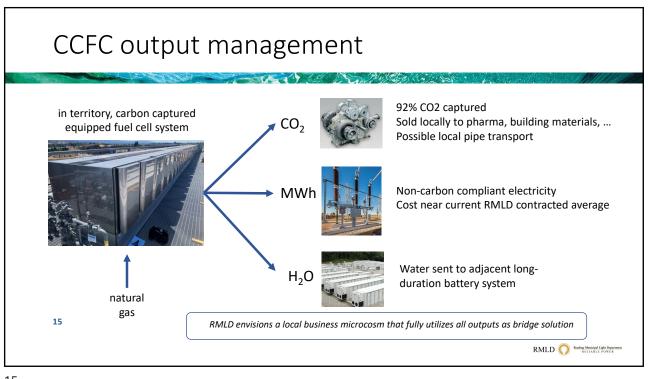


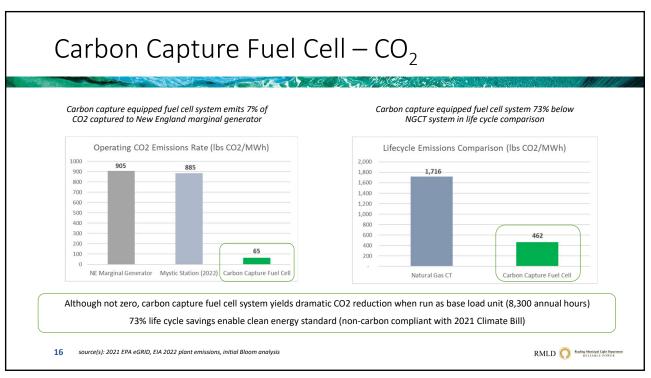
75 acre site with challenged history (former landfill, in limbo, taxes, ...) But RMLD uniquely positioned to create value for all parties:

- Solar PV
 - ~7 MW solar PV, within territory generation
 - Persuasive economics
 - Many hurdles
- Storage battery, fly wheel, ...
 - 10 MW linked to solar PV (time shifting, peak management, economics)
 - 30 60 ME battery storage tied to transmission system (SATOA)
- Fourth transmission tie point (southern substation)
 - Increase resiliency, PTF eligible (reimbursement)
 - Support electrification load growth
- Future non-solar generation site
 - Low-temp geothermal for electricity generation
 - Hydrogen

