Wakefield Municipal Gas and Light Department

Board of Commissioners

July 15, 2026

NOTICE OF MEETING
WAKEFIELD MUNICIPAL LIGHT & GAS DEPARTMENT
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

DATE: July 15, 2026
CALL TO ORDER: 6:30 PM
LOCATION: 480 North Ave, Wakefield, MA 01880

This meeting will be in person at 480 North Ave in Wakefield. The public is NOT required to physically attend this meeting. Every effort will be made to allow the public to view and or listen to the meeting in real time. Persons who wish to do so are invited to click on the following link

Zoom Meeting

https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/wM_Lgu3IQ_ujPcskVAkBNQ

Please only use dial in or computer and not both as feedback will distort the meeting.

WMGLD BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING
480 North Ave
Wakefield, Massachusetts 01880

July 15, 2026
6:30 PM
AGENDA

A. **Call to Order**

B. **Opening Remarks**
Chair's Remarks – Jennifer Kallay
Commissioners Reports
Town Council Liaison Comments
Public Comments

C. **Secretary's Report**
1 Approval of June 3, 2026 Minutes

D. **Old Business**
1 General Manager's Report
2 Project Updates
A. Energy Park
B. Educational Program Development – Nicole Fina
3 Gas Moratorium
4. Employee Survey

E **New Business**
1. Credit Card Fees and Policy
2. Deposits for Low Income Customers

F **Any other matter not reasonably anticipated by the Chair**

G **Executive Session – Large Load Discussion**

P.O. BOX 190 480 North Ave.
Wakefield, MA 01880
Tel. (781) 246-6363 Fax (781) 246-0419

Peter D. Dion, General Manager

WAKEFIELD MUNICIPAL GAS & LIGHT DEPARTMENT

BOARD OF GAS & LIGHT COMMISSIONERS MEETING

June 3, 2026

IN ATTENDANCE: Commrs., Chair Jennifer Kallay
Elton Prifti, Secretary
Thomas Boettcher
Sharon Daly
Lili Allen

Peter Dion, General Manager
Mark Cousins, Finance Manager
Dave Polson, Engineering and Operations Manager
Joe Collins, Business Analyst
Olivia Tully, Business Analyst
Mike Capraro, 1st Class Lineman
Sylvia Vaccaro, Minute Secretary

PLACE: **480 North Ave Wakefield, MA & Zoom Meeting**

CALL TO ORDER:

Commr. Kallay called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm. She advised the meeting was being recorded

Members of the Public

None

Town Council Liaison

Not present

CHAIR REMARKS: Commr. Kallay

COMMISSIONERS REMARKS: None

Secretary's Report

Approval of May 13, 2026, Minutes before the Board for approval. Commr. Kallay and Commr. Allen provided minor edits

A motion to approve the May 13, 2026, minutes as amended was made by Commr. Prifti and seconded by Commr. Boettcher.

Vote: The motion was approved unanimously 5-0.

Old Business

General Manager's Report

Pete provided an update on the prior Saturday's significant windstorm. He noted that overall, the system performed very well. Most of the storm-related issues had been resolved, when at approximately 2:02 pm a meteor hit south of Boston. Being unsure of what was happening, people were dispatched immediately to different areas in the system to investigate. He noted that they were confident it was not an issue on our system because we had not received a single SCADA alarm, but staff heard the explosion and took it seriously. Within 40 minutes all major equipment had been checked. Commr. Daly inquired at what time crews were called in to respond to the storm. Pete noted that the on-call person responded immediately to the initial call, and within 45 minutes, additional personnel had been mobilized.

Pete stated that WMGLD received a letter, which was forwarded to the Board, from an individual who is not a Wakefield resident regarding the Lake Quannapowitt cleanup and the bathroom project at Veteran's Field. Pete explained that the bathroom is a Town project and the Light Department's role is limited to supporting the electric service to the structure. The letter raised questions about the lake cleanup. Pete noted that the Department has filed all required reports annually since the last cleanup project, which was overseen by a Licensed Site Professional (LSP), hired by WMGLD to direct cleanup activities and ensure compliance with state regulations. These reports are available on the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) website. Pete added that, based on advice from WMGLD legal counsel, the Department will respond to any additional requests only through the appropriate public records request process.

Commr. Kallay asked for an update on the recent customer issue that was added to the customer concerns log concerning the condition of a private way where a gas main had previously been installed. Pete stated that John Riley, Gas Superintendent, is coordinating with the Town's DPW on the matter. The Gas department's roadway patch remains in good condition; however, subsequent water department repairs resulted in several patches that have deteriorated and washed out. Because the road slopes toward Oak Street, debris from those areas has been carried downhill, creating concerns for residents. Pete noted that the Department has received pricing from its paving contractor for paving either a portion of or the entire private way. WMGLD is willing to contribute toward repairs if the Town elects to pave it.

Commr. Prifti inquired about the odor of gas at Farm and Water Streets. Pete stated that gas worker was not getting gas readings and determined it to be coming from the water pumping site. It was a sewage smell and not gas odor. Commr. Boettcher congratulated the Gas department and staff for earning the 2026 Silver System Operational Achievement recognition (SOAR) Award from American Public Gas Association. He noted that the department had previously received a bronze- level award and that advancing to the silver level represents a significant achievement.

Project Updates

A. **Energy Park**

Commr. Kallay asked if the switchgear had been delivered. Pete stated that it did come at the end of May. Testing under the current configuration for the next phase of the occupancy permit was on going so installation of the switches would wait until that work was completed. He also stated that it was decided to pour a larger pad, so that it would be easier and safer for staff to stand on the pad to operate the gear. Pete said that MMWEC and representatives from Peoples United Bank, who financed the project toured the Energy Park today. They were very impressed with the Energy Park and appreciated the opportunity to see firsthand the assets supported by their financing. Pete mentioned that during the upcoming American Public Power Association (APPA) conference in Boston, approximately thirty people from various utilities and vendors will be able to tour the Energy Park on June 28th. Representatives from WMGLD, Milton Cat and LightShift will be there to discuss the project.

Heat Pump Rate Results

Pete stated that the Department had waited to get through one heating season before reporting on these results. Olivia provided the Board with graphs summarizing the heat pump rate results for the first winter. The first graph illustrates the total dollar amount saved by customers participating in the heat pump rate. The second graph breaks those savings down by customer category, including single-family homes on Rate A, single family homes on Rate B, heat pump customers on Rate A, and all-electric apartments. Overall participating customers realized combined savings of $120,873. Pete explained that the analysis attempted to offset the heat pump rate discount by accounting for the additional electricity consumption from all- electric units. The discount was applied to the distribution portions of the electric bill, which reduced revenue. However, that reduction was partially offset by increased electric sales from customers using electricity for both heating and other end uses. To estimate the impact, staff compared all-electric apartment units with similar apartment buildings that use a combination of electric and gas service. The comparison was standardized across similar unit types, such as studio and two-bedroom apartments. The pie chart provided illustrates the resulting revenue impact and offsets.

Pete explained that while the heat pump rate discount totaled approximately 120,000, the net impact was lower when other factors were considered. One offset was the avoided cost of peak gas demand, which staff estimated at roughly $40,000. Another offset was the additional electric revenue generated by customers converting to all-electric heating rather than a combination of gas and electric. Commr. Prifti inquired if staff was recommending a change to the rate. Pete stated that it was not a recommendation to make an immediate change, but rather an illustration of how much the rate would need to be adjusted to base on the first year's results in order to make the program revenue neutral.
Commr. Allen asked if there were projections for this to taper and level off. Pete noted that this pilot program has only been in place for one full season and that the past winter was one of the coldest in recent years. He suggested that another year of data, to account for seasonal variation and provide a better basis for evaluating long-term trends.

Commr. Prifti asked Mark for an update on cash on hand position. Mark responded that the Department expects to meet its cash requirements because financing for the Energy Park has been secured and will be drawn upon.

Upcoming Board Meeting Topics

Commr. Kallay noted that the PURMA presentation has been moved from July to September. Pete noted that Commr. Boettcher had informed him about a spinoff from MIT called Green Bridge Labs that has been assisting other municipals. Joe and Raven met Solangel Fernandez from Green Bridge Labs, who will assist the department in one of the goals for this year. She will develop a working model to analyze the impacts of changes in the gas customer base. The model would evaluate business-as-usual scenarios as well as varying levels of customer reductions scenarios and evaluate the resulting effect on delivery charges and overall gas system costs. The focus is not solely on stranded gas costs but on understanding the broader financial impacts of a changing gas customer base.

New Business

Expanding the Natural Gas Moratorium

Pete noted that the existing gas moratorium, adopted in 2018, has had a significant impact. He recalled previous discussions regarding the Specialized Energy Code and concerns about whether some new residential projects could still qualify for gas service while complying with code requirements. Staff are evaluating whether to expand the moratorium to all new residential construction, thereby eliminating gas as an option for those projects. Although the effect on overall gas load is expected to be limited due to the relatively small amount of new single-family construction, the change would help avoid conflicts with the Specialized Energy Code and simplify implementation. Commr. Prifti inquired how this would affect tear downs. Pete clarified that a complete teardown where a new building is constructed, gas service would not be permitted under the expanded moratorium. However, if part of the existing structure remains and the project is considered a modification rather than new construction, existing gas service could remain, and the situation would be evaluated differently. Pete explained that there are approximately 106 customers on the gas service waiting list. To obtain gas service they would need to bear the installation costs to dig for the service and the Department would lay the pipe and make the connection. Going forward, he recommends further encouraging electrification by freezing new additions to the list and closing the discounted gas heat rate to new participants. Customers currently on the waiting list would be grandfathered into the program if they ultimately receive service, while the gas heat rate would be frozen and unavailable to future customers. New gas customers would instead be placed on the Gas Appliance gas rate, which is 20-30% higher. This approach would support the Department's strategic goals of increasing the number of customers using electricity for heating and cooling and reducing peak gas demand on the system. He noted that the list should be reviewed and updated to remove any inactive or uninterested customers. He also stated that a timeframe should be established requiring customers on the waiting list to install gas service within a specified period or become ineligible to remain on the list. Commr. Kallay expressed concern that customers on the list are treated fairly and given adequate time to afford and coordinate the contractor's work necessary to install the gas service. Pete said that staff will go through the list first and get back to the Board. The Board can then discuss and determine a timeframe. Pete also said staff will look at the modification of the rate and determine if a rate hearing is warranted

A motion was made by Commr. Prifti to freeze the list of customers that have applied for gas service as of June 3, 2026, until a decision is made on potential moratorium on single family dwellings and seconded by Commr. Boettcher

Vote: The motion was approved unanimously 5-0.

Employee Survey Goals

Pete stated that he had a conversation with Great Blue Research, and one of the questions they posed was: What are the Board's goals for the survey? Specifically, they asked what the Board hoped to learn from the results and what actions it would take based on the findings. He mentioned that the survey will cost approximately $15,000. He explained that the survey company could measure several areas, including employee satisfaction, employee engagement, workplace satisfaction and trust. Pete emphasized that before proceeding, the Board should determine its goals and define what outcomes it expected from the survey. Commissioners discussed the importance of maintaining employee anonymity, particularly given the utility's relatively small workforce. Pete explained that the survey would primarily be conducted electronically, although paper surveys and individual interviews could also be offered. He noted that Great Blue Research specializes in surveys and has established methods for protecting confidentiality and administering them effectively. Commr. Kallay expressed interest in reviewing the sample survey questions before moving forward. She also requested samples of survey results and reports so the board could better understand the type of information that would be produced, what insights might be gained, and what actions organizations have taken in response to survey findings. Commr. Allen inquired whether Great Blue Research could assist the Board in interpreting the results and facilitating discussions about potential organizational improvements based on the survey. Pete clarified that Great Blue Research is a survey company. They will make recommendations based on their findings only. They do not facilitate discussions about improvements or help implement changes resulting from the survey. Commissioners discussed the potential inclusion of open-ended questions would provide the most useful feedback.

Any other matter not reasonably anticipated by the Chair

Pete advised the Board that the employee association voted to dissolve and begin the process of joining IBEW Local 369. The transition is expected to be completed by next month. Management met with union representatives to discuss the transition and develop a memorandum of understanding (MOU). The existing collective bargaining agreement will remain in effect through June 30, 2027.

Commr. Kallay referenced the legislative updates included in the Board book that had not been discussed during the meeting and asked whether any Commissioners had additional questions or comments. Pete stated the important issue to the Department right now is the Affordability Bill. The Governor has released a draft proposal, and the House has also issued own version. The Senate has not yet released its complete proposal, although staff believe they have a general understanding of what it is likely to contain. Once all three versions are available, the legislation is expected to move into a conference committee process where differences between proposals will be reconciled and common language developed. The target date for final action is no longer necessarily July 1st.

Commr. Daly inquired about a microgrid grant that she had forwarded to Pete. He stated that the opportunity was reviewed but was not considered useful because the project is already well into testing and commissioning. Dave explained that reducing transfer time between operating modes is a major focus. Vinnie has been involved with the testing and day-to-day activities. A key challenge is balancing faster times, and overall system stability. The team is working to remain below the required 10-second transfer limit while maintaining stable operations.

Commr. Daly mentioned an ongoing proceeding at Massachusetts Department of Public Utilities (DPU) concerning utility pole attachments. It was noted that unauthorized attachments are relatively common and can be difficult to prevent entirely.

Executive Session

None

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made by Commr. Boettcher at 8:28 pm and seconded by Commr. Daly.

Vote: The motion was approved unanimously 5-0.

WMGLD
P.O. BOX 190 480 North Ave.
Wakefield, MA 01880
Tel. (781) 246-6364 Fax (781) 246-0419
Peter D. Dion, General Manager

Jennifer Kallay, Chair
Elton Prifti, Secretary
Thomas Boettcher
Sharon Daly
Lili Allen

MAY 2026 WMGLD COMMISSIONER'S DASHBOARD

Outages (Elec)

	SAIFI	CAIDI
Mar	0.40	33
Apr	0.10	56
May	0.10	48
Cal YTD	0.17	44

CYTD Pipe Replacement

	Replaced	System Total
4"	475	168,269
6"	28	162,099
8"	-	87,774

New Services on the System

	Electric	Gas
Mar	16	-
Apr	8	4
May	4	-

Solar Generation 130 Customers

	Generated	Back to WMGLD
CYTD	818,497	349,797
Comm'l	13,578,948	3,523,004
Res	4,572,304	3,127,196
Inception	18,151,252	6,650,200

Monthly & Annual Peaks

	Prior Year	Current Year
Mar	25.1 Mw	30.7 Mw
Apr	21.8 Mw	23.9 Mw
May	22.1 Mw	35.8 Mw

Summer YTD Peak

6/20/24	6/24/25
41.2 Mw	44.5 Mw

Winter YTD Peak

1/20/25	1/25/26
29.2 Mw	32.8 Mw

All Time Peak

1/2/14	8/2/06
36.5 Mw	50.7 Mw

CONSERVATION BUDGET

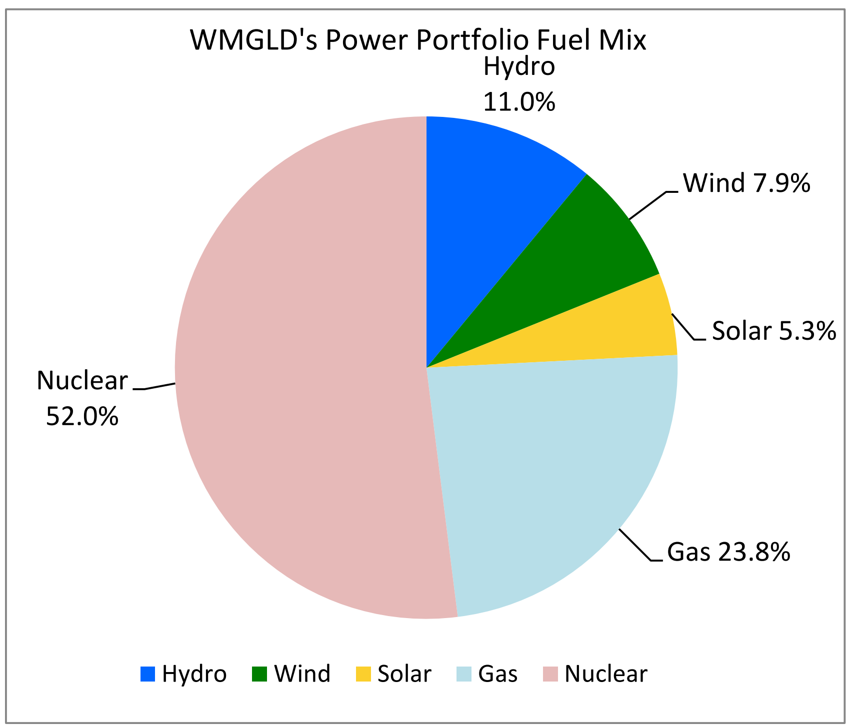
YTD FY26 Conservation Revenue Billed	$	778,649
YTD FY26 Paid out to Customers:		
288 Appliances & Thermostats	$	(28,227)
63 Air Sealing (insulation/windows)		(83,837)
69 Heating & Cooling		(166,039)
16 Residential Solar		(136,351)
140 Cordless Yard Equipment		(8,453)

