



RMLD

**READING MUNICIPAL
LIGHT DEPARTMENT**

**RMLD STRATEGIC POWER SUPPLY AND
LOAD MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

**REGULAR SESSION MEETING
WEDNESDAY MAY 8, 2024**



Town of Reading Meeting Posting with Agenda

Board - Committee - Commission - Council:

Date: 2024-05-08

Time: 12:00 PM

Building: Virtual

Location: Zoom

Address:

Agenda:

Purpose: RMLD Strategic Power Supply and Load Management Committee

Meeting Called By: Pamela Daskalakis, 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.

FOR REMOTE AND/OR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Please email rmldevents@RMLD.com. Please include your full name, address, and phone number. Comments and questions will be monitored during the meeting.

This meeting will be held remotely on zoom.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://rmld.zoom.us/j/89719658718?from=addon>

Meeting ID: 897 1965 8718

One tap mobile

+13126266799,,86900260203# US (Chicago)

+16469313860,,86900260203# US

Dial by your location

- +1 929 205 6099 US (New York)

Find your local number: <https://rmld.zoom.us/j/89719658718?from=addon>



Town of Reading Meeting Posting with Agenda

1. Call Meeting to Order – P. Daskalakis, Chair
2. Public Comment – P. Daskalakis, Chair
3. Approval of Committee Minutes (attachment 1) – P. Daskalakis, Chair

Suggested Motion: Move that the RMLD Strategic Power Supply and Load Management Committee approve the May 3, 2024, open session meeting minutes, as presented, on the recommendation of the General Manager and the Board Secretary.

4. Key Project Milestones and Off-ramps (attachment 2) – G. Phipps
5. Rate Impact Forecast (attachment 3) – G. Phipps
6. Scheduling – P. Daskalakis, Chair – P. Daskalakis, Chair
 - Tuesday May 14, 2024: 12:00 PM – 1:00 PM
 - Tuesday May 21, 2024: 12:15 PM – 1:15 PM
7. Executive Session – P. Daskalakis, Chair

Suggested Motion: Move that the RMLD Strategic Power Supply and Load Management Committee 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 discuss trade secrets or confidential, competitively sensitive or other proprietary information provided relative to Carbon Capture Fuel Cells and return to regular session, for the sole purpose of adjournment. Note: Roll call vote required.

8. Adjournment – P. Daskalakis, Chair

Suggested Motion: Move that the RMLD Strategic Power Supply and Load Management Committee adjourn regular session.

ATTACHMENT 1
APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES



Town of Reading Meeting Minutes

Board - Committee - Commission - Council:

RMLD Strategic Power Supply and Load Management Committee

Date: 2023-10-05

Time: 8:15 AM

Building: Virtual

Location: Zoom

Address:

Session: Open Session

Purpose: RMLD Strategic Power Supply and Load Management Committee

Version: Draft

Attendees: **Members - Present:**

Pamela Daskalakis, Chair (Board of Commissioners); Robert Coulter (Board of Commissioners); Vivek Soni (Citizens' Advisory Board)

Members - Not Present:

Ken Welter (Citizens' Advisory Board)

Others Present:

RMLD Staff: Gregory Phipps, General Manager; Bill Bullock, Director of Integrated Resources; Erica Morse, Executive Assistant;

Minutes Respectfully Submitted By: Pamela Daskalakis, Chair

Topics of Discussion:

Call to Order

The RMLD Strategic Power Supply and Load Management Committee meeting was called to order at 8:15 AM.

All attendees participated remotely on zoom.

Mr. Welter was absent from the meeting.

David Talbot entered the meeting at 8:15 AM and left the meeting at 8:16 AM. There was no quorum of the RMLD Board of Commissioners (BoC) at this meeting, but it was recommended that BoC agendas be posted for future meetings in the event a commissioner would like to attend the committee meeting.

Opening Remarks

Mr. Phipps discussed the formation of the Committee, emphasizing the importance of efficiency and productivity. Mr. Phipps acknowledged the progress the RMLD has made thus far and noted that there is still more to be done.

Mr. Phipps encouraged active participation for all members, welcoming questions, thoughts, and potential ideas. Mr. Phipps expressed support for the work the members want to undertake, indicating that he and Mr. Bullock will provide answers and assistance as needed.

Nomination and election of the Chair

Mr. Phipps suggested that the members elect a chair to lead the meetings going forward.

Mr. Coulter nominated Pamela Daskalakis for Committee Chair, seconded by Mr. Soni.
Motion Carried: 3:0:1 (3 in favor, 1 absent). *Roll Call: Ms. Daskalakis, aye; Mr. Coulter, aye; Mr. Soni, aye. Mr. Welter was absent from the meeting.*

At this point on, Ms. Daskalakis served as Chair.

Committee Structure

Chair Daskalakis proposed several points for discussion in the meeting.

Meeting Frequency and Length

Chair Daskalakis suggested establishing weekly meetings of 45 minutes to one hour, each with a designated topic for discussion with Mr. Phipps and the RMLD team.