RMLD O

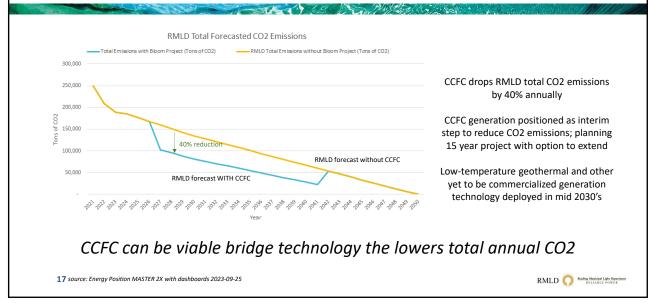


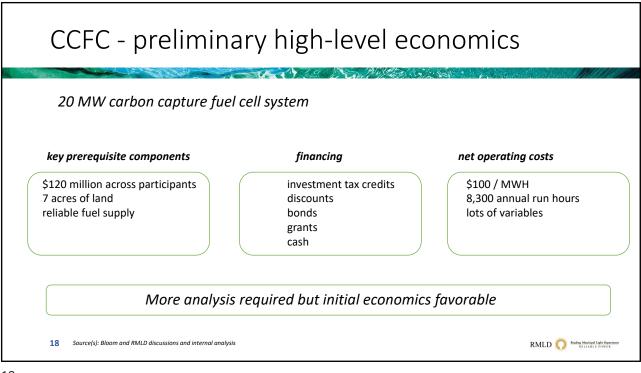






Result – accelerated, viable decarbonization



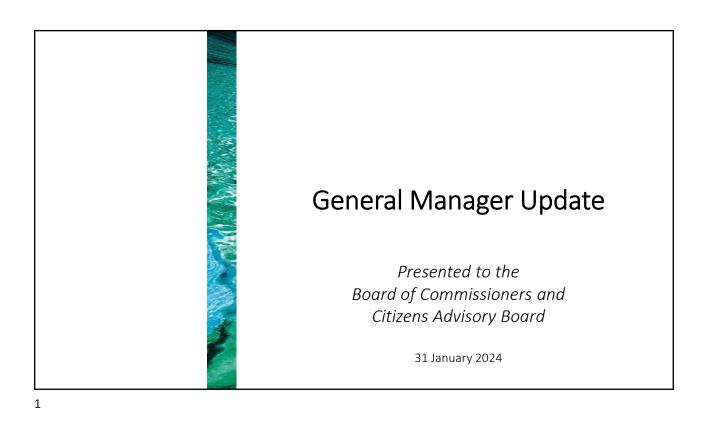


Investment timing – key RMLD initiatives TAC: 2026 2028 2030 2032 2034 2024 Acquire land Install energy storage Build generation (CCFC) Upgrade metering Install workflow / billing Transform campus Buildout distribution network 19 RMLD O

1/31/2024



ATTACHMENT 6 GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT



RMLD Team

New Director of Operations on board and leading

Opened additional billing specialist role (backup, preparation)

Actively recruiting

- a) Director of Engineering
- b) Director of HR
- c) Director of Enterprise Data mid 2024

Team quickly restored power during extended January storms

Current contracts expired Dec 2024

• start negotiations this summer

Employee survey delayed

Team remains energized

2

External Communications – More 10 35 7 Public facing outage maps during storms starting June New Current Insights podcast posts every two week URREN • Episodes averaging 183 views (highest has 692 views) • New Zoom capability will broaden guests and audience Monthly newsletter has 63% open rate (vs 37% national average RMILD • Emailed to 20,000 recipients end of each month Facebook has 1,096 followers while X has 4,785 followers • 2-3 posts to each media every week Quarterly webinars - 150 participants plus 200 subsequent views Home energy evaluation kits at all four Town libraries (instruments, samples, ...) RMLD increasing outbound communications and exploring new avenues 3

RMLD / MLP and Transmission Buildout

and the state

Massive regional transmission buildout over next few decades • \$20 billion on top of \$12 billion installed base

- Paid for by all rate payers (ex. transmission element of PPCT on RMLD monthly bills)
- Commonwealth and IOU's want public power participation • MLP's have positive reputation

MLP's teaming up (as ENE-T entity) to uncover MLP opportunities

- Traditionally only transmission operators participated
- MLP's may have opportunity to invest and possibly more
- RMLD one of over a dozen MLPs teaming as ENE-T

Significant economic benefit for participating MLP's

- 11% gross return on investment at 4% cost of capital
- Net 7% return to MLPs

MLP participation puts small downward pressure on total transmission cost MLP participation promotes more transparency

Project investments will be presented to BoC / CAB as they are developed



4

1/31/2024



MATERIALS AVAILABLE BUT NOT DISCUSSED

Town of Reading, Massachusetts Municipal Light Department Statement of Net Assets 10/31/2023