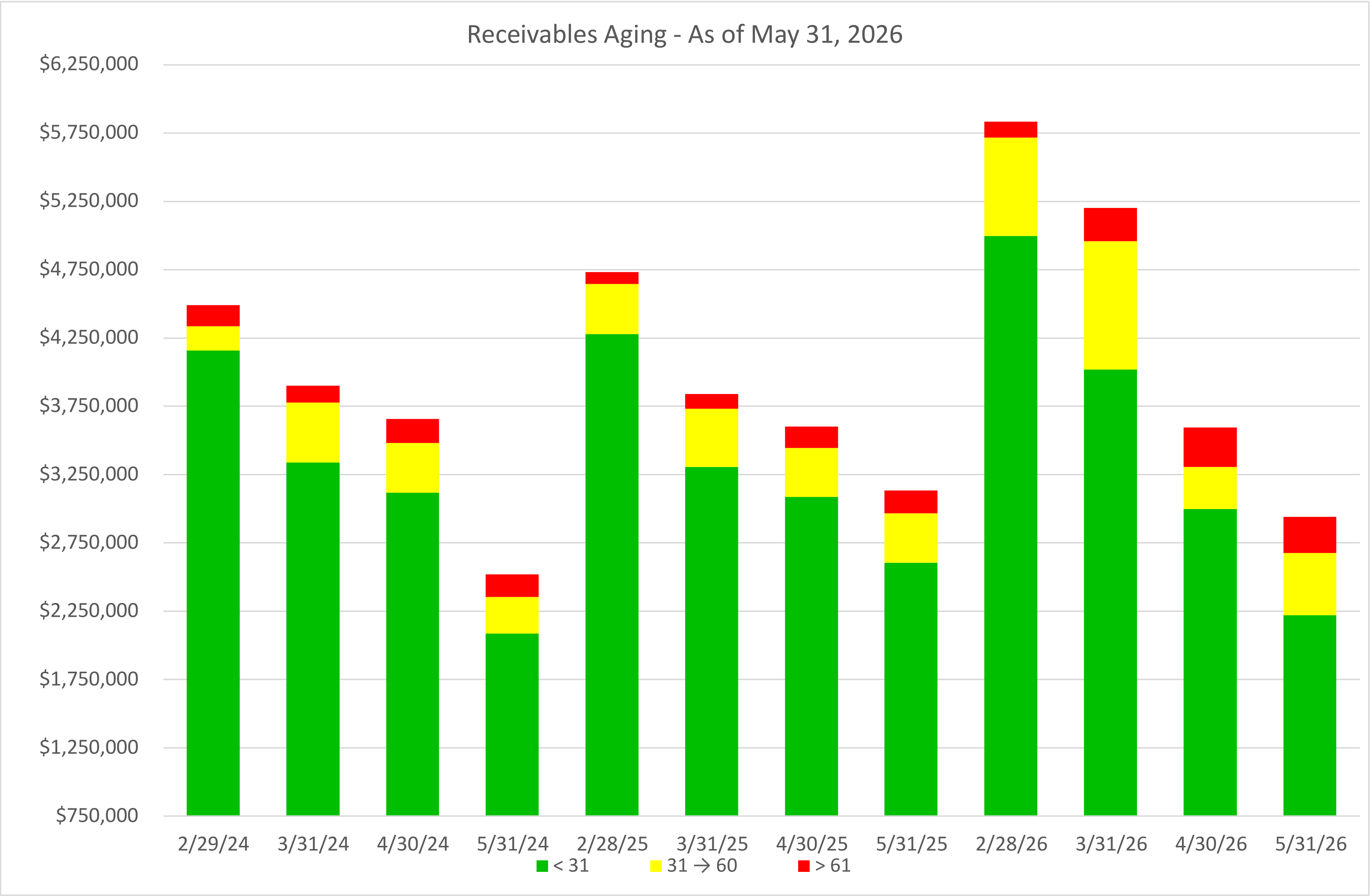
GREEN CHOICE RATE

GREEN CHOICE RATE	May	CYTD
Green Choice Revenues	$ 907	$ 5,893
KwH billed on GC Rate	56,091	358,654
Number of Customers		109

Natural Gas Peak Usage

Current Year Peak (Nov '25 → May '26)	1,307,683 CCF
Prior Year Peak (Nov '24 → May '25)	1,274,416 CCF
All-Time Peak - Jan '18	1,370,554 CCF

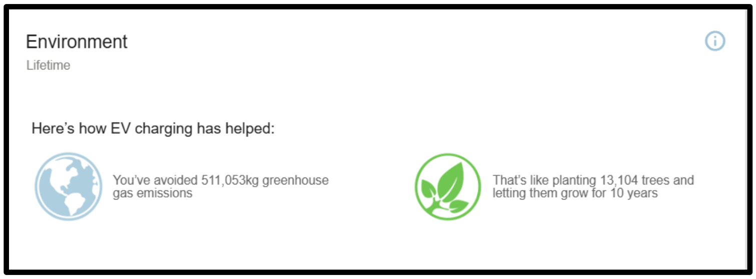


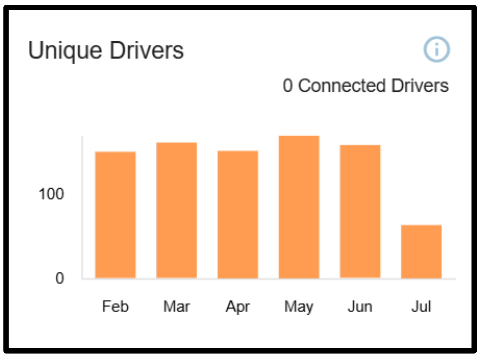


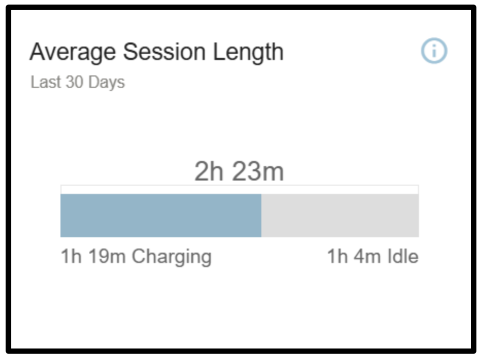
Receivables Aging - As of May 31, 2026
$6,250,000
$5,750,000
$5,250,000
$4,750,000
$4,250,000
$3,750,000
$3,250,000
$2,750,000
$2,250,000
$1,750,000
$1,250,000
$750,000
2/29/24
3/31/24
4/30/24
5/31/24
2/28/25
3/31/25
4/30/25
5/31/25
2/28/26
3/31/26
4/30/26
5/31/26
< 31
31 → 60
> 61

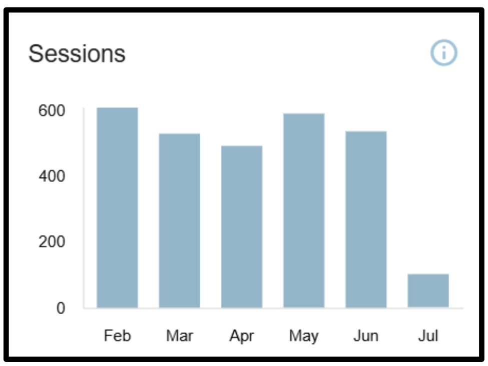
Dashboard – July 2026

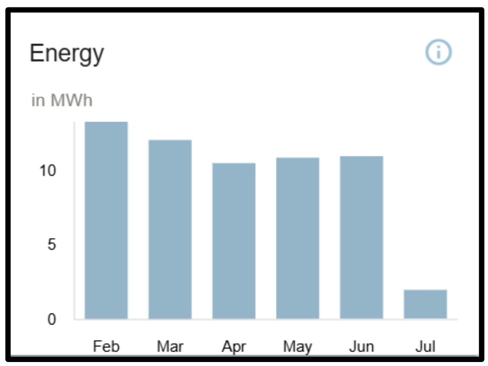
Lincoln St. - level 3 (1 plug)
Civic Center – Level 2 (2 plugs)
Vets Field – Level 2 (2 plugs)
Quannapowitt Pkwy @ Lowell St – Level 3 (2 plugs)
North Ave Garage – level 2 (4 plugs)
North Ave Garage – level 3 (1 plug)

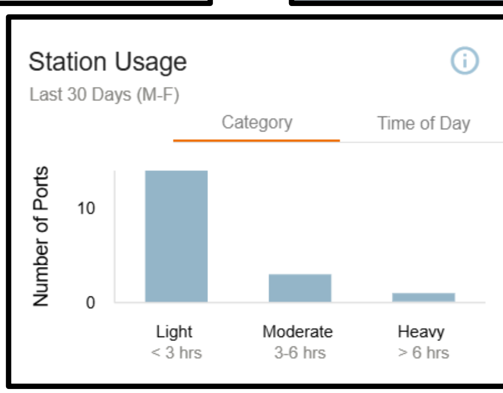












EV Charging Stations				
Utility Billing and Town Revenue				
Jun-26				
Locations	**Utility Billing**	**KWh**	**Town Revenue From Charge Point**	**KWh**
Vets Field	$305.56	1400	$354.62	1,400
Civic Center	$261.05	1186	$373.62	1,186
Public Parking Lot	$305.98	1402	$389.02	1,402
Totals	**$872.59**	**3988**	**$1,117.26**	**3,988**

EV Charging Stations		
Usage and Revenue		
Jun-26		
Locations	**Revenue From Charge Point**	**KWh**
Quannapowitt	$3,527.46	7,197

COMMISSIONER REQUESTS LOG	Requested By	Request Date	Completion Date
Update Community Solar Powerpoint	JW, SD, TB	12/6/23	12/28/23
Update Grant Summary Sheet to Include Matching Funds	EP, JK	6/17/24	6/26/24
Update service form and renter deposit obligation clarity	JW	7/17/24	8/28/24
Review of renter deposit requirment	JW, JK	7/17/24	10/2/24
Energy Park meeting with National Grid	SD	10/1/25	10/15/25
Review of renter deposit requirment	JW, JK	7/17/24	10/2/24
Energy Park meeting with National Grid	SD	10/1/25	10/15/25
Data on specialized energy code adoption	TB	12/24/25	1/14/26
Board meeting topic schedule linked to annual goals	JK	5/13/26	In Progress

Date	Issue	Resolution
May 6, 2025	Customer at Evan's Place reached out about a paving issue on the street.	WMGLD is working with the DPW to coordinate a plan to resolve the issue. From conversations with DPW, paving issue will be resolved by the middle of August.
October 10, 2025	Landlord of 12 Spaulding St. reached out with a complaint related to the WMGLD shutoff procedure regarding one of their tenants. Reached out to the Chair of the Board of commissioners.	The Chair discussed with WMGLD management and responded to the landlord with the shutoff procedures and why they were implemented. WMGLD believes this issue to be resolved.
December 12, 2024	Customer from Whittemore Terrace expressed concern with temporary binder left in front of his driveway in relation to the gas main replacement project underway in the area. Additionally a customer on Chestnut St. relayed to WMGLD that debris from the project was funneling down to his house.	WMGLD resolved the binder issue promptly, both with a temporary and long-term resolution in the days following the customer expressing his concern. WMGLD relayed to both customers that project work in that area would be concluding soon.
November 22, 2024	Customer reached out to Board of Commisioners to express the desire to change gas utility bill structure to mirror Investor Owned Utilities bills and had questions about how gas rates are derived	WMGLD management referred customer to November 2024 board meeting with our gas supplier. Customer attended December meeting where questions were answered. WMGLD improved clarity of rates on the website following the December meeting.

General Manager's Report

The following is the General Manager's Report for July, 2026

Major New Customer Projects:

Working:

- **330 Salem St. – 19 Residential units – Working**
- **200 Quannapowitt** – 440 Apartments / 3 buildings / parking garage – ***Working***
  - **WMGLD installing conduit on QP to meet customer installed MH – *Working***
  - **Site contractor Installing 6 MHs, 3200' of ductback, 2 switch bases and 4 transformer foundations - *COMPLETE***
  - **4 Transformers set in-place**
  - **Temporary Power (construction) –** Q2/2024 ***(COMPLETED 5/23/2024***)
  - **Permanent Power * meeting scheduled with developer to discuss revised dates.**
    - **Building 1 – 8/1/2025 64 units COMPLETE**
    - **Building 3a – 1/26/2026 160 units and garage COMPLETE**
    - **Building 3b – 4/20/2026 130 units COMPLETE**
    - **Building 2 – 7/22/2026 86 units COMPLETE**
  - **Full Occupancy:** Q4 2026
  - **All OH to UG completed on QP Lowell St site**
  - **Working on culvert crossing on QP North Ave side**
- **46 Crescent St**. - 56 Residential units – **Site Cleared**
- **460-472 Main St –** 16 residential apartments - **Working**
- **401-405 Main St –** business space renovation in progress, no residents
- **Putnam Ave Pump Station** – major upgrade to larger pump system by MWRA

Permitting:

- **10 Broadway St.** – ~~124~~ 64 Residential apts – ***Permitting Stage –***
- **525 Salem St** – 2.5MW EV Charging Station – ***Site Cleared, construction starting Q3 2026 – Developer has not requested a building permit as of 7/8/2026***
- **119,127,135 Nahant St.** – 60 Residential units proposed, owner coordinating demo of 3 buildings
- **369–371 Main St –** 20 residential apartments and rehab of the existing commercial space (former Santander Bank – **on-hold**)
- **154 Salem St** – Timberwood Cir subdivision – 13 townhouses – **Planning**
- **32 Nahant St –** 32 Units
- **50 Quannapowitt** – Storage unit building in vacant grass lot - **Planning**

Gas Department

- The Main St project in Greenwood has been completed. Main installation for all contracted 2026 spring work has been completed. Main tie ins and service reconnections for spring work has begun and will continue through the end of the year.

- 520 meters have been replaced so far this year with a target of 904 for the year.

- There are currently 1602 inside gas services and 3611 outside services. 29 services have been moved outside and 44 coated steel services have been replaced so far this year.

- Leaks Class 1 – 0* Class 2 – 0 Class 3 – 7

Financial Reports

Monthly Financials for through April and Consumption Reports through May are enclosed.

Board of Commissioners
July 15, 2026
Agenda Item No. D-2

Project Updates

Energy Park:

- **Bill H3995 – update: Signed by the Governor on November 14, 2023 –** ***COMPLETE***
- **Town Council meeting –** ***12/11 to sign easement***
- **Conservation Commission** - ***accepted easement on 1/2/2023***
- **Generator, switchgear, and padmount switch Bids:** ***Awarded***
- **Finalizing the operating plan, design and engineering documents –** ***Working***
- **Battery vendor Delorean/Lightshift and MMWEC contract language –** ***COMPLETED***
- **DPW Storm Water Advisory Board –** ***Approval letter received 5/1/2024***
- **Site Clearing –** ***(COMPLETED)***
- **Site Work Scheduled Q4 2024, equipment foundations, manholes, ductbank, fencing –*removing ledge, site drainage and retaining wall.* –** ***COMPLETE***
- **Battery Installation and operation – Phase 1** ***COMPLETE*** *as of June 2025 Phase 2 for Microgrid Q2 of 2026*
- **Generator Installation and operation – Phase 1** ***COMPLETE*** *as of Dec 2025 Phase 2 for Microgrid Q2 of 2026*
- **Microgrid and SCADA integration Phase 1 - Q1-Q2 2026 -** ***Working*** **Phase 2 - Q3-Q4 2026**
- **Load bank testing May 18-22, 2026 – COMPLETED**
- **2 Padmount Switches - DELIVERED May 26, 2926**
- **Connect 2 newly delivered switches – Working June/July 2026**
- **OH and UG Work Scheduled to convert from temp to permanent connections – Working**
- **Microgrid and SCADA Integration – Working**

NEMT:

- Poles and associated wire relocated to facilitate the construction of the access road – ***COMPLETED***
- Temporary Services provided for construction trailers – ***COMPLETED***
- Finalized the permanent utility service design – ***COMPLETED***
- Solar design - working with Neo Virtus, Solect, and NEMT design team – ***99% Completed***
- Procurement process for long lead time items – (3) Transformers – **Received, Tested & Installed - Complete**
- Temporary construction power – ***Completed***
- Permanent power - ***COMPLETE*** *(in temporary mode, awaiting completion of Energy Park)*
- Occupancy - ***September 2026***

- Electric Service – Hemlock Road ductbank from Energy Park to point of interconnection – ***COMPLETE***
- Metering installation: ***Complete***,
- Transferred transformer to Energy Park – Working July 2026
- Solar Project Started, Solect moving material to site July 2026

WMHS:

- Permanent power – ***Complete*** *(waiting for electrician to hook up)*
- Solar design - working with Neo Virtus, Solect, and NEMT design team – ***99% Completed***
- Procurement process for long lead time items – (3) Transformers – **Received, tested & installed – COMPLETE**
- Temporary service for construction of the new building – ***Completed***
- Permanent and emergency power for testing and commissioning: **Q3/Q4 2026**
- Substantial completion / occupancy: ***Students and Staff January 2027***
- Electric Service – Hemlock Road ductbank from Energy Park to point of interconnection – ***Complete***

Energy Park / WMGLD / NEMT Educational Support and development

- MassCEC. University of Lowell, Tufts, BU – Fellow Program with Graduate Student - GRANT AWARDED

- Meetings held with WMHS and NEMT Superintendents to understand their vision and needs – **COMPLETE**

- Meetings held with curriculum coordinators for WMHS (4/2026) and NEMT (5/5/2026)

Energy Park. - Educational Program Development Nicole Fina

Nicole Fina from Tufts University will present an update on the development of an educational program partially funded by a State CELT grant and partially funded by the APPA Deed grant we have received.