Chair Daskalakis emphasized the importance of ensuring that at least three out of four members attend each meeting.

Committee Scope and Mission

Chair Daskalakis highlighted the need to clarify the Committees' mission and to define the focus areas leading up to the June Board of Commissioners meeting.

Chair Daskalakis noted the importance of understanding the details behind the upcoming decision on the carbon capture fuel cell project.

Mr. Soni raised a query regarding the scope of the Committee, seeking clarification on if it's solely focused on carbon capture fuel cells or includes load management.

Chair Daskalakis suggested prioritizing the immediate focus on carbon capture for the next six to seven weeks, with potential consideration for other solutions, including demand management, afterward.

Mr. Soni proposed that the Committee seek input from RMLD regarding load management practices, emphasizing a strategic approach over operational involvement.

Mr. Coulter supported Mr. Soni's suggestion, highlighting RMLD's core focus on the sale of electricity and the need to prioritize carbon capture fuel cell generation over load management.

Mr. Phipps mentioned RMLD's plan to provide an update on incentives and an impact assessment at the June meeting as part of a regular meetings, indicating ongoing efforts in efficiency, demand response, and load management.

Mr. Phipps suggested reevaluating the Committee's continuation after the initial focus period on carbon capture fuel cells.

Mr. Soni discussed the implementation of peak shaving and battery usage, noting that this falls within RMLD's normal operations.

Chair Daskalakis suggested the role of load management in capacity analysis as a compromise topic for future meetings, with a focus on understanding its impact on investment decisions.

Mr. Soni agreed with prioritizing carbon capture discussions with the potential for considering other topics but expressed sensitivity to time constraints.

Chair Daskalakis suggested adding load management as a potential seventh meeting topic, to which the Committee agreed.

Ms. Morse suggested structuring the scope into manageable chunks of time with scheduled scope revisions to avoid overextension.

Mr. Soni acknowledged the limited time available, suggesting a focused scope on carbon capture fuel cells and a simple statement on load management.

Chair Daskalakis presented a draft of the Committee's mission and scope, inviting live edits and suggestions.

Chair Daskalakis proposed narrowing the mission statement to focus on the committee's role in enhancing non-carbon generation to support RMLD's mission, with Mr. Soni suggesting adding "Carbon Capture Fuel Cell" to the statement.

Mr. Phipps suggested framing the mission to ensure alignment but not overlap with the normal business of the RMLD staff.

Chair Daskalakis suggested adding "deeply" knowledgeable to emphasize the need for knowledge acquisition beyond regular meeting schedules.

The Committee agreed on the following mission statement:

"Ensure the Citizens' Advisory Board and Board of Commissioners have opportunity to become deeply knowledgeable about the fuel cell and carbon capture solution in support of RMLD's mission to enhance in-territory, non-carbon generation to maintain low-cost, reliable power to rate payers."

Future Meeting Topics

Chair Daskalakis presented seven areas of focus and proposed a structured approach where Committee members submit questions in advance to the RMLD team.

Chair Daskalakis discussed the proposed topics: financing and financial details, timing requirements, risk mitigation, procurement process/competitive options, Town(s) pulse, carbon footprint, and load management.

Mr. Soni confirmed that after today's meeting, the goal would be to hold seven additional meetings leading up to the week of June 20th.

Mr. Soni and Mr. Phipps suggested doubling up some topics to streamline the process and ensure comprehensive coverage.

Mr. Coulter highlighted the project's magnitude in relation to RMLD's budget and stressed the importance of understanding its size and implications.

Mr. Phipps proposed discussing financing at the next meeting due to its critical importance.

Chair Daskalakis agreed and suggested combining financing and timing discussions.

Mr. Bullock noted that risk mitigation may require multiple meetings due to its comprehensive nature.

Mr. Phipps added fuel supply as a crucial topics, suggesting it could be addressed under risk mitigation in subsequent meetings.

The committee agreed on the proposed topics for upcoming meetings.

Mr. Coulter inquired about the progress of RMLD's application to National Grid for tapping in for natural gas supply.

Mr. Phipps explained that discussions have begun with National Grid and mentioned the alternate possibility of tapping into the transmission line directly.

Mr. Phipps highlighted the ongoing work on permitting with ISO New England, noting that a Level 3 study may be necessary due to the project's magnitude.

Mr. Soni suggested outlining critical gates for the project at the next meeting, including approvals from RMLD Board of Commissioners, the towns of Reading and Wilmington, state regulators, and ISO New England.

Mr. Phipps agreed and mentioned the concept of off-ramps, indicating points where the project could be halted if necessary.

Chair Daskalakis proposed dividing discussions across multiple meetings to cover financing, risk mitigation, and stage gate points effectively.

Mr. Phipps agreed to provide a simplified overview of key participants and decision timings for the next meeting.

Mr. Soni requested that RMLD share the project schedule to align discussions with critical dates.

Mr. Soni also requested access to the carbon capture fuel cell model to understand its impact on rates for residential and industrial customers.