		2023		2022
ASSETS				
Current:				
Unrestricted Cash	\$	27,807,291	\$	21,087,277
Restricted Cash	Ψ	30,586,730	Ψ	31,784,518
Restricted Investments		1,414,991		1,037,840
Receivables, Net		10,285,565		8,029,964
Prepaid Expenses		1,490,954		1,334,784
Inventory		3,256,815		2,503,337
Total Current Assets		74,842,346		65,777,720
Noncurrent:				
Lease Receivable		1,993,599		-
Investment in Associated Companies		990,826		964,726
Construction in Progress		879,120		385,636
Capital Assets, Net		93,858,128		90,420,159
Total Noncurrent Assets		97,721,672		91,770,521
Deferred Outflows		6,113,387		6 754 407
TOTAL ASSETS		178,677,406		6,754,497 164,302,738
		110,011,400		104,002,700
LIABILITIES				
Current				
Accounts Payable		6,660,804		7,892,826
Accrued Liabilities		487,900		288,703
Customer Deposits		1,771,689		1,674,331
Advances from Associated Companies		200,000		200,000
Contribution in Aid of Construction		3,414,353		2,646,415
Total Current Liabilities		12,534,747		12,702,275
Non-current				
Accrued Employee Compensated Absences		925,017		1,652,518
Net OPEB Obligation		4,269,089		4,158,698
Net Pension Liability		5,358,701		11,954,138
Total Non-current Liabilities		10,552,807		17,765,354
Deferred Inflows		9,802,918		4,327,923
TOTAL LIABILITIES		32,890,472		34,795,553
NET POSITION				
Invested in Capital Assets, Net of Related Debt		93,858,128		90,420,159
Restricted for Depreciation Fund		11,807,821		7,644,399
Restricted for Pension Trust		7		6,837,197
Unrestricted		40,120,978		24,605,431
TOTAL NET POSITION		145,786,933		129,507,185
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$	178,677,406	\$	164,302,738

Town of Reading, Massachusetts Municipal Light Department Business Type Proprietary Fund Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Fund Net Assets 10/31/2023

	Cu	Month rrent Year	L	Month ast Year	ear to Date urrent Year	ear to Date Last Year	Percent Change
Operating Revenues							<u> </u>
Base Revenue Fuel Revenue Purchased Power Capacity & Transmission Forfeited Discounts Energy Conservation Revenue NYPA Credit Total Operating Revenues	\$	2,923,120 2,370,674 2,462,903 104,366 199,229 (73,788) 7,986,504	\$	2,223,186 3,046,303 2,356,822 45,997 144,049 (93,861) 7,722,497	\$ 30,383,045 26,294,923 27,563,730 766,017 2,026,055 (1,136,694) 85,897,076	\$ 25,544,555 31,287,354 26,455,326 668,840 1,653,301 (1,028,207) 84,581,169	18.9% (16.0%) 4.2% 14.5% 22.5% 10.6%
Expenses							
Power Expenes:							
547 Purchased Power Fuel 555 Purchased Power Capacity 565 Purchased Power Transmission Total Purchased Power		2,107,419 944,398 1,706,126 4,757,944		1,944,238 1,152,778 1,305,749 4,402,765	22,437,186 12,773,916 12,362,984 47,574,086	28,376,797 12,376,664 14,261,674 55,015,135	(20.9%) 3.2% (13.3%) (13.5%)
Operations and Maintenance Expenses:							
 580 Supervision and Engineering 581 Station/Control Room Operators 582 Station Technicians 583 Line General Labor 586 Meter General 588 Materials Management 593 Maintenance of Lines - Overhead 593 Maintenance of Lines - Tree Trimming 594 Maintenance of Lines - Underground 595 Maintenance of Line - Transformers 598 Line General Leave Time Labor Total Operations and Maintenance Expenses 		134,732 45,531 75,686 51,095 16,570 60,332 31,384 6,261 6,642 10,622 40,171 479,027		80,289 41,064 46,403 77,738 19,424 40,200 54,863 9,968 10,614 54,434 83,531 518,527	1,178,491 570,420 609,684 761,683 150,011 444,116 698,255 822,787 69,706 84,124 466,149 5,855,425	904,911 413,962 461,422 630,006 176,400 368,195 338,852 667,329 193,127 182,715 416,548 4,753,467	30.2% 37.8% 32.1% 20.9% (15.0%) 20.6% 106.1% 23.3% (63.9%) (54.0%) 11.9% 23.2%
General & Administration Expenses: 903 Customer Collections		140,166		100,739	1,160,810	960,251	20.9%
 904 Uncollectible Accounts 916 Energy Audit 916 Energy Conservation 920 Administrative and General Salaries 921 Office Supplies and Expense 923 Outside Services - Legal 923 Outside Services - Contract 923 Outside Services - Education 924 Property Insurance 925 Injuries and Damages 		3,333 94,780 144,185 207,495 222 52,785 5,625 25,641 27,478		5,000 48,553 73,526 133,485 1,629 80,394 33,602 17,651 32,768 4,773	33,333 701,397 1,558,282 2,010,068 14,566 278,028 313,300 113,927 389,596 77,729	50,000 691,810 1,110,401 1,687,052 12,819 402,265 250,292 52,417 348,984 20 877	(33.3%) 1.4% 40.3% 19.1% 13.6% (30.9%) 25.2% 117.3% 11.6% 272.3%
 925 Injuries and Damages 926 Employee Pensions and Benefits 930 Miscellaneous General Expense 931 Rent Expense 933 Vehicle Expenses 933 Vehicle Expenses - Capital 935 Maintenance of General Plant 935 Maintenance of Building & Garage Total General & Administration Expenses 		250,273 27,300 36,503 13,170 (39,293) 27,783 64,561 1,082,008		4,773 311,675 14,397 13,900 43,623 (29,913) 29,896 69,751 985,449	77,729 3,443,934 335,640 188,989 263,634 (347,788) 598,967 <u>662,950</u> 11,797,361	20,877 3,275,897 287,752 188,426 244,183 (332,628) 452,605 773,714 10,477,117	272.3% 5.1% 16.6% 0.3% 8.0% 4.6% 32.3% (14.3%) 12.6%
		1,002,000		303,449	11,737,301	10, 17, 117	12.070