<u>Major Projects:</u>

Burns Park – Dedicated on July 9, 2026

Solar Projects:

- **NEMT and WMHS** – construction started 2026, expected to be finish by Q1 2027

Pole replacements:

- Verizon replacing Poles & WMGLD crews transferring – ***<u>On-going</u>***

Vegetation:

- Tree Trimming for 2026 scheduled to start February – Area 3 (Greenwood) - confirmed with Mayer Tree – **COMPLETED**
- Residential Tree Planting Program (Utility Friendly and Shade Trees) - 54 Residents signed-up – ***<u>Completed</u>***
- Public Tree Planting Program (Utility Friendly Trees) – 50 Trees Planted – **<u>Planned for the Fall</u>**

Substations:

- **Beebe Substation** – Relay upgrades on main breakers and NGrid communications project - **<u>Working</u>**
- **Beebe and Wallace Subs** – 3V0 protection – **<u>Planning</u>**
- **All Stations** – coordination study for entire system – **<u>Working</u>**

Town Projects:

- **Vets Field Lighting** – Upgrade lighting at Vets field with LED fixtures and install secondary cable – **<u>70% complete, on hold</u>**
- **Downtown Redevelopment** – waiting on plans from town engineer. Planning to redevelop Main Street, Richardson Ave to Nahant St and Water St to Salem St. Approx. start in 2028 - **<u>Planning</u>**

Summer Preparation, Monitoring & Load Balancing:

- **Distribution transformer additions** and replacements based on transformer load management – **<u>On-going</u>**
- **No transformer issues / failures during June '26 Heat Wave -**
- **Padmount Inspections** – lining up replacements or painting for various padmount transformers
    - As needed repairing rust, rot and repainting – **<u>To be Scheduled</u>**

Hurricane Preparation / Survey:

- Overhead circuit patrols: Evaluating wire, equipment, hardware, poles and vegetation – corrective action scheduled as needed

- **IR Survey OH Distribution System & Substation Yard:**
  - Survey to be scheduled
- Follow-up corrective action – **as needed**

Grant 40101(d) MassCEC/DOE: Resiliency Project (Multi-year 2026 – 2030)

- **Phase 1** – Upgrade underground feeders 0012 & 0014 from Beebe Substation to Nahant St. – **Contract awarded to State Electric work started June 2026**

- **Phase 2 –** Overhead Upgrades and reconfiguration – Ckt 0012, 0014 and 443-W35 Working on final design for Farm St., Water St., & Montrose Ave.

Board of Commissioners
July 15, 2026
Agenda Item No D-3

Gas Moratorium

In 2018, the WMGLD Board of Commissioners voted to implement a moratorium on gas services to multifamily new construction. That policy decision has had a major impact by significantly increasing the number of residences in Wakefield that heat and cool with electricity. Based on current State and Local goals, staff is recommending an expansion of the moratorium.

The Board will continue its discussion of expanding the moratorium on the installation of new to all residential new construction. Staff has been reviewing the waiting list for new residential services, which is currently in the 90's but the process is not complete. This list was frozen at the last meeting and will continue to be reviewed.

Information for Discussion and Possible Vote

Board of Commissioners
July 15, 2026
Agenda Item No D-4

Employee Survey

Great Blue has provided a sample Employee Survey including sample questions which could be used in an Employee Survey.

Information for Discussion

Board of Commissioners
July 15, 2026
Agenda Item No E-1

Credit Card Fees ad Policy

When the WMGLD Board of Commissioners voted to accept card cards as a form of payment, the cost to the department for those transactions and the number of people using credit cards for payment was at a level that could be covered by the department. The fees for those services and the number of transactions using credit cards has risen to a level that is no longer sustainable. Staff recommends that the department continue to cover the transactional cost for electronic fund transfers (EFT) from bank accounts but that the fees for credit card transactions will be covered by the customer at the time of the transactions. This policy is consistent with most other MLP's and municipalities. It is recommended that this policy change go into effect October 1, 2026 giving the department time to communicate the new policy and work with customers to make changes to their payment methods if they choose.

Information for Discussion and Vote

Board of Commissioners
July 15, 2026
Agenda Item No E-2

Deposits for Low Income Customers

Commr. Boettcher requested the discussion of the potential financial barrier posed by the cash rental security deposit for service to low-income residents.

M.G.L. c. 164, § 58A allows MLPs to collect up to 3 months of estimated usage as a deposit. MLPs typically waive this deposit for homeowners, as a lien can be placed against the service property for arrears. Under DPU 220 CM 25.00 IOU's are prohibited from collecting deposits. WMGLD's policy has been to collect a $400 deposit form renters.

Wellesley Municipal Light Plant has a policy which offers some Low-income exceptions.

• Existing customer with excellent payment history for the previous 12 months (no arrears).
• New customers who provide a reference letter from their previous electric utility certifying no late payments for the last 2 years immediately prior to applying for electric service with WMLP.

Information for Discussion

Executive Session

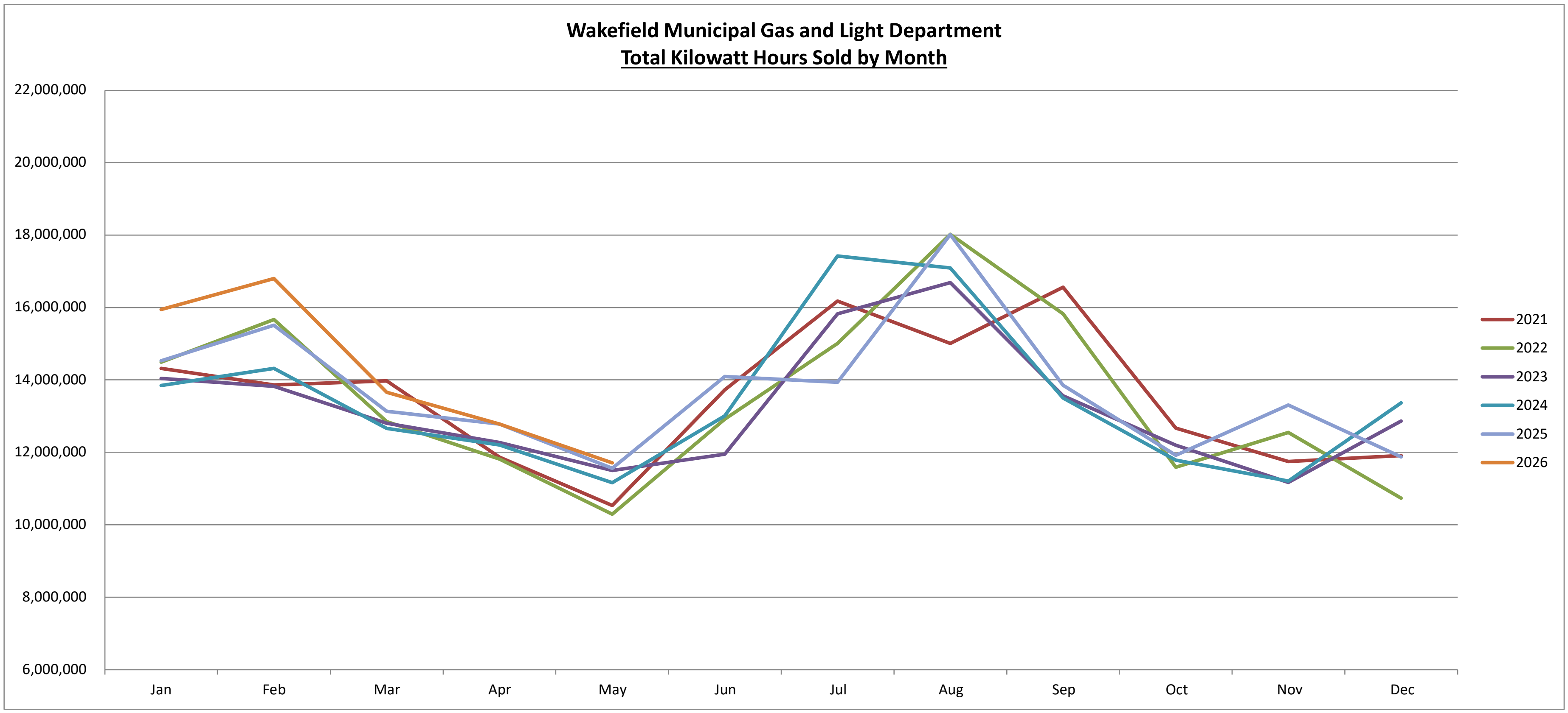
For the discussion of confidential information regarding large loads.

APPENDICIES

Wakefield Municipal Gas and Light Department

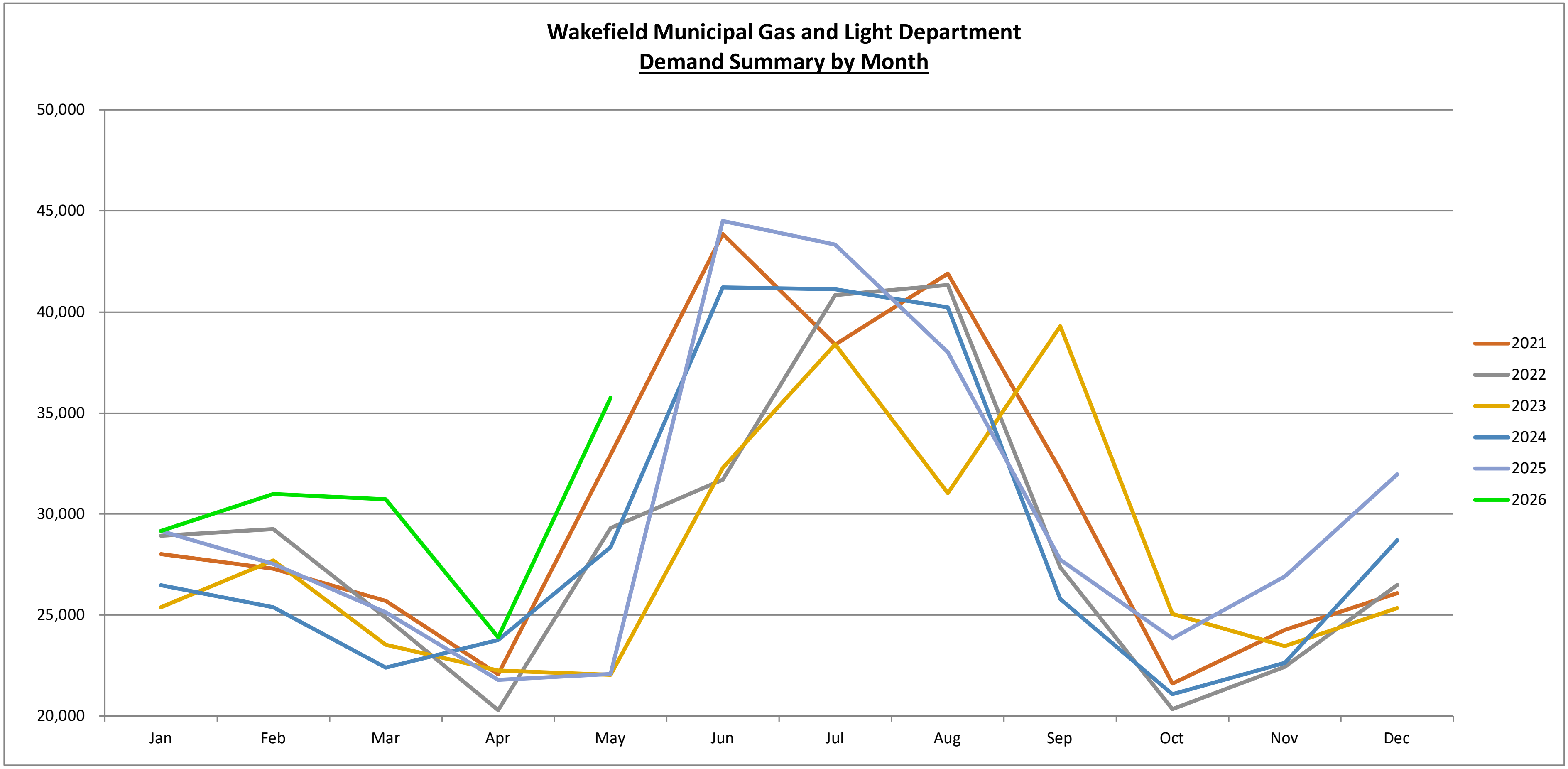
Total Kilowatt Hours Sold by Month

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Year to Date Thru May	Annual Total	Increase (Decrease)
2020	14,828,122	14,373,838	13,299,621	11,620,258	10,978,443	12,406,390	15,909,116	18,062,379	14,494,332	12,189,623	11,444,845	12,998,123	65,100,282	162,605,090	(3.3%)
2021	14,315,035	13,860,939	13,975,661	11,872,008	10,531,822	13,728,211	16,181,525	15,008,717	16,563,996	12,671,184	11,747,642	11,913,051	64,555,465	162,369,791	(0.1%)
2022	14,493,854	15,665,202	12,846,264	11,814,998	10,293,528	12,923,009	15,012,617	18,027,075	15,822,886	11,590,549	12,547,838	10,732,987	65,113,846	161,770,807	(0.4%)
2023	14,045,840	13,821,742	12,806,211	12,275,410	11,500,963	11,949,119	15,829,221	16,686,719	13,562,408	12,197,234	11,171,431	12,868,832	64,450,166	158,715,130	(1.9%)
2024	13,850,212	14,323,389	12,666,211	12,206,533	11,166,537	13,006,783	17,427,201	17,094,908	13,501,647	11,779,714	11,203,525	13,367,907	64,212,882	161,594,567	1.8%
2025	14,526,449	15,515,447	13,134,998	12,776,821	11,558,187	14,088,975	13,935,332	18,016,252	13,855,609	11,921,724	13,311,943	11,878,829	67,511,902	164,520,566	1.8%
2026	15,947,365	16,799,358	13,661,709	12,784,344	11,707,552								70,900,328	70,900,328	



Wakefield Municipal Gas and Light Department
Demand Summary by Month

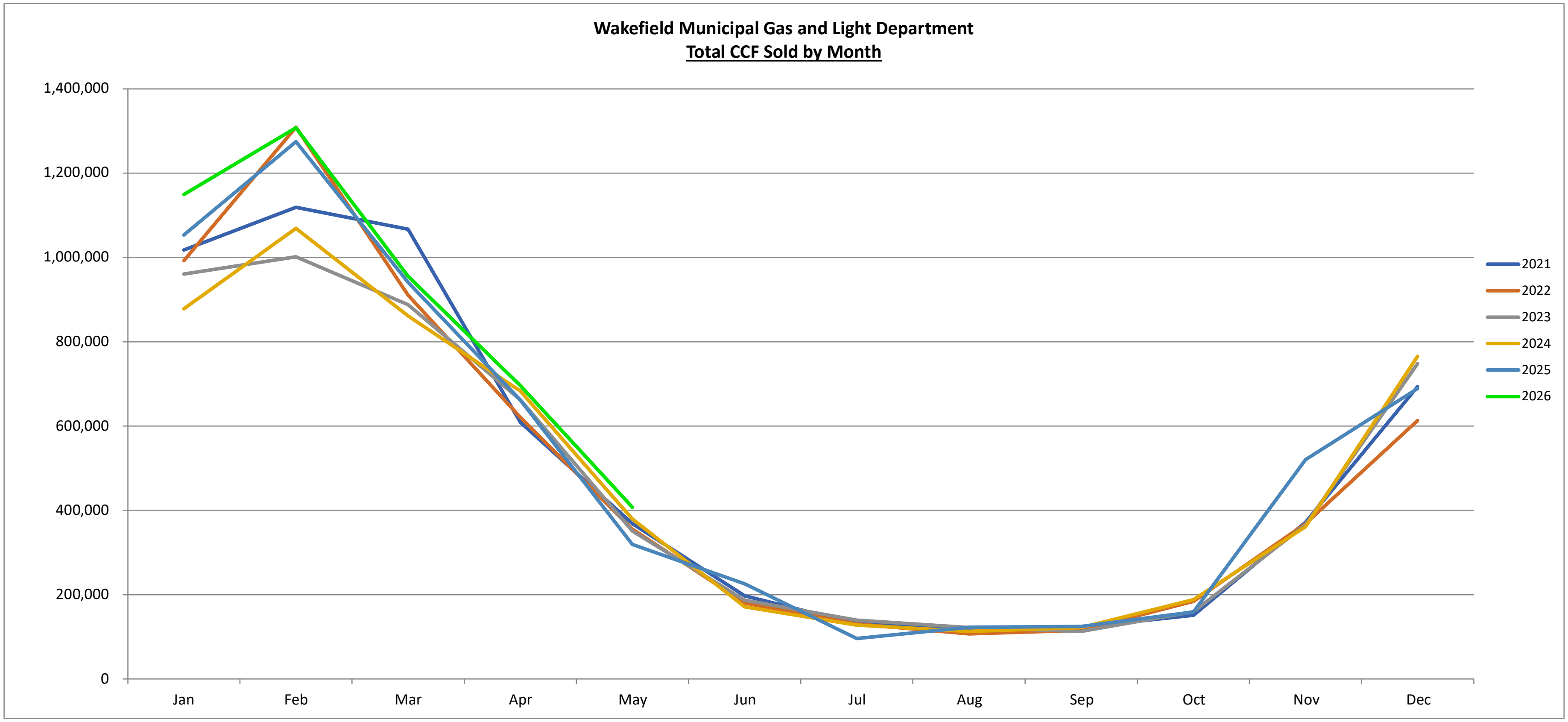
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Annual Peak	Increase (Decrease)
2020	27,031	25,166	23,806	21,823	29,147	36,658	**43,966**	42,773	31,971	23,789	25,149	27,898	**43,966**	3.4%
2021	28,023	27,300	25,704	22,075	32,944	**43,864**	38,381	41,900	32,172	21,605	24,276	26,091	**43,864**	(0.2%)
2022	28,929	29,248	24,881	20,295	29,315	31,702	40,840	**41,328**	27,367	20,345	22,445	26,493	**41,328**	(5.8%)
2023	25,385	27,704	23,537	22,260	22,042	32,290	38,405	31,029	**39,294**	25,065	23,470	25,351	**39,294**	(4.9%)
2024	26,477	25,385	22,394	23,772	28,360	**41,221**	41,126	40,235	25,788	21,084	22,646	28,711	**41,221**	4.9%
2025	29,165	27,535	25,134	21,790	22,092	**44,503**	43,327	38,002	27,737	23,857	26,915	31,970	**44,503**	8.0%
2026	29,165	30,995	30,727	23,906	**35,750**								**35,750**	



