

Massachusetts Municipal Wholesale Electric Company (MMWEC) Resolution In Support of Decarbonization

The Massachusetts Municipal Wholesale Electric Company (MMWEC) and its member municipal light plants (MLPs) actively support the Commonwealth of Massachusetts' energy and environmental goals, while operating within the framework of the public power, not-for-profit, business model. MMWEC and its member MLPs have consistently demonstrated environmental leadership through the development and procurement of clean energy resources that contribute significantly to the state's carbon reduction mandates under the Global Warming Solutions Act and the Decarbonization Roadmap.

As publicly owned utilities, MLPs are governed by locally elected or appointed officials and are directly accountable to the communities and residents they serve. This local governance structure aims to ensure that MLPs are responsive to the social and environmental priorities of their customers. Recognizing their essential role within the broader electric utility sector, MLPs understand their unique ability to be industry leaders in meeting societal goals of decarbonization. In alignment with their mission and community-driven approach, MLPs have successfully integrated substantial amounts of clean and renewable energy into their power portfolios.

After becoming a not-for-profit public corporation after the enactment of Chapter 775 in 1975, MMWEC and its member municipal utilities began investing in non-carbon emitting and renewable energy. Using its unique tax-exempt financing authority, MMWEC became a joint owner in both Seabrook Station and Millstone Unit 3 nuclear power facilities, with 28 MLPs participating in the Seabrook project, and 27 participating in the Millstone project.

Fast forward to the present day and MMWEC and its municipal utility members and project participants continue to invest in non-carbon emitting and clean and renewable energy resources, including nuclear, solar, wind, and hydro. In 2008, MMWEC and member utilities created the Berkshire Wind Power Cooperative Corporation, an MLP cooperative that owns and operates the 10-turbine, 15-megawatt (MW) Berkshire Wind Power Project Phase I, the Commonwealth's second largest wind farm. The project grew to 12 turbines and 19.6 MW when Phase II came online in 2019.

In addition, MMWEC has entered into significant power purchase agreements with Hydro Quebec, Hancock Wind, and smaller hydro generating sources in New Hampshire. Municipal light plants have also constructed and installed over 50 megawatts of solar generation, and several invested in the 35-acre, 7-megawatt, Master Sargeant Alexander Cotton Memorial Solar Project on MMWEC's campus in Ludlow.

Further, MMWEC has entered a partnership to construct and install more than 50 megawatts of battery energy storage systems in MLP communities throughout the state. These energy systems, along with MMWEC's growing NextZero energy efficiency program and Connected Homes program provide demand response capabilities for peak shaving, further lessening demand and peak load.

Recognizing their unique place in the Commonwealth's electric sector, the state's municipal utilities assisted the Commonwealth in drafting the Municipal Light Plant Greenhouse Gas Emissions Standard,

which mirrors the state's greenhouse gas emissions standard of net zero carbon emissions by 2050, and its subsequent power procurement goals of non-carbon sources of approximately 50% in 2030 and 75% in 2040. As of 2025, MMWEC's member municipal light plants are collectively meeting the 2030 goal with power portfolios that are 50% decarbonized and are projected to meet the 2040 goal ahead of time in the mid-2030s.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that MMWEC and its member MLPs support and promote the energy and environmental objectives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts which are consistent with public power's not-for-profit MLP business model, which is driven by local control, direct customer involvement in decision making, and affordability for customers; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that MMWEC continues to engage and innovate in emerging technologies to identify and develop innovative programs aligned with state and regional carbon emissions goals; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that MMWEC and its member MLPs continue to lead in the electric sector's embrace of decarbonization.

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