Mr. Phipps committed to sharing the financial model and exploring the impact on customer rates.

Mr. Coulter emphasized the importance of transparently communicating the project's cost and benefits to ratepayers.

Chair Daskalakis suggested analyzing the project's impact on RMLD's budget and customer rates, considering financing options and partnerships.

Mr. Phipps discussed potential partnerships with other MLPs and highlighted the project's position in the industry, indicating growing interest from other GMs and MLPs.

Mr. Soni acknowledged the importance of timing and positioning in adopting the carbon capture project.

Mr. Phipps committed to providing further insights into the project's industry positioning and potential partnerships in future discussions.

Scheduling

The next Committee meeting will be held on Wednesday May 8, 2024 at 12:00 PM.

Adjournment

Chair Daskalakis made a **motion**, seconded by Mr. Coulter, to adjourn the RMLD Strategic Power Supply and Load Management Committee meeting. **Motion Carried: 3:0:1** (3 in favor, 1 absent). *Roll Call: Chair Daskalakis, aye; Mr. Coulter, aye; Mr. Soni, aye. Mr. Welter was absent from the meeting.*

The meeting adjourned at 8:58 AM.

ATTACHMENT 2

KEY PROJECT MILESTONES AND OFF-RAMPS



CCFC Milestones

7 May 2024 update

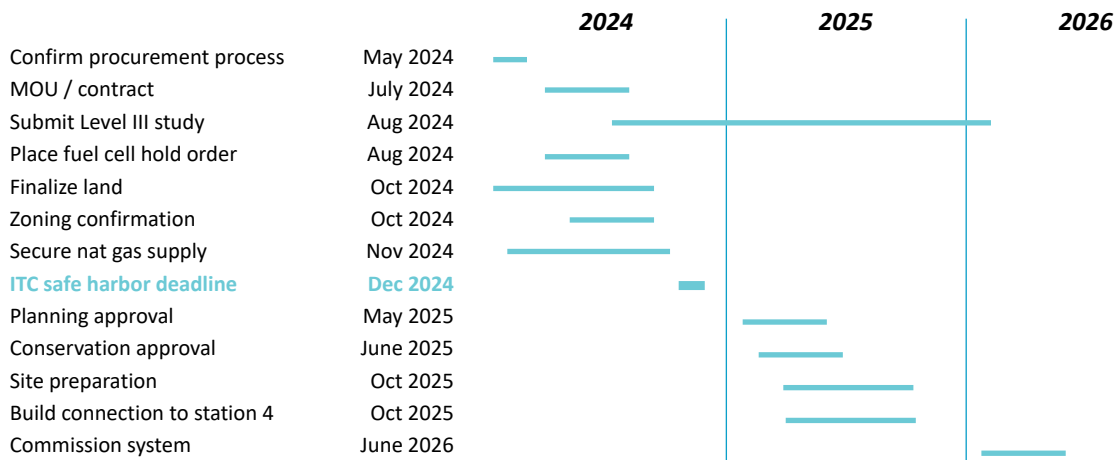
RMLD



Reading Municipal Light Department
RELIABLE POWER

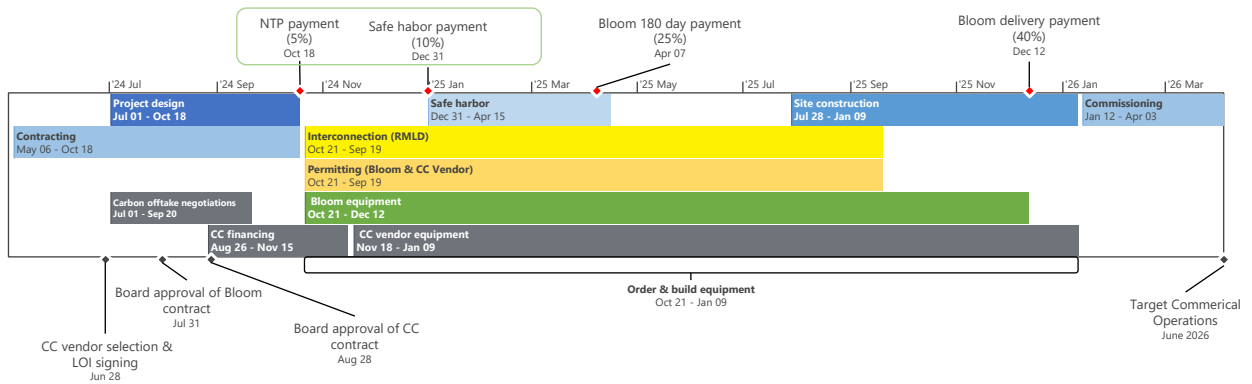
7 May 2024
draft

CCFC – key external milestones



7 May 2024
draft

CCFC specific milestones



NTP and safe harbor are two key 2024 milestones for ITC qualification

Thank You
from the RMLD Team



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Reading Municipal Light Department
RELIABLE POWER

Department
of Public Works

ATTACHMENT 3

RATE IMPACT FORECAST