Wakefield Municipal Gas and Light Department

Total CCF Sold by Month

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Year to Date Thru May	Annual Total	Increase (Decrease)
2021	1,018,323	1,118,751	1,067,083	609,268	368,207	197,298	131,406	120,133	122,771	151,033	371,698	693,323	4,181,632	5,969,294	3.2%
2022	992,152	1,308,855	910,767	620,801	355,552	180,737	130,599	107,477	115,762	184,235	368,178	612,837	4,188,127	5,887,952	(1.4%)
2023	961,207	1,001,593	887,721	662,622	351,528	186,758	139,576	121,858	112,906	159,667	365,980	748,461	3,864,671	5,699,877	(3.2%)
2024	878,703	1,069,156	861,771	682,896	379,922	171,265	127,938	113,034	122,123	188,241	361,413	765,687	3,872,448	5,722,149	0.4%
2025	1,053,414	1,274,416	941,022	661,780	319,636	225,492	96,507	122,303	124,799	159,287	520,206	688,972	4,250,268	6,187,834	8.1%
2026	1,149,331	1,307,683	955,671	696,231	407,407								4,516,323	4,516,323	



Wakefield Municipal Gas and Light Department
Comparative Balance Sheet - Electric Division

	4/30/2025		4/30/2026	
ASSETS				
Sinking Fund - Self Insurance	$ 206,879.54		$ 215,702.01	
Depreciation Fund	194,918.58		199,748.06	
Consumer Deposits	1,003,424.54		1,054,908.43	
Total Investments	***1,405,222.66***		***1,470,358.50***	
Operating Cash	1,099,537.48		1,579,217.15	
Depreciation Fund	2,900.42		2,972.28	
Consumer Deposits	348,866.64		371,019.39	
Petty Cash	525.00		525.00	
Total Cash	***1,451,829.54***		***1,953,733.82***	
Accounts Receivable-Rates	4,105,429.39		4,379,798.22	
Accounts Receivable-Other	1,303,705.28		1,272,353.03	
Inventory	1,237,100.56		810,841.09	
Prepayments Other	972,665.00		922,683.12	
Prepayments Power	4,966,553.65		5,160,416.10	
Other Deferred Debits	2,558,854.68		2,411,188.00	
Total Other Assets	***15,144,308.56***		***14,957,279.56***	
Total Current Assets		***18,001,360.76***		***18,381,371.88***
Distribution Plant	21,878,190.62		25,877,550.44	
General Plant	1,562,137.38		1,341,829.05	
Net Fixed Assets		***23,440,328.00***		***27,219,379.49***
Total Assets		***$ 41,441,688.76***		***$ 45,600,751.37***
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY				
Accounts Payable	$ 193,292.33		$ 178,107.25	
Consumer Deposits	1,352,291.18		1,425,927.82	
Other Accrued Liabilities	17,496.65		12,220.82	
Reserve for Uncollectable Accounts	93,373.36		96,954.90	
Total Current Liabilities	***1,656,453.52***		***1,713,210.79***	
Compensated Absences	391,167.51		561,065.18	
MMWEC Pooled Loan Debt	6,711,407.45		11,112,190.29	
OPEB Liability	975,204.00		712,340.00	
Pension Liability	6,772,500.00		6,091,500.00	
Total Long Term Liabilities	***14,850,278.96***		***18,477,095.47***	
Total Liabilities		***16,506,732.48***		***20,190,306.26***
Retained Earnings	4,342,363.36		851,998.86	
Year to Date Income	3,630,400.34		3,511,748.20	
Sinking Fund Reserve-Self Ins	206,879.54		215,702.01	
Contribution in Aid of Construction	3,705,337.66		3,705,337.66	
Investment in Fixed Assets	13,049,975.38		17,125,658.38	
Total Equity		***24,934,956.28***		***25,410,445.11***
Total Liabilities and Equity		***$ 41,441,688.76***		***$ 45,600,751.37***

Wakefield Municipal Gas and Light Department
Budget vs Actual - Electric Division
For the Ten Months Ending, April 30, 2026

	CURRENT MONTH	YEAR TO DATE		
	FY 2026	FY 2025	FY 2026	YTD Budget
Energy Revenue (Net of Discounts)				
Residential Sales	$ 1,458,149.80	$ 15,152,267.34	$ 16,895,728.92	$ 14,696,000.00
Commercial Sales	1,140,041.89	11,555,317.12	12,540,609.30	11,410,000.00
Street Lighting	14,845.00	156,775.00	148,450.00	156,775.00
Municipal Sales	127,471.63	1,310,803.68	1,342,712.96	1,299,000.00
Private Area Lighting	7,466.00	74,690.14	74,666.54	74,170.00
Green Choice Revenue	987.19	12,517.90	12,257.29	-
Total Energy Revenue	***2,748,961.51***	***28,262,371.18***	***31,014,425.01***	***27,635,945.00***
Other Revenues				
Unbilled Revenue	-	-	-	-
Interest Income-Consumer Deposits	4,289.82	42,545.65	42,935.21	100,000.00
Interest Income-Depreciation Fund	374.21	4,072.58	4,073.97	-
Interest Income-Self Ins Sinking Fund	679.26	8,267.38	7,274.71	-
Interest Income-MMWEC	1,431.08	98,198.79	83,943.99	-
Income (Exp) - Merchandise & Jobbing	(17,032.82)	(520,005.68)	(593,503.52)	83,334.00
Other Revenues-Temp Services	200.00	1,000.00	600.00	834.00
Sales Tax	60,490.05	614,014.98	652,809.68	625,000.00
Conservation Charge	63,642.23	649,440.01	719,769.88	664,495.00
Reconnect Fees	350.00	1,550.00	2,000.00	2,500.00
Comcast & RCN Pole Fees	54,862.38	93,867.13	95,300.74	116,666.00
Insurance Reimbursements	-	12,961.34	31,031.38	-
EV Chargers	5,243.57	41,956.71	43,052.57	-
Other Electric Revenue	10,407.81	152,654.85	147,869.31	190,834.00
Total Other Revenue	***184,937.59***	***1,200,523.74***	***1,237,157.92***	***1,783,663.00***
Total Revenue	***2,933,899.10***	***29,462,894.92***	***32,251,582.93***	***29,419,608.00***
Power Costs				
Purchased Power	(1,238,874.98)	(14,786,010.64)	(16,188,752.15)	(16,007,144.00)
Power Expense Generation	(12,088.07)	(14,717.56)	(106,582.18)	(485,335.00)
Power Expense Battery	(45,045.78)	(50,561.30)	(255,774.55)	(231,468.00)
Total Power Costs	***(1,296,008.83)***	***(14,851,289.50)***	***(16,551,108.88)***	***(16,723,947.00)***
Gross Profit	***$ 1,637,890.27***	***$ 14,611,605.42***	***$ 15,700,474.05***	***$ 12,695,661.00***
Operating Expenses				
Miscellaneous Operating Expenses				
Depreciation Expense	(265,520.55)	(2,209,198.21)	(2,598,697.03)	(2,535,066.00)
Sales Tax	(64,468.94)	(614,014.98)	(652,809.68)	(636,000.00)
Interest Expense-Consumer Deposits	(4,594.15)	(49,451.44)	(48,130.30)	(33,334.00)
Interest Expense-Leased Property	(4,515.47)	-	(22,836.40)	-
Interest Expense-Sub + MMWEC	(3,731.96)	(123,356.38)	(119,921.84)	(122,205.00)
Total Misc Operating Expenses	***(342,831.07)***	***(2,996,021.01)***	***(3,442,395.25)***	***(3,326,605.00)***
Distribution Expenses				
Supervision and Engineering	(28,242.23)	(278,079.01)	(336,179.25)	(291,666.00)
Substation Salaries and Expense	(100,157.17)	(653,603.69)	(1,040,844.64)	(833,334.00)
Customer Installation Expenses	(750.74)	(6,926.07)	(6,707.05)	(10,000.00)
Distribution Operations Expense	(72,017.40)	(616,914.38)	(666,045.63)	(675,000.00)
Total Distribution Expenses	***(201,167.54)***	***(1,555,523.15)***	***(2,049,776.57)***	***(1,810,000.00)***

Wakefield Municipal Gas and Light Department
Budget vs Actual - Electric Division
For the Ten Months Ending, April 30, 2026

	CURRENT MONTH	YEAR TO DATE		
	FY 2026	FY 2025	FY 2026	YTD Budget
Maintenance Expenses				
Supervision and Engineering	(20,712.00)	(211,217.60)	(229,699.24)	(229,166.00)
Maintenance of Station Equipment	-	-	(394.17)	(10,000.00)
Maintenance of Other Equipment	(3,560.00)	(658.08)	(3,560.00)	-
Maintenance of Overhead Lines	(132,150.09)	(1,281,513.51)	(1,345,174.63)	(1,541,666.00)
Maintenance of Underground Lines	(2,668.00)	(4,174.35)	(4,096.48)	(10,000.00)
Maintenance of Line Transformers	-	-	-	(8,334.00)
Maintenance of Street Lighting	-	(750.00)		(4,166.00)
Maintenance of Meters	(750.74)	(17,911.66)	(34,390.93)	(16,666.00)
Maintenance of Distribution Plant	(1,501.48)	(14,675.59)	(13,771.10)	(20,000.00)
Total Maintenance Expenses	***(161,342.31)***	***(1,530,900.79)***	***(1,631,086.55)***	***(1,839,998.00)***
Customer Account Expense				
Meter Reading Expense	(5,403.94)	(49,503.19)	(61,804.83)	(54,166.00)
Customer Records & Collection Exp	(93,901.54)	(853,348.91)	(1,017,955.80)	(966,666.00)
Total Customer Account Exp	***(99,305.48)***	***(902,852.10)***	***(1,079,760.63)***	***(1,020,832.00)***
Administrative and General Expenses				
Community Relations & Advertising	-	(183,351.13)	(125,651.40)	(125,000.00)
Administrative Salaries and Expense	(18,227.43)	(191,317.38)	(252,914.01)	(220,834.00)
Business Mgr, Office Salaries & Exp	(14,690.25)	(128,939.42)	(150,265.67)	(141,666.00)
MIS Salaries and Expense	(72,917.70)	(446,394.14)	(497,490.26)	(450,000.00)
Outside Services	-	(18,450.00)	(23,250.00)	-
Conservation & Rebates	(45,253.44)	(545,210.45)	(747,090.61)	(664,495.00)
Property & Liability Insurance, Damages	(14,738.36)	(119,449.34)	(128,790.00)	(133,334.00)
Employee Pensions and Benefits	(111,267.50)	(1,268,684.40)	(1,160,416.26)	(1,166,666.00)
General Administrative Expense	(6,688.46)	(56,418.56)	(56,742.30)	(333,334.00)
Maintenance of General Plant	(8,844.90)	(125,180.74)	(84,580.69)	(133,334.00)
Total Admin & General Expenses	***(292,628.04)***	***(3,083,395.56)***	***(3,227,191.20)***	***(3,368,663.00)***
Net Income (Loss) Before Surplus Adjustments	***$540,615.83***	***$4,542,912.81***	***$4,270,263.85***	***$1,329,563.00***
Surplus Adjustments				
Additions				
Sale of Scrap	-	49,684.64	-	25,000.00
MMWEC Refund	-	-	-	-
Total Additions to Surplus	***-***	***49,684.64***	***-***	***25,000.00***
Subtractions				
Interest on Sinking Fund	679.26	8,267.38	7,274.71	6,666.00
Payment in Lieu of Taxes	61,815.00	609,010.00	618,150.00	618,145.00
Plant Removal Costs	-	344,919.73	133,090.94	116,666.00
Total Subtractions from Surplus	***62,494.26***	***962,197.11***	***758,515.65***	***741,477.00***
Net Income (Loss)	***$ 478,121.57***	***$ 3,630,400.34***	***$ 3,511,748.20***	***$ 613,086.00***

Wakefield Municipal Gas and Light Department
Comparative Balance Sheet - Gas Division

	4/30/2025		4/30/2026	
ASSETS				
Sinking Fund - Self Insurance	$ 206,879.53		$ 215,702.01	
Consumer Deposits	126,688.86		139,559.86	
Total Investments	***333,568.39***		***355,261.87***	
Consumer Deposits	214,803.14		196,973.14	
Petty Cash	175.00		175.00	
Total Cash	***214,978.14***		***197,148.14***	
Accounts Receivable-Rates	1,482,606.60		1,625,863.22	
Inventory	1,068,042.49		802,668.45	
Prepayments Miscellaneous	182,462.18		178,786.50	
Other Deferred Debits	852,538.34		804,565.55	
Total Other Assets	***3,585,649.61***		***3,411,883.72***	
Total Current Assets		***4,134,196.14***		***3,964,293.73***
Distribution Plant	28,681,801.46		28,712,157.44	
General Plant	663,730.67		831,476.23	
Net Fixed Assets		***29,345,532.13***		***29,543,633.67***
Total Assets		***$ 33,479,728.27***		***$ 33,507,927.40***
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY				
Accounts Payable	$ 14,295.60		$ 29,769.73	
Consumer Deposits	341,492.00		336,533.00	
Other Accrued Liabilities	8,383.36		9,790.00	
Reserve for Uncollectable Accounts	93,373.36		96,954.90	
Total Current Liabilities	***457,544.32***		***473,047.63***	
Compensated Absences	239,196.95		341,321.61	
OPEB Liability	325,068.00		237,446.00	
Pension Liability	2,257,500.00		2,030,500.00	
Total Long Term Liabilities	***2,821,764.95***		***2,609,267.61***	
Total Liabilities		***3,279,309.27***		***3,082,315.24***
Retained Earnings	1,597,894.10		1,879,996.28	
Year to Date Income (Loss)	1,337,607.70		(1,264,941.80)	
Sinking Fund Reserve-Self Ins	206,879.53		215,702.01	
Contribution in Aid of Construction	13,600.00		13,600.00	
Investment in Fixed Assets	27,044,437.67		29,581,255.67	
Total Equity		***30,200,419.00***		***30,425,612.16***
Total Liabilities and Equity		***$ 33,479,728.27***		***$ 33,507,927.40***

Wakefield Municipal Gas and Light Department
Income Statement - Gas Division
For the Ten Months Ending, April 30, 2026

	CURRENT MONTH	YEAR TO DATE		
	FY 2026	FY 2025	FY 2026	YTD Budget
Energy Revenue (Net of Discounts)				
Residential Sales	$ 1,004,731.28	$ 7,958,317.12	$ 8,730,064.82	$ 9,474,000.00
Commercial Sales	346,238.13	2,225,434.46	2,440,681.34	2,619,000.00
Municipal Sales	92,542.44	883,018.20	878,360.28	903,000.00
Total Energy Revenue	***1,443,511.85***	***11,066,769.78***	***12,049,106.44***	***12,996,000.00***
Other Revenues				
Unbilled Revenue	-	-	-	-
Interest Income-Consumer Deposits	1,072.46	10,636.40	10,733.83	16,666.00
Interest Income-Self Ins Sinking Fund	679.27	8,267.37	7,274.71	-
Income from Merchandise & Jobbing	-	3,546.49	12,714.76	20,834.00
Special Gas Charges	-	4,727.77	5,422.10	8,334.00
Sales Tax	12,470.10	100,667.62	106,404.26	91,666.00
Reconnect Fees	-	50.00	50.00	-
Insurance Reimbursements	-	-	-	-
Other Gas Revenue	1,000.00	1,331,245.84	83,911.24	104,166.00
Total Other Revenue	***15,221.83***	***1,459,141.49***	***226,510.90***	***241,666.00***
Total Revenue	***1,458,733.68***	***12,525,911.27***	***12,275,617.34***	***13,237,666.00***
Cost of Gas Purchased	***(552,084.64)***	***(6,487,497.12)***	***(8,354,350.16)***	***(7,049,000.00)***
Gross Profit	***$ 906,649.04***	***$ 6,038,414.15***	***$ 3,921,267.18***	***$ 6,188,666.00***
Operating Expenses				
Miscellaneous Operating Expenses				
Depreciation Expense	(207,538.01)	(1,875,939.92)	(2,012,618.64)	(1,970,830.00)
Sales Tax	(12,578.75)	(100,667.62)	(106,404.26)	(91,666.00)
Interest Expense-Consumer Deposits	(1,148.53)	(12,362.86)	(12,032.57)	(8,334.00)
Total Misc Operating Expenses	***(221,265.29)***	***(1,988,970.40)***	***(2,131,055.47)***	***(2,070,830.00)***
Distribution Expenses				
Supervision and Engineering	(40,605.01)	(239,805.89)	(343,409.11)	(266,666.00)
Station Labor and Expenses	(16,433.07)	(208,201.04)	(181,644.22)	(216,670.00)
Mains and Service	(6,521.61)	(63,033.21)	(53,626.57)	(99,170.00)
Customer Installation Expenses	(20,459.53)	(220,013.83)	(260,862.45)	(245,830.00)
Distribution Operations Expense	(3,146.45)	(60,218.83)	(52,943.80)	(83,334.00)
Total Distribution Expenses	***(87,165.67)***	***(791,272.80)***	***(892,486.15)***	***(911,670.00)***
Maintenance Expenses				
Maintenance of Mains	(58,190.20)	(495,711.45)	(599,335.81)	(549,996.00)
Maint of Meters and House Regulators	-	(16,571.84)	(16,152.89)	(25,000.00)
Maintenance of Distribution Plant	(3,675.05)	(26,989.76)	(21,753.21)	(33,334.00)
Total Maintenance Expenses	***(61,865.25)***	***(539,273.05)***	***(637,241.91)***	***(608,330.00)***
Customer Account Expense				
Meter Reading Expense	(1,801.31)	(16,501.07)	(20,601.53)	(18,326.00)
Customer Record and Collection Expenses	(36,670.15)	(291,171.97)	(338,758.83)	(325,000.00)
Total Customer Account Expenses	***(38,471.46)***	***(307,673.04)***	***(359,360.36)***	***(343,326.00)***

