

MA DPU Electric Grid Modernization Working Group

Customer-Facing Subcommittee Meeting #1

January 9, 2013

Federal Reserve Bank—New England Room (4th Floor)

**Facilitation/Consulting Team: Dr. Jonathan Raab, Raab Associates, Ltd. and
Tim Woolf, Synapse Energy Economics**

Agenda

- 9:00 **Overview of Subcommittee Process, Agenda Review and Groundrules for Subcommittee**
- 9:30 **Briefing on Time Varying Rates, Metering, and Customer-Facing Regulatory Policies and MA Utility Pilots**
- DOE Smart Grid Initiative, Time Varying Rate Taxonomy, and state and international activities—Tim Woolf, Synapse
 - MA Utility Pilots:
 - NSTAR-- Doug Horton, NSTAR & Stuart Schare, Navigant Consulting
 - GRID--Peter Zschokke
 - Unitil--Justin Eisfeller
- 10:30 Break
- 10:45 **Time-Varying Rates** (Subcommittee View Sharing and Discussion)
- What opportunities will time varying rates enable, and how essential are they to developing a truly modern electric grid?
 - What time varying rate options hold the most promise for MA and why?
 - What principles should be considered around time varying rates, including any recommended consumer protections?
- 12:30 Lunch
- 1:30 **Metering/Data Communications** (Presentation followed by Subcommittee discussion)
- Speakers: Itron Smart Grid Solutions: Bruce Husta; AvCom Corporation: Fred Avila; & Sentinel Works: Jim Hirni
 - Discussion Questions:
 - Can we effectively implement time based rates from an AMR platform?
 - Given prevalence of AMR in MA, what are the incremental benefits of going to AMI and what are the costs?
 - How should the DPU evaluate AMI in the context of broader grid modernization?

3:00 Break

3:15 **Regulatory Policies**

- What is the appropriate pace for implementation of customer-facing grid modernization?
- What regulatory policies should the group consider?

4:30 Report Back to Steering Committee (what/who)

4:45 Next Meeting Agenda and To Do List

5:00 Adjourn