

# **The Future of Energy Efficiency in New England: A Strategic Planning Retreat**

Sponsored by US EPA Region I

April 27, 2007

Eastern Connecticut State University in Willimantic, CT

## Agenda

9:30 Welcome and Introductions—U.S. EPA and Connecticut DEP

9:45 Goals and Overview of Day--Dr. Jonathan Raab, Raab Associates, Ltd.

10:00 New Developments and Status of Energy Efficiency Related Activities in New England—Richard Sedano and Richard Cowart, RAP

- **The Situation.** What are the region's electric system challenges and opportunities, and has the RAP paper framed them correctly?
- **Barriers.** What are the key barriers to capturing all cost-effective efficiency options and which should be addressed first? Are there particular barriers that programmatic approaches to efficiency still struggle to overcome and therefore merit close attention?
- **Opportunities.** What are the more promising opportunities for greater efficiency savings?

11:15 Break

11:30 Next Steps for Energy Efficiency in New England: Options for Better Integration and Possible Target Setting –RAP and Raab Associates

- **Key Question 1:** Is the most important step for New England on energy efficiency to secure more funding to pursue untapped opportunities, or to formulate new policy options, or both?
- **Key Question 2:** What are the more promising policy instruments, from among those already in use or under consideration and those not on our list, that can be employed to capture this untapped potential?

12:30 Lunch (together on site)

1:30 Steps for Energy Efficiency in New England: Options for Better Integration and Possible Target Setting (continued)—RAP and Raab Associates

- **Planning.** What kinds of exercises can be undertaken to identify energy efficiency resources that are cost-effective in relation to other resource choices, keeping in mind, as appropriate, resource adequacy needs?
- **Procurement.** How should resources, particularly energy efficiency, be procured? States may choose to reconsider the ways in which energy efficiency is offered to customers through the distribution companies or other means overseen by regulators.
- **Aligning Utility Financial Incentives with Public Policy Objectives.** Do traditional ratemaking methods pose a significant barrier to utility support for cost-effective energy efficiency and, if so, what reforms can be implemented to both undo this deterrent and protect consumers? Are such reforms necessary to maximizing energy efficiency savings?
- **Regional Target Setting.** Should New England-wide goals, or targets, for energy efficiency be set through a regional planning process?
- **The State vs. Regional Perspective.** How much of the potential for more energy efficiency, and which of these policy instruments, should policymakers address at the state level? What would benefit from regional efforts?

3:00 Break

3:15 Our Next Steps: Workshop or Stakeholder Process or Other?—Raab Associates

- **What next?** What steps do the participants of the April 27<sup>th</sup> meeting recommend that states (individually and together, through governors or agencies), the RTO, US EPA, regional stakeholders (including this planning group), or others take next to advance discussion of these issues and to rapidly promote energy efficiency attainment throughout New England?
  - **Option A:** Should we plan a larger two-day public workshop to explore these issues with all interested stakeholders in New England?
  - **Option B:** Should we convene a focused stakeholder process to develop a New England wide target and a plan for reaching the target with Governors' blessing and for their approval?
  - **Other** coordinated or regional important next steps?

4:30 Adjourn