Wakefield Municipal Gas and Light Department
Income Statement - Gas Division
For the Ten Months Ending, April 30, 2026

	CURRENT MONTH	YEAR TO DATE		
	FY 2026	FY 2025	FY 2026	YTD Budget
Administrative and General Expenses				
Community Relations & Advertising	-	(40,126.37)	(22,621.55)	(16,666.00)
Administrative Salaries and Expense	(5,847.47)	(60,721.86)	(78,416.53)	(66,666.00)
Business Mgr, Office Salaries & Exp	(4,896.73)	(39,192.37)	(49,217.11)	(50,000.00)
MIS Salaries and Expense	(24,305.86)	(148,772.94)	(165,788.00)	(166,674.00)
Outside Services	-	(37,039.74)	(14,607.72)	(30,000.00)
Property & Liability Insurance, Damages	(2,518.54)	(28,329.36)	(29,097.37)	(31,666.00)
Employee Pensions and Benefits	(29,149.00)	(239,436.97)	(307,829.59)	(300,000.00)
General Administrative Expense	(209.72)	(13,355.60)	(10,903.63)	(75,001.00)
Maintenance of General Plant	(2,939.38)	(41,726.95)	(43,103.59)	(36,666.00)
Total Admin & General Expenses	***(69,866.70)***	***(648,702.16)***	***(721,585.09)***	***(773,339.00)***
Net Income (Loss) Before Surplus Adjustments	***$428,014.67***	***$1,762,522.70***	***($820,461.80)***	***$1,481,171.00***
Surplus Adjustments				
Additions	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-
Subtractions				
Interest on Sinking Fund	679.27	8,267.37	7,274.71	6,666.00
Payment in Lieu of Taxes	20,605.00	203,002.50	206,044.00	206,055.00
Plant Removal Costs	-	213,645.13	231,161.29	341,670.00
Total Subtractions from Surplus	***21,284.27***	***424,915.00***	***444,480.00***	***554,391.00***
Net Income (Loss)	***$406,730.40***	***$1,337,607.70***	***($1,264,941.80)***	***$926,780.00***

WMGLD Municipal Fellowship January-December 2026

Presented By:

Nicole Fina – CELT Municipal Fellow

7/15/2026

CELT Municipal Fellow Introduction

Tufts
Urban and Environmental Policy and Planning

University of Massachusetts UMASS Lowell

BOSTON UNIVERSITY

Nicole Fina, Master of Arts in Urban and Environmental Policy and Planning Tufts University , BBA Business Administration & Economics Loyola University Maryland

Clean Energy Legacy Transition (CELT)

Partnership between Boston University, University of Massachusetts Lowell, and Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Thus far, CELT has hired more than 40 students from 12 different universities, working in 35 cities (in counting)

2026 Project Calendar

January - March

Project introduction, Research & Evaluation, Energy Park tour

March-June

Connecting with school leadership

June-August

Begin workforce development co-op planning and collect feedback

August- October

Secure hands-on learning tools, additional resources to begin building educational tools

October- December

review curriculum draft and concepts, pilot classroom activities or demonstrations, identify long term partnership opportunities

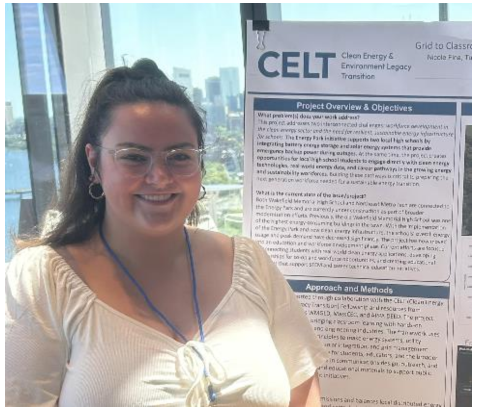
University of Massachusetts
UMASS Lowell

BOSTON UNIVERSITY

CELT Fellowship Showcase, Boston University June 16, 2026

- Celebration for first Cohort round at Boston University CS Building
- WMGLD staff participated in municipal panel
- Over 20 municipalities convened along with fellows in communities such as Acton, Malden, Boston, Pioneer Valley,
- **WMGLD poster 'From Grid to Classroom' won the 'People's Choice Award' out of a group of over 20 posters**

WMGLD is first municipality selected for a fellowship extension



What: Project scope

- Educational components for data interpretation on local energy demand trends and load management strategies
- Career pathways and local workforce opportunities
- Support energy dashboard development to demonstrate rooftop solar installations, battery energy storage system, and utility management

How: Energy Dashboard and Toolkit

WMGLD Energy Dashboard :

Create pathway to develop live & interactive online learning tool utilizing existing Academic & Engineering resources; featuring real world data from Energy Park, leveraging data around:

- Solar, battery energy storage system (BESS), EV charger, Natural gas generator
- Peak shavings data via SCADA (system control and data acquisition)

*data will remain separate from WMGLD system

Energy Park Fellow Report Toolkit:

- Overview of the educational energy park concept as a visible, hands-on learning environment featuring clean energy, grid modernization, resilience, and climate adaptation technologies.
- Key findings on how municipal utilities can support local climate goals through education, infrastructure investment, and school partnerships.

Why: Purpose & Need

- Fellow will create pipeline between students, utility professionals, and energy careers by connecting students with local workforce opportunities and pathways, tools for learning about utility operations, and connecting to the larger community

Expected Outcomes	Impact on Student Engagement	Source
Create and Utilize Energy Dashboard/ Model	Visual demonstration of Energy Park, showing generation and operational flow of the solar, energy storage, grid and how building loads work together	WMGLD Energy Park data, Municipal Fellow, MASSCEC, APPA, WMGLD, WMHS, Municipal Fellow, Northeast Metro Tech
CELT Fellow Report	The report will connect climate goals, electrification, micro grid modernization, school-based learning, and community engagement into an actionable framework for local implementation	MASSCEC, APPA, WMGLD, WMHS, Municipal Fellow, Northeast Metro Tech

Thank You!

Nicole Fina , B.B.A

Graduate Student Urban d Environmental Policy and Planning, Tufts University

[redacted]

Employee Satisfaction Study 2025

[redacted]

[redacted]

Table of Contents

[redacted]

[redacted]

Project Overview

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Project Overview

[redacted]

Research Objectives

- GreatBlue Research was commissioned by [redacted] to conduct comprehensive research to understand the satisfaction levels of its employees.

- The primary goal for this research study was to identify organizational strengths and areas in need of improvement as they relate to the employee pool.

- The outcome of this research will enable [redacted] to a) more clearly understand, and ultimately set, employee expectations, b) act on near-term opportunities for improvement, and c) create a strategic roadmap to increase employee satisfaction and retention.

Areas of Investigation

The Employee Satisfaction Study leveraged a quantitative research methodology to address the following areas of investigation:

- Awareness of policies, procedures, and benefits
- Job attitudes and opinions
- Job satisfaction
- Ratings and perceptions of departments
- Perceptions of leadership
- Opinions of the current working environment
- Perceptions of communication

Research Methodology Snapshot

Methodology **Digital**	No. of Completes **600**	No. of Questions **36***	Incentive **None**	Sample **Employee List**
Target **Employees**	Quality Assurance **Dual-level****	Margin of Error **+/- 1.95%**	Confidence Level **95%**	Research Dates **June 9 - July 1, 2025**

* This represents the total possible number of questions; not all respondents will answer all questions based on skip patterns and other instrument bias.
** Data Quality personnel, in addition to a computer-aided interviewing platform, ensure the integrity of the data is accurate.

Guide to Footnotes

[redacted]

General

n=362	*The lowercase "n" is used to indicate the base size, or the amount of respondents who answered a particular question.*

Statistical Significance

(+/-)	*(+/-) indicates statistical significance at a 95% confidence level compared to the previous iteration of the survey. This is used in charts.*

Scale Questions

"Ratings of 7-10 shown"	*This phrase indicates positive ratings from questions that use a 10-point scale. The positive ratings are defined as a rating of 7 through 10.*

Index Definitions

Employee Satisfaction Index (ESI)	*Measures the overall satisfaction of employees. It is derived from survey responses that assess various aspects of job satisfaction, such as work environment, management, compensation and job roles.*
Employee Engagement Index (EEI)	*Measures the level of employee engagement within the company, focusing on how content employees are with their jobs, the emotional commitment and enthusiasm employees have towards their work and the organization.*
Trust Index	*Measures the level of trust within the utility, primarily between employees and management or leadership. Trust is a critical component of a healthy work environment, influencing employee engagement and satisfaction.*
Good Place to Work Index	*Measures the quality of the utility's work environment, evaluating areas such as employees' overall perception of their job, department effectiveness, and their workplace as a whole.*

[redacted]

Key Study Findings

Executive Summary

[redacted]

Indices:	July 2024	December 2024	June 2025
ESI	72.9	78.1 (+)	75.8 (-)
EEI	74.0	77.7 (+)	76.2 (-)
Trust Index	71.9	77.8 (+)	75.1 (-)
Good Place to Work Index	73.8	78.7 (+)	77.6

Indices Overview

- The Employee Satisfaction Index (ESI) for [redacted] decreased in July 2025 compared to December 2024 findings (-2.3 percentage points).
- The Employee Engagement Index (EEI) decreased slightly in June 2025 for [redacted] compared to December 2024 results (-1.5 percentage points).
- The Trust Index in June 2025 decreased for [redacted] compared to December 2024 findings (-2.7 percentage points).
- The Good Place to Work Index decreased slightly for [redacted] in June 2025 (-1.1 percentage points).

General Ratings

- [redacted] average positive ratings for job attitudes and opinions decreased in July 2025 compared to December 2024 (76.5% compared to 78.6%).
- When asked about their overall job satisfaction "today," nearly four-fifths of [redacted] employees (77.1%) indicated they are currently satisfied (+2.3 percentage points from December 2024).
- The average positive rating for [redacted] department and work environment characteristics decreased slightly in June 2025 (84.1% from 85.2%).
- Ratings for [redacted] leadership decreased in June 2025 (70.4% from 73.1% in December 2024).

Company Comparisons

- [redacted] **consistently led across all indices,** achieving the highest scores in the Employee Satisfaction Index (ESI) (83.5%), Employee Engagement Index (EEI) (84.5%), Trust Index (82.6), and Good Place to Work (GPTW) Index (85.9%), as well as the most positive ratings for job satisfaction (84.4%), job attitudes and opinions (86.2%), and leadership (80.1%).
- [redacted] **and** [redacted] **performed solidly across the board,** consistently surpassing the [redacted] composites on all indices and positive ratings, with [redacted] earning the highest average positive rating for the department and work environment rating (88.0%).
- [redacted] **underperformed in all measured areas,** with scores falling below the [redacted] composite for every index and category, including the lowest scores for overall job satisfaction (74.2%), job attitudes and opinions (71.0%), and leadership perceptions (57.8%).
- **Leadership perception was a clear differentiator,** with [redacted], [redacted] and [redacted] all hovering near 80.0% positive ratings, while [redacted] received fewer than 60.0%, indicating a significant gap in leadership effectiveness.

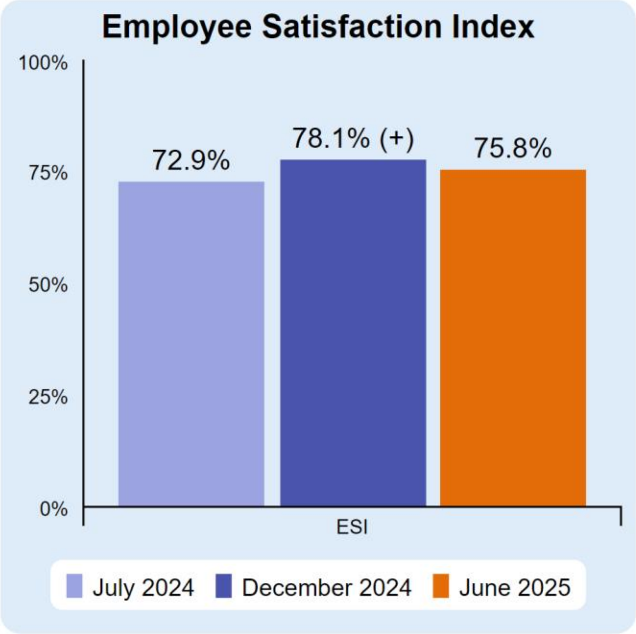
[redacted]

Indices

Employee Satisfaction Index (ESI)

[redacted]

The ESI for [redacted] in July 2025 decreased compared to December 2024 findings (-2.3 percentage points), with ratings decreasing across three metrics. Notably, fewer employees provided positive ratings for "beyond my compensation and benefits, I am recognized for 'a job well done'" (-6.2 percentage points). However, more employees provided positive ratings for their "overall job satisfaction today" (+2.3 percentage points).

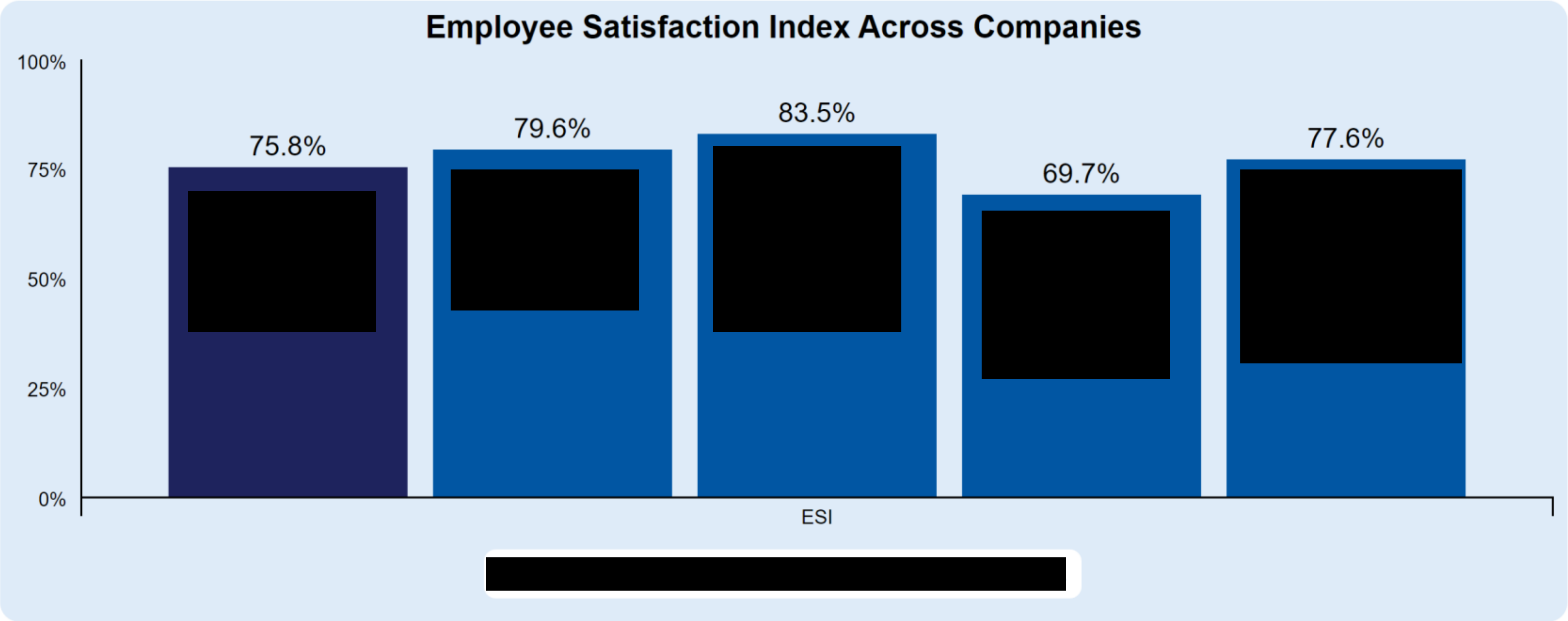


	July 2024	December 2024	June 2025
(Company) makes good use of my skills and abilities	74.3	78.4	77.8
Beyond my compensation and benefits, I am recognized for “a job well done”	65.4	72.9 (+)	66.7 (-)
Communication within your department	74.5	83.0 (+)	78.4
Being treated with respect by your department's management	81.6	88.3 (+)	85.4
Leadership creates an atmosphere of mutual trust and respect	66.9	70.9	69.1
Your overall job satisfaction today	74.8	74.8	77.1
ESI	72.9	78.1 (+)	75.8

n=600 (2025 MY), n=542 (2024 YE), n=700 (2024 MY)
(+/-) indicates statistical significance at a 95% confidence level compared to the previous iteration of the survey; Aggregate of ratings 7-10 shown, w/o "don't know" responses

Employee Satisfaction Index (ESI)

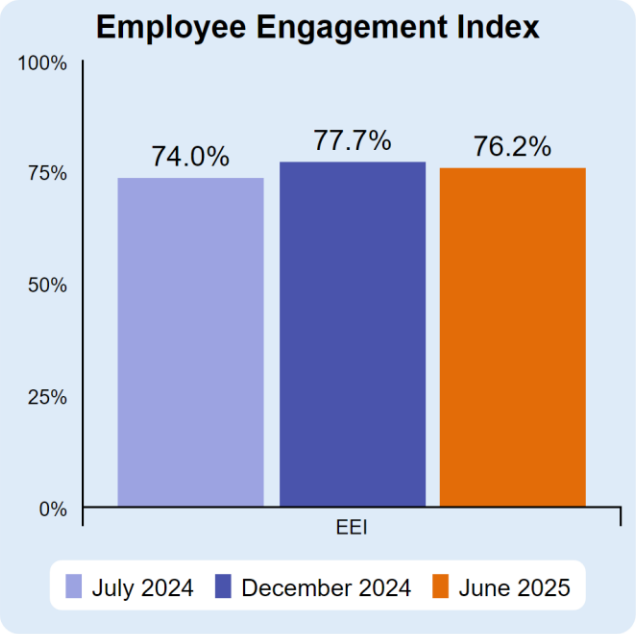
[redacted] and [redacted] surpassed the [redacted] ESI, with [redacted] achieving the highest ESI. [redacted] ESI underperformed compared to [redacted]



n=600 [redacted], n=207 [redacted]), n=64 [redacted]), n=241 [redacted], n=88 [redacted])
Aggregate of ratings 7-10 shown, w/o "don't know" responses

Employee Engagement Index (EEI)

The EEI for [redacted] decreased slightly in July 2025 compared to December 2024 results (-1.5 percentage points). Of note, significantly fewer employees provided positive ratings for "beyond my compensation and benefits, I am recognized for 'a job well done'" (-6.2 percentage points) and "I am involved in decision making that affects their day-to-day job responsibilities" (-5.6 percentage points).

