

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

The Massachusetts Municipal Wholesale Electric Company and its Member municipal light plants (MLPs) support and promote the energy and environmental policies and objectives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, consistent with the not-for-profit MLP business model. MMWEC Members have a strong record of environmental stewardship, including the development and purchase of clean energy resources that are valuable in achieving the carbon-reduction goals of the Municipal Light Plant Greenhouse Gas Emissions Standard and the Commonwealth's 2050 Decarbonization Roadmap.

The MLPs support decarbonization and electrification, and offer programs in these areas. MMWEC's NextZero program includes rebates for heat pumps, home batteries, electric vehicles, induction stoves, and electric lawn equipment, among other devices. NextZero's Connected Homes residential demand response program allows residents to reduce their carbon footprint and reduce demand when the highest emitting resources are being used to meet load. In addition, the MLPs' lower rates can ease the economic impacts of electrifying to customers.

MMWEC and the MLPs recognize that in addition to decarbonizing their power portfolios, extensive electrification of the residential/building and transportation sectors will be needed to achieve the carbon emissions targets of 2030, 2040 and 2050. ISO New England estimates that demand will increase by approximately 50% by 2050, due to the increase in transportation, appliance and space heating electrification.

This significant increase in demand, along with the goal of decarbonizing the energy supply, can only be addressed by maintaining the hallmark of public power, local control. In order to achieve these goals, a balance between fixed-base and intermittent renewable energy resources is needed to ensure an affordable and reliable power supply for Massachusetts consumers. MMWEC and its member MLPs will continue to explore new offerings and opportunities to ease this transition for MLP ratepayers.

Meanwhile, the Commonwealth is continuously reviewing regulations, and lawmakers are proposing everstringent legislation, to ensure the quickest decarbonization possible. Regulations such as the Clean Energy Standard and the Clean Heat Standard, and annual comprehensive climate bills aimed at speeding up the process, have been proposed in recent years. While MMWEC and the MLPs generally support efforts to electrify, recognizing there are several factors to consider, including variances in MLPs' distribution systems, and unknowns such as the impacts on infrastructure and resiliency, as well as the cost to ratepayers.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that MMWEC and its Member MLPs support electrification of the residential/building and transportation sectors, consistent with the Commonwealth's objectives; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that MMWEC is committed to developing programs and services to help the MLPs incentivize their customers to electrify, consistent with the MLPs' independent policies and decisions regarding electrification; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that MMWEC and its Member MLPs encourage the Commonwealth to take a cautious, measured approach to electrification that includes analyzing all impacts on ratepayers, including cost, and reliability, while respecting the local decision-making authority of MLPs.