Town of Reading, Massachusetts Municipal Light Department Business Type Proprietary Fund Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Fund Net Assets 10/31/2023

	Month Current Year	Month Last Year	Year to Date Current Year	Year to Date Last Year	Percent Change
Other Operating Expenses:					<u> </u>
403 Depreciation	435,353	421,450	4,353,534	4,214,501	3.3%
408 Voluntary Payments to Towns	152,217	143,387	1,522,178	1,433,870	6.2%
Total Other Expenses	587,571	564,837	5,875,712	5,648,371	4.0%
Operating Income	1,079,954	1,250,919	14,794,491	8,687,079	70.3%
Non Operating Revenues (Expenses):					
419 Interest Income	70,101	30,461	727,640	180,621	302.9%
419 Other	153,831	147,852	486,324	709,550	(31.5%)
426 Return on Investment to Reading	(211,551)	(210,620)	(2,109,923)	(2,082,734)	1.3%
426 Loss on Disposal					0.0%
431 Interest Expense	(4,098)	(2,016)	(40,907)	(20,136)	103.2%
Total Non Operating Revenues (Expenses)	8,284	(34,323)	(936,866)	(1,212,699)	(22.7%)
Change in Net Assets	1,088,238	1,216,597	13,857,625	7,474,380	85.4%
Net Assets at Beginning of Year	131,929,309	122,032,806	131,929,309	122,032,806	8.1%
Ending Net Assets	\$ 133,017,547	\$ 123,249,402	\$ 145,786,933	\$ 129,507,185	12.6%

Town of Reading, Massachusetts Municipal Light Department Business Type Proprietary Fund Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Fund Net Assets Compared to Budget 10/31/2023