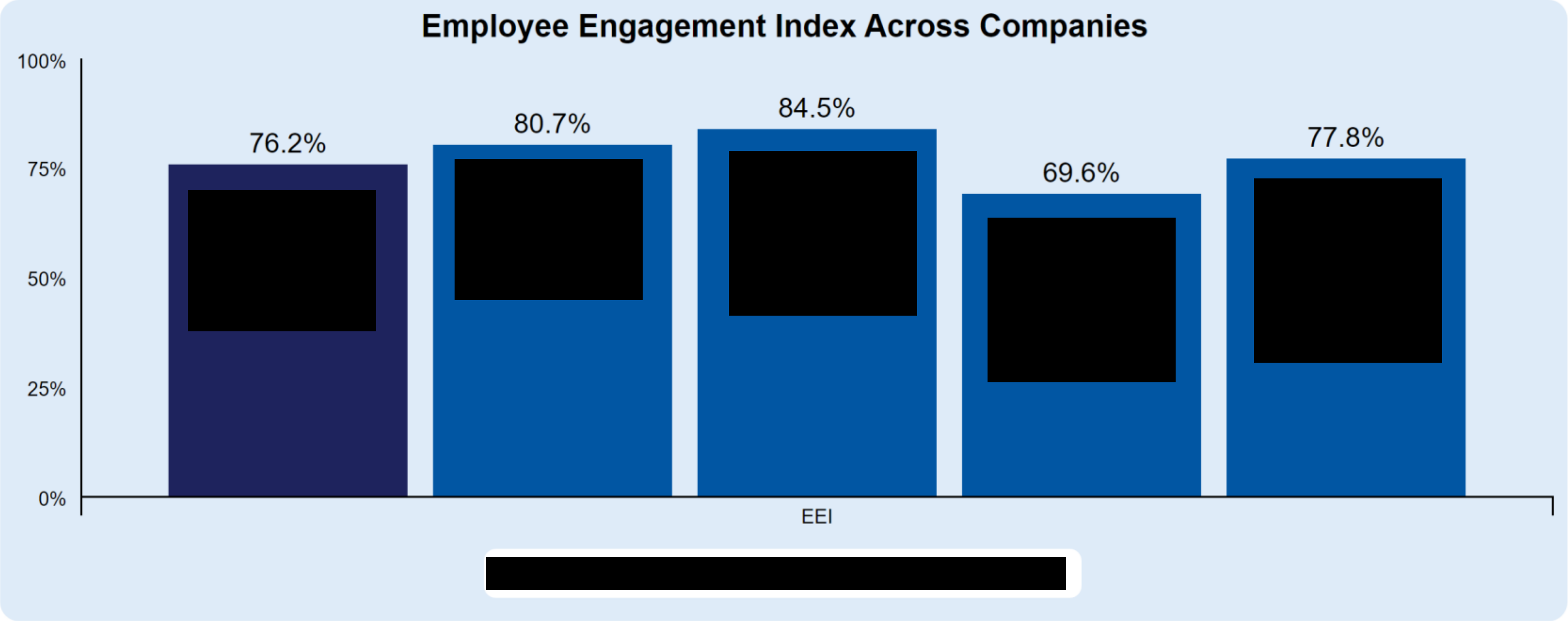


	July 2024	December 2024	June 2025
I am surrounded by teammates who are motivated and doing great things	78.4	81.2	83.9
I know what is expected of me on the job	85.1	86.8	84.6
I get enough feedback on my performance	73.9	76.7	74.1
Beyond my compensation and benefits, I am recognized for “a job well done”	65.4	72.9 (+)	66.7 (-)
There are opportunities to learn and grow in my role at (Company)	72.9	75.6	72.4
I am involved in decision making that affects my day-to-day job responsibilities	69.3	75.0 (+)	69.4 (-)
Being treated with respect by your department's management	81.6	88.3 (+)	85.4
The availability of equipment, tools and supplies you need	84.6	86.5	86.1
I have confidence in (Company)'s leadership's ability to lead	64.9	72.5 (+)	68.5
Leadership creates an atmosphere of mutual trust and respect	66.9	70.9	69.1
When (Company) does well, employees do well	64.5	65.2	70.3
I understand the overall goals of my company and where my work fits in	80.5	80.8	84.4
EEI	74.0	77.7	76.2

n=600 (2025 MY), n=542 (2024 YE), n=700 (2024 MY)
(+/-) indicates statistical significance at a 95% confidence level compared to the previous iteration of the survey; Aggregate of ratings 7-10 shown, w/o "don't know" responses

Employee Engagement Index (EEI)

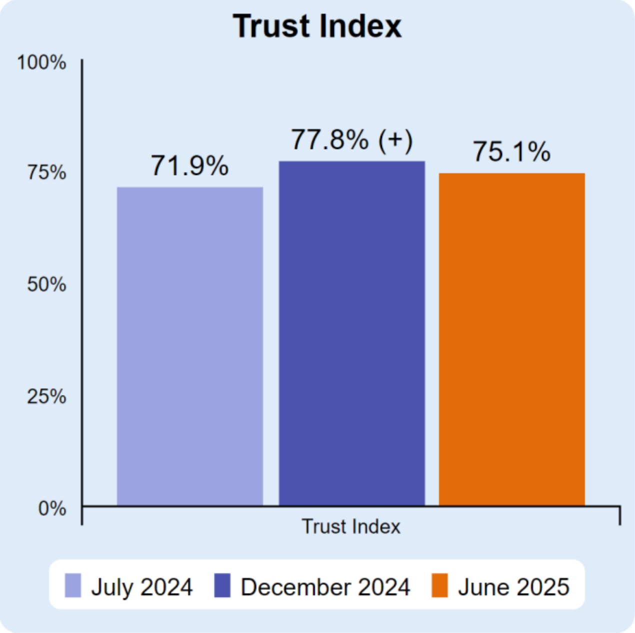
[redacted] and [redacted] surpassed the [redacted] EEI, with [redacted] achieving the highest EEI. [redacted] EEI underperformed compared to [redacted]



n=600 [redacted], n=207 [redacted]), n=64 [redacted]), n=241 [redacted], n=88 [redacted])
Aggregate of ratings 7-10 shown, w/o "don't know" responses

Trust Index

The Trust Index in July 2025 decreased for [redacted] compared to December 2024 findings (-2.7 percentage points). Significantly fewer employees provided positive ratings for "leadership team sets fair policies and procedures" (-6.4 percentage points) and for "involved in decision making that affects my day-to-day responsibilities" (-5.6 percentage points). However, slightly more employees provided positive ratings for "I am surrounded by teammates who are motivated and doing great things" (+2.7 percentage points).



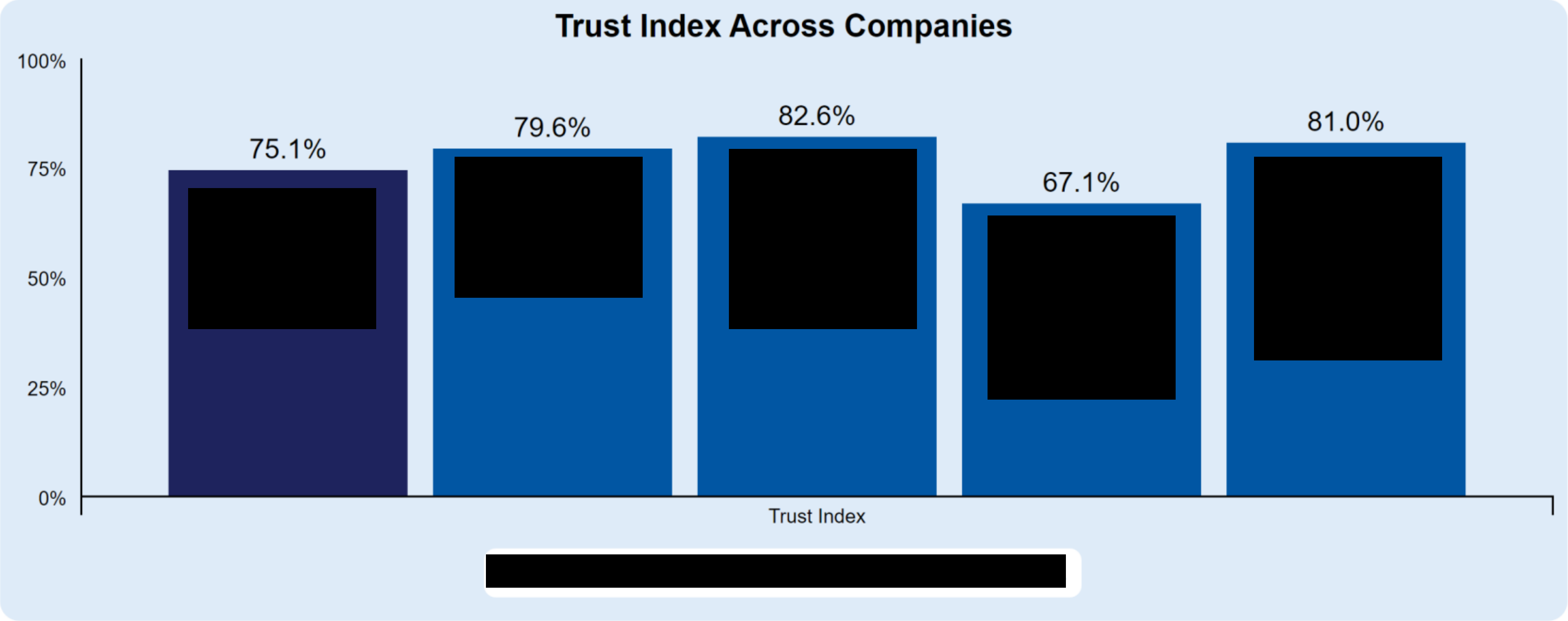
	July 2024	December 2024	June 2025
I am surrounded by teammates who are motivated and doing great things	78.4	81.2	83.9
I have confidence in MY future at (Company)	66.6	71.0	68.7
I am involved in decision making that affects my day-to-day job responsibilities	69.3	75.0 (+)	69.4 (-)
Being treated fairly by your department's management	80.0	86.3 (+)	83.6
Department management has a genuine interest and concern for employees	77.5	83.1 (+)	80.3
I trust the (Company) leadership	64.2	70.7 (+)	69.2
Leadership team sets fair policies and procedures	67.7	77.3 (+)	70.9 (-)
Trust Index	71.9	77.8 (+)	75.1

n=600 (2025 MY), n=542 (2024 YE), n=700 (2024 MY)
(+/-) indicates statistical significance at a 95% confidence level compared to the previous iteration of the survey; Aggregate of ratings 7-10 shown, w/o "don't know" responses

Trust Index

[redacted]

[redacted] and [redacted] surpassed the [redacted] Trust Index, all hovering around 80.0%. [redacted] achieved the highest Trust Index, followed by [redacted] [redacted] Trust Index underperformed compared to [redacted].

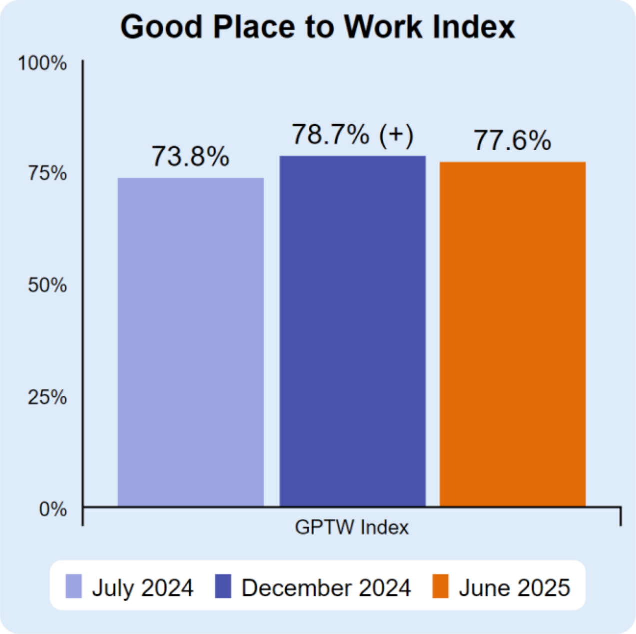


n=600 [redacted], n=207 [redacted]), n=64 [redacted]), n=241 [redacted], n=88 [redacted])
Aggregate of ratings 7-10 shown, w/o "don't know" responses

Good Place to Work (GPTW) Index

[redacted]

The Good Place to Work (GPTW) Index decreased slightly among [redacted] employees in July 2025 compared to December 2024 (-1.1 percentage points). Notably, significantly fewer employees provided positive ratings for "(Company) is an effectively managed and well-run organization" (-10.0 percentage points). However, slightly more employees provided positive ratings for "the functionality and comfort of the location you are currently working in" (+3.6 percentage points) and their "overall satisfaction today" (+2.3 percentage points).

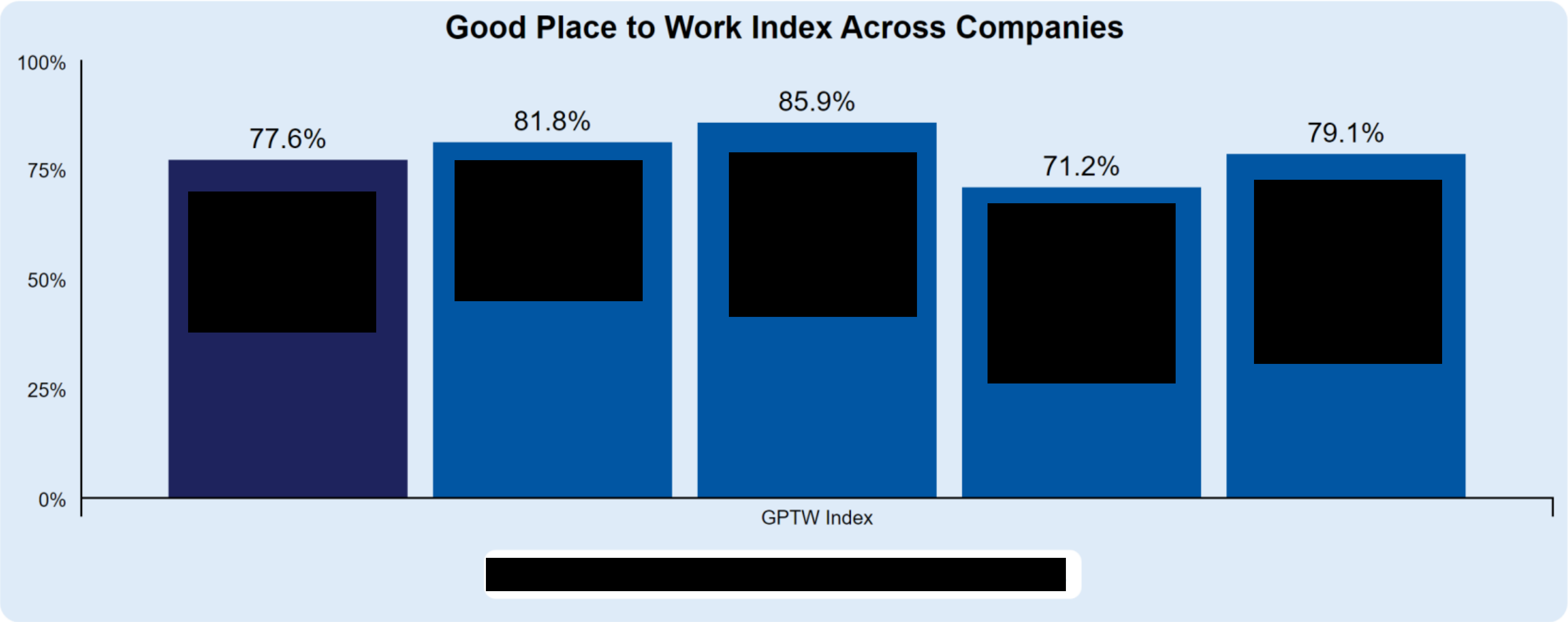


	July 2024	December 2024	June 2025
I would recommend (Company) as a place to work	72.9	74.7	73.9
If I had to do it over, I would apply to work at (Company)	76.7	79.9	81.1
(Company) is an effectively managed and well-run organization	59.7	71.9 (+)	61.9 (-)
The effectiveness of your department	81.2	87.0 (+)	85.4
(Company) employees provide excellent service to each other as co-workers	81.4	84.9	84.6
The functionality and comfort of the location you are currently working in	74.9	78.2	81.8
(Company) is living up to its mission	68.9	78.3 (+)	75.0
Your overall job satisfaction today	74.8	74.8	77.1
Good Place to Work Index	73.8	78.7 (+)	77.6

n=600 (2025 MY), n=542 (2024 YE), n=700 (2024 MY)
(+/-) indicates statistical significance at a 95% confidence level compared to the previous iteration of the survey; Aggregate of ratings 7-10 shown, w/o "don't know" responses

Good Place to Work (GPTW) Index [redacted]

[redacted] and [redacted] surpassed the [redacted] GPTW Index, with [redacted] achieving the highest Trust Index, followed by [redacted] GPTW Index underperformed compared to [redacted]



n=600 [redacted], n=207 [redacted]), n=64 [redacted]), n=241 [redacted], n=88 [redacted])
Aggregate of ratings 7-10 shown, w/o "don't know" responses

[redacted]

Job Satisfaction

60

Job Satisfaction

[redacted]

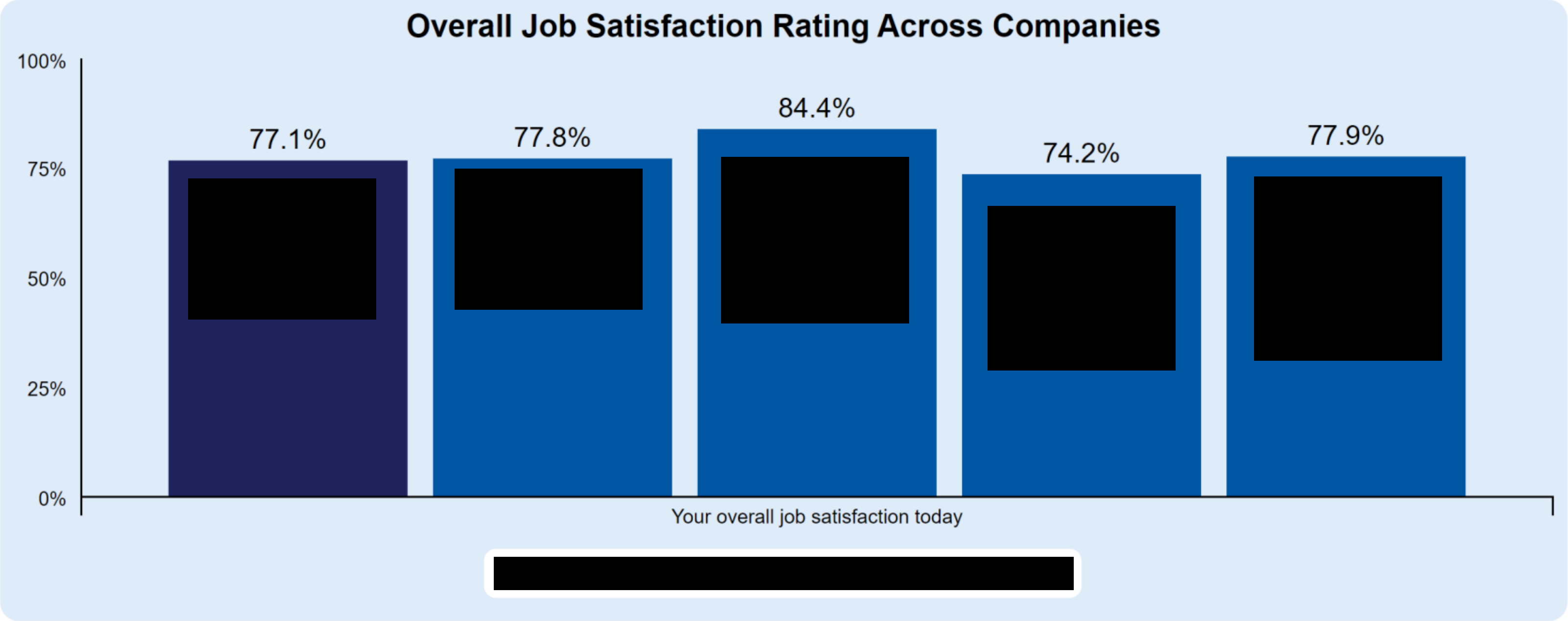
In July 2025, slightly more [redacted] employees provided positive ratings for "your overall job satisfaction today" (+2.3 percentage points) compared to December 2024 findings.

n=600 (2025 MY), n=542 (2024 YE), n=700 (2024 MY)
[job_satisfaction]: The following are a few overall job satisfaction questions. Please use a scale of one to ten where one means very dissatisfied and ten means very satisfied.
(+/-) indicates statistical significance at a 95% confidence level compared to the previous iteration of the survey; Aggregate of ratings 7-10 shown, w/o "don't know" responses

Job Satisfaction

[redacted]

[redacted] received the most positive ratings for overall job satisfaction, being the only company to exceed 80.0% positive ratings [redacted] and [redacted] hover around the [redacted] composite, while [redacted] received the least positive ratings for overall job satisfaction.

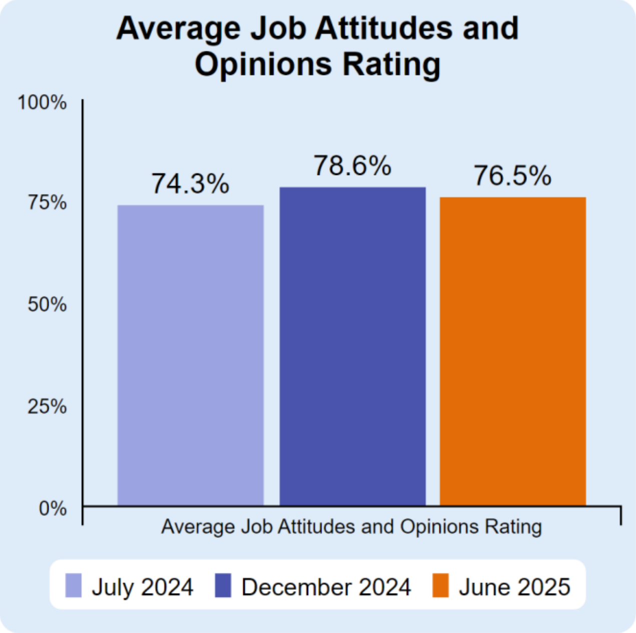


n=600 [redacted], n=207 [redacted]), n=64 [redacted]), n=241 [redacted]), n=88 [redacted])
[job_satisfaction]: The following are a few overall job satisfaction questions. Please use a scale of one to ten where one means very dissatisfied and ten means very satisfied.
Aggregate of ratings 7-10 shown, w/o "don't know" responses

Job Attitudes and Opinions

[redacted]

In July 2025, the average positive rating for job attitudes and opinions decreased compared to December 2024 (-2.1 percentage points). Significantly fewer employees provided positive ratings for "(Company) is an effectively managed and well-run organization" (-10.0 percentage points), "beyond my compensation and benefits, I am recognized for 'a job well done'" (-6.2 percentage points), and "I am involved in decision making that affects my day-to-day responsibilities" (-5.6 percentage points).

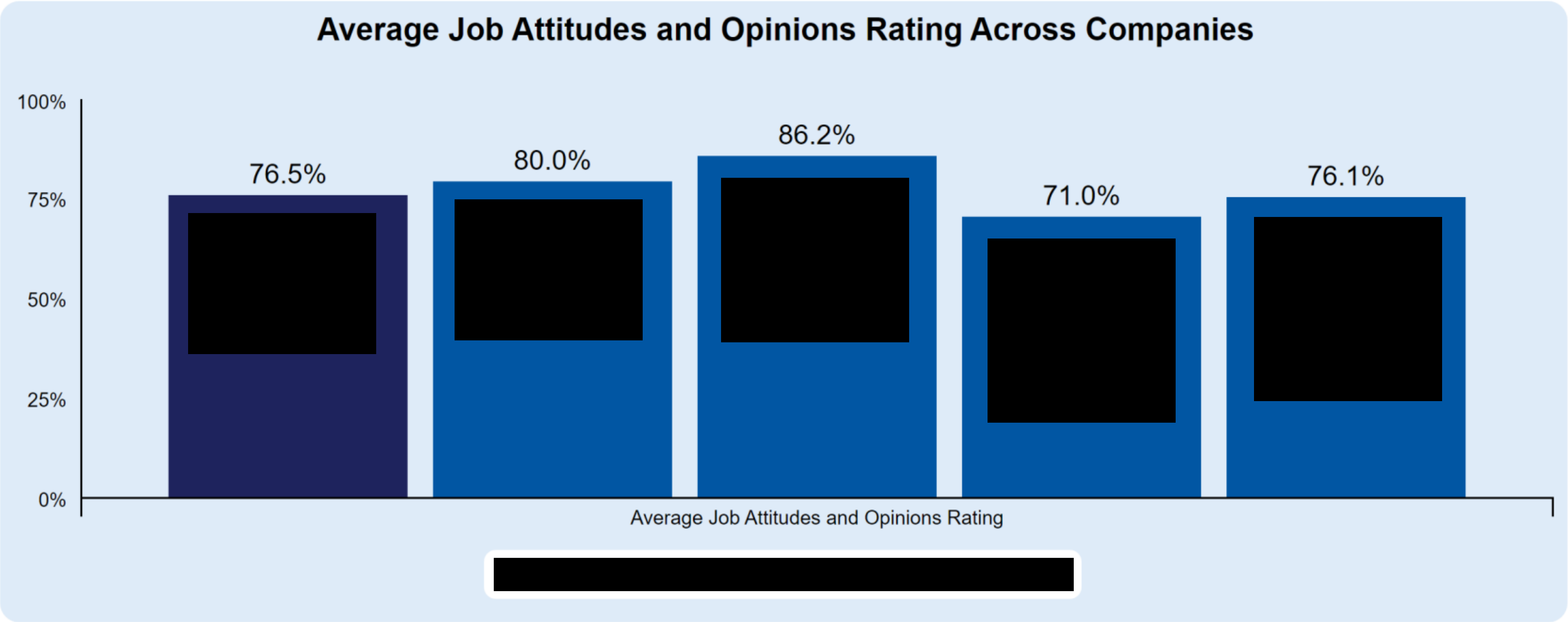


	July 2024	December 2024	June 2025
I am surrounded by teammates who are motivated and doing great things	78.4	81.2	83.9
I would recommend (Company) as a place to work	72.9	74.7	73.9
If I had to do it over, I would apply to work at (Company)	76.7	79.9	81.1
(Company) makes good use of my skills and abilities	74.3	78.4	77.8
I know what is expected of me on the job	85.1	86.8	84.6
I get enough feedback on my performance	73.9	76.7	74.1
Beyond my compensation and benefits, I am recognized for “a job well done”	65.4	72.9 (+)	66.7 (-)
I have confidence in MY future at (Company)	66.6	71.0	68.7
There are opportunities to learn and grow in my role at (Company)	72.9	75.6	72.4
I am involved in decision making that affects my day-to-day job responsibilities	69.3	75.0 (+)	69.4 (-)
(Company) is an effectively managed and well-run organization	59.7	71.9 (+)	61.9 (-)
I understand the overall goals of my company and where my work fits in	80.5	80.8	84.4
I understand the company values at (Company)	79.0	85.6 (+)	82.3
I feel like I belong here	75.0	79.3	78.5
I feel safe in my workplace	85.2	88.8	87.9

n=600 (2025 MY), n=542 (2024 YE), n=700 (2024 MY)
[job_attitudes_opinions]: The following are a number of statements about your job at (Company). Please, after reading each, use a scale of one to ten where one means you strongly disagree and ten means you strongly agree with each statement.
(+/-) indicates statistical significance at a 95% confidence level compared to the previous iteration of the survey; Aggregate of ratings 7-10 shown, w/o "don't know" responses

Job Attitudes and Opinions

[redacted] and [redacted] met or exceeded 80.0% positive ratings for the average job attitudes and opinions rating, with [redacted] receiving the most positive ratings. [redacted] hovers around the [redacted] composite, while [redacted] received the least positive ratings.



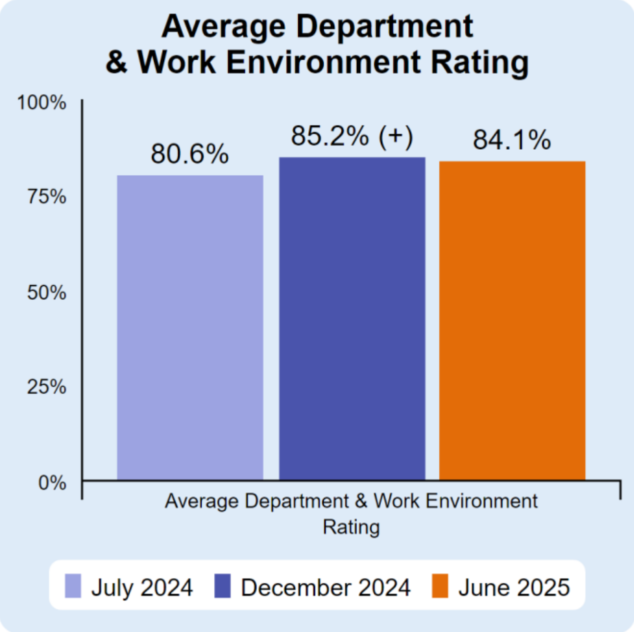
n=600 [redacted], n=207 [redacted]), n=64 [redacted]), n=241 [redacted]), n=88 [redacted])
[job_attitudes_opinions]: The following are a number of statements about your job at (Company). Please, after reading each, use a scale of one to ten where one means you strongly disagree and ten means you strongly agree with each statement.
Aggregate of ratings 7-10 shown, w/o "don't know" responses

[redacted]

Department & Work Environment

Department & Work Environment

The average positive rating for [redacted] department characteristics decreased slightly in July 2025 compared to December 2024 (-1.1 percentage points). This was primarily driven by fewer positive ratings for "communication within your department" (-4.6 percentage points) and "being treated with respect by your department's management" (-2.9 percentage points). However, notably, more employees provided positive ratings for "the functionality and comfort of the location you are currently working in" (+3.6 percentage points).



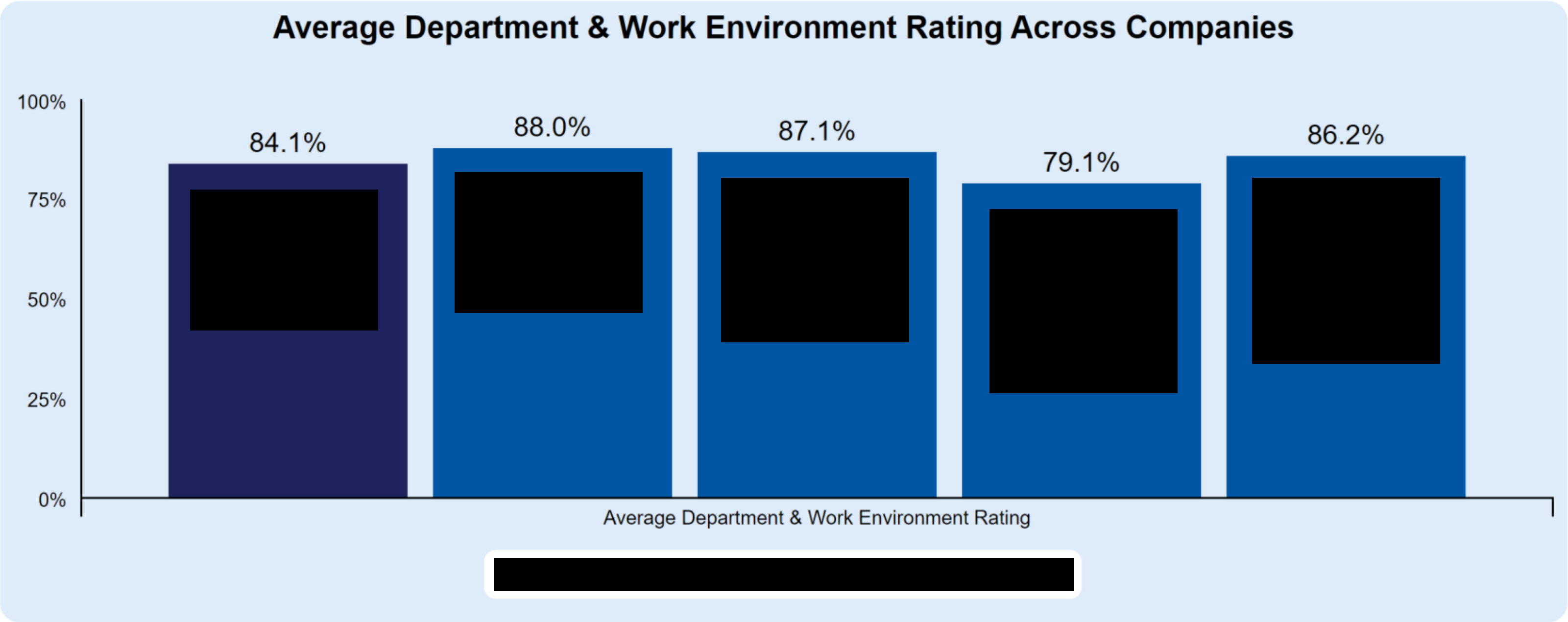
	July 2024	December 2024	June 2025
Communication within your department	74.5	83.0 (+)	78.4
Being treated fairly by your department's management	80.0	86.3 (+)	83.6
The effectiveness of your department	81.2	87.0 (+)	85.4
Department management has a genuine interest and concern for employees	77.5	83.1 (+)	80.3
Being treated with respect by your department's management	81.6	88.3 (+)	85.4
Efforts made by (Company) to protect employees from workplace hazards	89.6	89.1	90.9
(Company) employees provide excellent service to each other as co-workers	81.4	84.9	84.6
The availability of equipment, tools and supplies you need	84.6	86.5	86.1
The functionality and comfort of the location you are currently working in	74.9	78.2	81.8

n=600 (2025 MY), n=542 (2024 YE), n=700 (2024 MY)
[department]: The following are a number of department characteristics. Please rate your own department considering all employees including your immediate supervisor, department manager, superintendent, director and/or region managers who make up your department. Rate the department on the whole using a scale of one to ten where one means very poor and ten means very good.
(+/-) indicates statistical significance at a 95% confidence level compared to the previous iteration of the survey; Aggregate of ratings 7-10 shown, w/o "don't know" responses

Department & Work Environment

[redacted]

[redacted] and [redacted] all received over 85.0% positive ratings, on average, with [redacted] receiving the highest average positive rating. [redacted] received the lowest average positive rating, just below 80.0%.



n=600 [redacted], n=207 [redacted], n=64 [redacted], n=241 [redacted], n=88 [redacted]
[department]: The following are a number of department characteristics. Please rate your own department considering all employees including your immediate supervisor, department manager, superintendent, director and/or region managers who make up your department. Rate the department on the whole using a scale of one to ten where one means very poor and ten means very good.
Aggregate of ratings 7-10 shown, w/o "don't know" responses

[redacted]

Perceptions of Leadership

Perceptions of Leadership

Ratings for leadership across [redacted] decreased in July 2025 compared to December 2024 (-2.7 percentage points). This was driven by a significant decline in positive ratings for "leadership team treats everyone in a fair and honest manner" (-6.8 percentage points) and "leadership team sets fair policies and procedures" (-6.4 percentage points). However, more employees provided positive ratings for "when (Company) does well, employees do well" (+5.1 percentage points).