	١	Actual Year to Date	,	Budget Year to Date	0	VER/UNDER \$	OVER/UNDER %
Operating Revenues							
Base Revenue Fuel Revenue Purchased Power Capacity & Transmission Forfeited Discounts Energy Conservation Revenue NYPA Credit	\$	30,383,045 26,294,923 27,563,730 766,017 2,026,055 (1,136,694)	\$	26,763,519 34,255,027 28,763,323 802,906 1,667,500 (968,333)	\$	3,619,526 (7,960,105) (1,199,593) (36,889) 358,555 (168,360)	13.5% (23.2%) (4.2%) (4.6%) 21.5% 17.4%
Total Operating Revenues		\$ 85,897,076		91,283,942		(5,386,866)	(5.9%)
Expenses							
Power Expenses:							
555 Purchased Power Fuel 555 Purchased Power Capacity 565 Purchased Power Transmission Total Purchased Power		22,437,186 12,773,916 12,362,984 47,574,086		33,286,694 12,891,332 16,021,991 62,200,017		(10,849,508) (117,416) (3,659,007) (14,625,931)	(32.6%) (0.9%) (22.8%) (23.5%)
Operations and Maintenance Expenses:							
 580 Supervision and Engineering 581 Station/Control Room Operators 582 Station Technicians 583 Line General Labor 586 Meter General 588 Materials Management 593 Maintenance of Lines - Overhead 593 Maintenance of Lines - Tree Trimming 594 Maintenance of Lines - Underground 595 Maintenance of Line - Transformers 598 Line General Leave Time Labor Total Operations and Maintenance Expenses General & Administration Expenses: 903 Customer Collection 904 Uncollectible Accounts 		1,178,491 570,420 609,684 761,683 150,011 444,116 698,255 822,787 69,706 84,124 466,149 5,855,425		815,366 423,413 1,114,548 500,629 225,204 490,491 473,953 1,324,823 162,478 295,866 179,969 6,006,740		363,125 147,007 (504,864) 261,054 (75,193) (46,375) 224,303 (502,036) (92,772) (211,742) 286,179 (151,314) 77,803 (29,167)	(71.6%) 159.0%
 916 Energy Audit 916 Energy Audit 916 Energy Conservation 920 Administrative and General Salaries 921 Office Supplies and Expense 923 Outside Services - Legal 923 Outside Services - Contract 923 Outside Services - Education 924 Property Insurance 925 Injuries and Damages 926 Employee Pensions and Benefits 930 Miscellaneous General Expense 933 Vehicle Expense 933 Vehicle Expense 935 Maintenance of General Plant 935 Maintenance of Building & Garage Total General & Administration Expenses 		701,397 1,558,282 2,010,068 14,566 278,028 313,300 113,927 389,596 77,729 3,443,934 335,640 188,989 263,634 (347,788) 598,967 <u>662,950</u> 11,797,361		892,858 892,858 2,553,536 2,686,777 16,667 654,833 616,750 274,292 451,292 21,333 3,807,188 501,167 176,667 324,167 (425,223) 557,306 826,298 15,081,413		(191,461) (995,254) (676,709) (2,101) (376,805) (303,450) (160,364) (61,696) 56,395 (363,255) (165,526) 12,322 (60,533) 77,435 41,661 (163,348) (3,284,051)	(21.4%) (39.0%) (25.2%)

Town of Reading, Massachusetts Municipal Light Department Business Type Proprietary Fund Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Fund Net Assets Compared to Budget 10/31/2023

	Ye	Actual ear to Date	Y	Budget ear to Date	OVER/UNDER \$	OVER/UNDER %
Other Operating Expenses:						
403 Depreciation		4,353,534		4,537,500	(183,966)	(4.1%)
408 Voluntary Payments to Towns		1,522,178		1,477,033	45,145	3.1%
Total Other Expenses		5,875,712		6,014,533	(35,447)	(0.6%)
Operating Income		14,794,491		1,981,239	12,709,878	641.5%
Non Operating Revenues (Expenses):						
415 Contribution in Aid of Construction		-		41,667	(41,667)	(100.0%)
419 Interest Income		727,640		250,000	477,640	191.1%
419 Other Income		486,324		591,667	(105,343)	(17.8%)
421 Intergovernmental Grants		-		75,000	(75,000)	(100.0%)
426 Return on Investment to Reading		(2,109,923)		(2,124,143)	14,220	(0.7%)
426 Loss on Disposal		-		(8,333)	8,333	· · /
431 Interest Expense		(40,907)		(8,333)	(32,574)	`390.9%
Total Non Operating Revenues (Expenses)		(936,866)		(1,182,477)	245,610	
Net Income	\$	13,857,625	\$	798,762	\$ 13,058,862	1634.9%