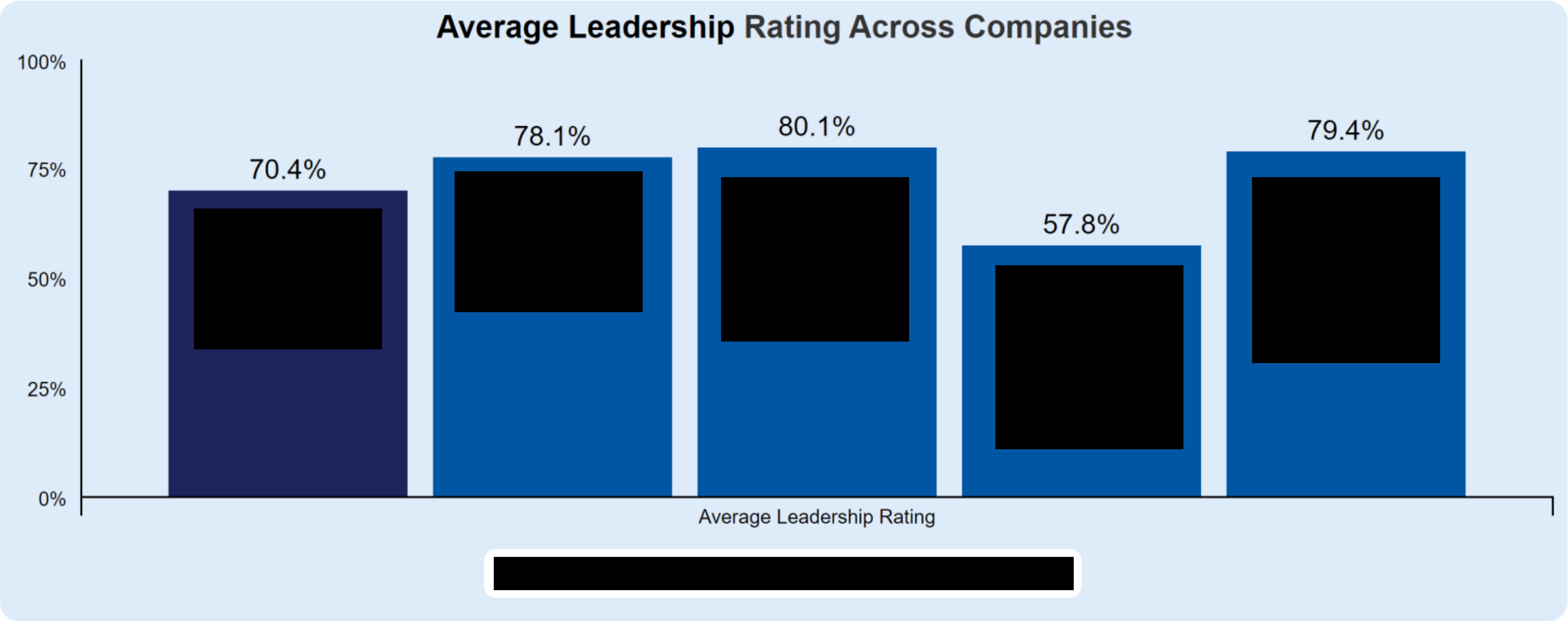
	July 2024	December 2024	June 2025
I trust the (Company) leadership	64.2	70.7 (+)	69.2
I have confidence in (Company)'s leadership's ability to lead	64.9	72.5 (+)	68.5
Leadership creates an atmosphere of mutual trust and respect	66.9	70.9	69.1
Leadership team treats everyone in a fair and honest manner	67.9	76.6 (+)	69.8 (-)
(Company) is living up to its mission	68.9	78.3 (+)	75.0
When (Company) does well, employees do well	64.5	65.2	70.3
Leadership team sets fair policies and procedures	67.7	77.3 (+)	70.9 (-)

n=600 (2025 MY), n=542 (2024 YE), n=700 (2024 MY)
[local_leadership]: Now, please think specifically about the (Company)'s local leadership team in place during 2025. The local leadership team is defined as leaders that support the state operations. Please review the following statements and use a scale of one to ten where one means you strongly disagree and ten means you strongly agree.
(+/-) indicates statistical significance at a 95% confidence level compared to the previous iteration of the survey; Aggregate of ratings 7-10 shown, w/o "don't know" responses

Perceptions of Leadership

[redacted]

[redacted] and [redacted] surpassed the [redacted] average positive rating for leadership, all hovering around 80.0%. [redacted] achieved the highest average positive score, followed by [redacted]. [redacted] underperformed compared to [redacted] receiving fewer than 60.0% positive ratings, on average.



n=600 [redacted], n=207 [redacted], n=64 [redacted], n=241 [redacted], n=88 [redacted]
[local_leadership]: Now, please think specifically about the (Company)'s local leadership team in place during 2025. The local leadership team is defined as leaders that support the state operations. Please review the following statements and use a scale of one to ten where one means you strongly disagree and ten means you strongly agree.
Aggregate of ratings 7-10 shown, w/o "don't know" responses

[redacted]

71

Harnessing the Power of Data

...to help clients achieve organizational goals.

Data supporting strategic decisions to improve products and services. Since 1979, our experience with study and instrument design, data collection, analysis, and formal presentation assists our clients in identifying the "why" and "what's next."

Talent with a knowledge base in a wide range of industries and methodologies ensures a 360º view of the challenges faced and the expertise to address them.

Solutions that are customized to provide a personalized approach to understanding organizational, employee, and customer needs, allowing for more informed decisions.

Methodologies:

- Digital Surveys
- Focus Groups
- In-Depth Interviews

Studies:

- Awareness and Perception Studies
- Customer and Employee Satisfaction Studies
- Journey Mapping
- Creative and New Concept Testing

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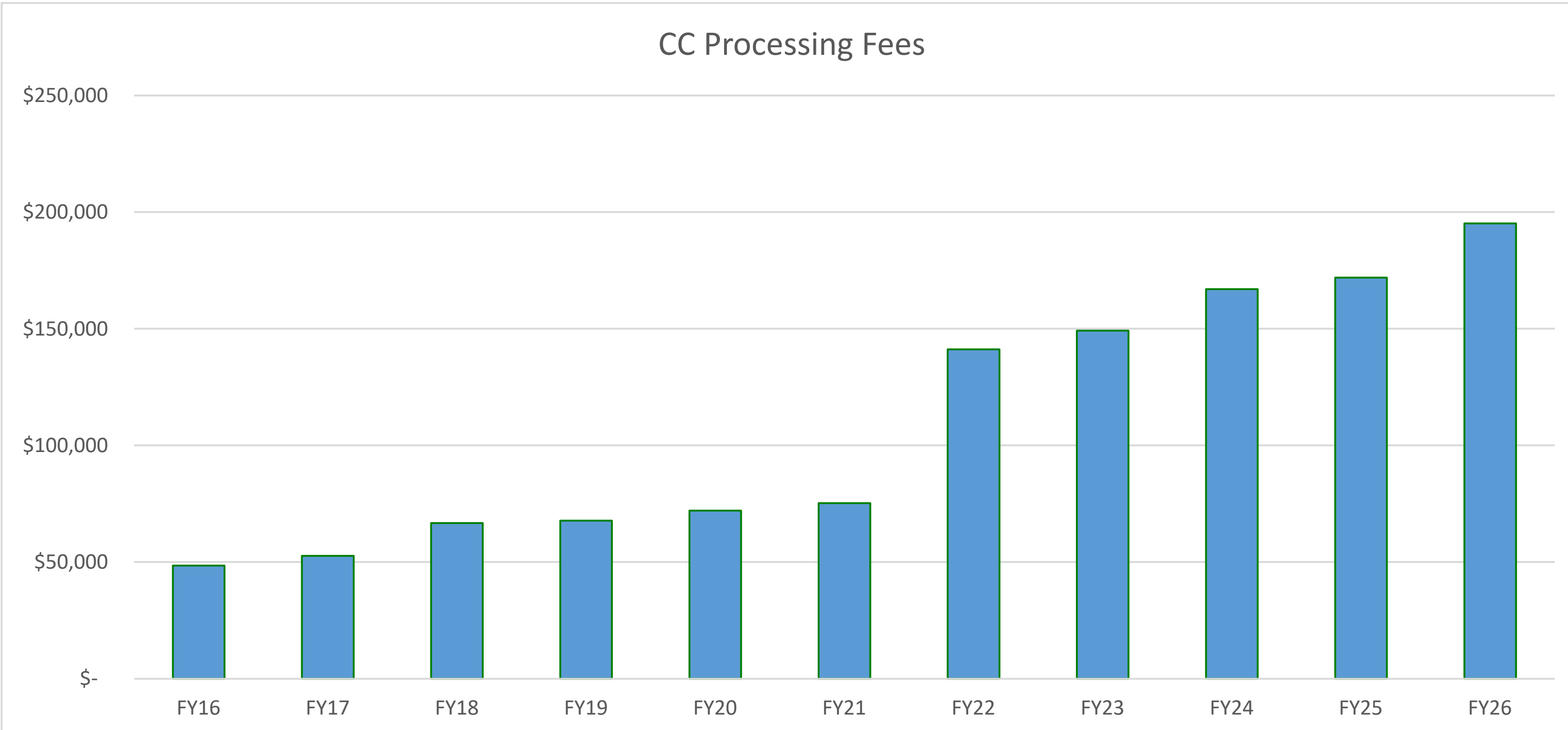
CC Processing Fees
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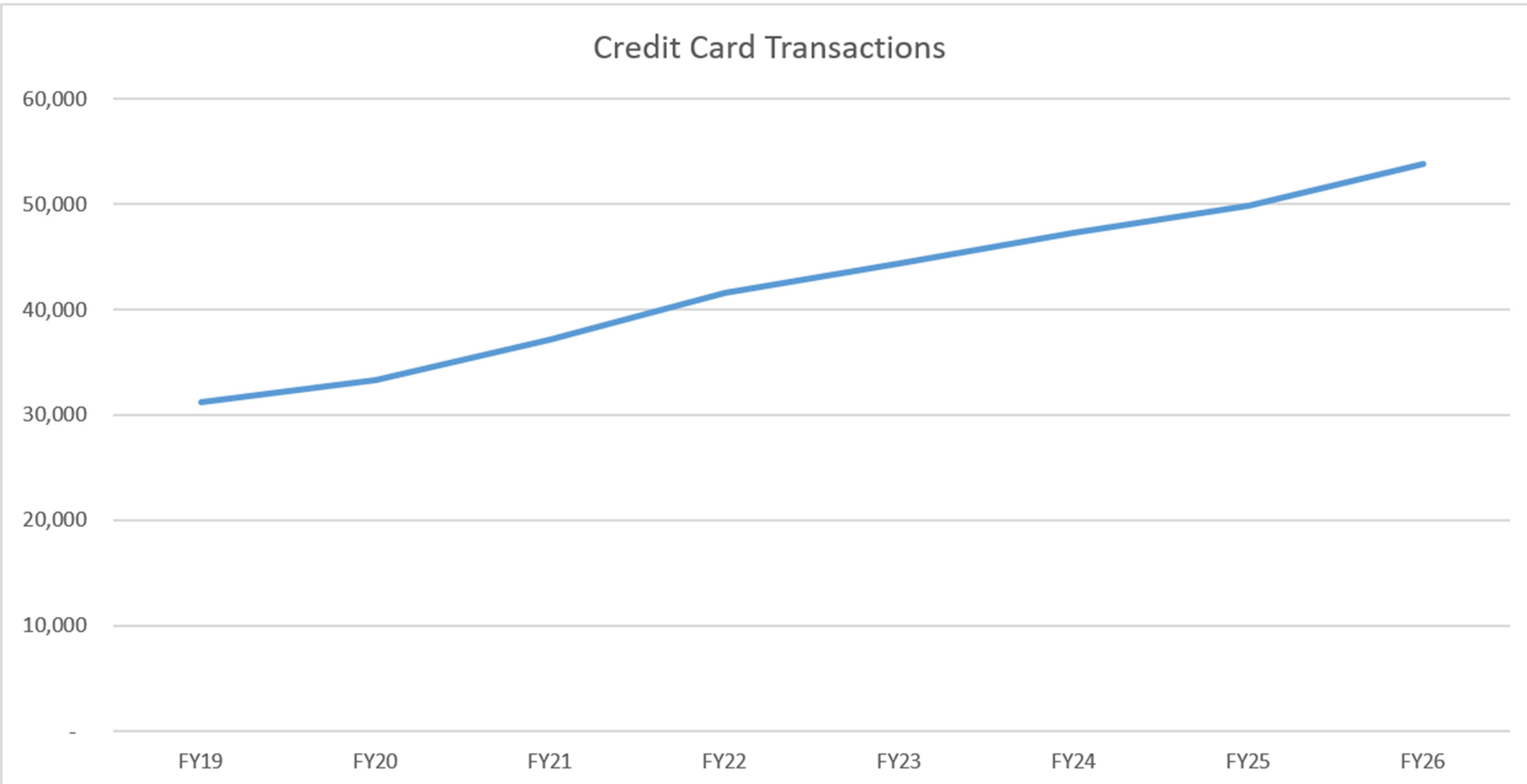
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20,000
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FY22
FY23
FY24
FY25
FY26

H5175 vs. S3166 - An Act relative to energy affordability, clean power and economic competitiveness

Provisions in both bills; these provisions are the same or similar in both bills:

Offshore wind & solar procurement targets. Both direct DOER to run a competitive "clean energy solicitation" process and require resource solicitation plans that include procurements totaling not less than ~10 GW of offshore wind and approximately 10 GW of solar, both by December 31, 2040. The Senate language includes a price adjustment mechanism that is not found in the House bill. Both bills change the deadline for OSW procurements but using different language.

Central Procurement Fund. Both create a non-budgeted special revenue fund to finance long-term clean energy contracts, funded by distribution-company tariff revenue, appropriations, interest, and bid fees.

Offshore wind pre-development & acceleration program. Both authorize state co-investment in pre-development activities (permitting, site assessment, engineering) for offshore wind projects, with a cost-recovery-on-commercial-operation mechanism.

Statewide solar incentive program. Both direct DOER to design an adjustable-block or competitive-procurement-style solar incentive program with nearly identical design criteria. This language mostly moves the existing SMART program from various session laws into MA General Law; as such, it does not create a new program.

Storage Incentive Program. Both bills permit DOER to develop an incentive program for distribution-connected storage.

Supply Rate Net Metering: Both bills introduce supply rate net metering credit for new projects. Both bills include a safe harbor provision for front of the meter projects but the dates differ: Senate safe harbors project that filed an ISA application on or before May 13, 2025, the House bill safe harbors projects with a filed ISA on or before November 1, 2025.

Smart solar permitting platform. Both require DOER/the department to build a state online permitting platform for residential solar and allows for municipalities use an equivalent local alternative.

Grid Modernization. Both bills include changes to the existing ESMP statute to require the utilities to include load management and VPP plans as mandatory parts of ESMP filings; both bills also require supplemental filings reflecting new requirements.

Distribution/transmission "asset entitlement" leasing. Both let distribution (and, in H5175, gas) companies lease up to a 49.9% investment interest in specific assets to non-utility (often nonprofit) counterparties in exchange for financing, with near-identical ratepayer-protection and charitable-contribution requirements.

Low- and moderate-income discount rates. Both mandate non-bypassable fixed-charge funding for low/moderate-income discounts, presumptive enrollment via public-benefits data matching, and periodic re-verification.

Flexible interconnection & government/critical-facility microgrids. Both create statutory frameworks for curtailment-based flexible interconnection tariffs and for microgrids serving critical facilities, with similar ratepayer protections.

Municipal opt-out of residential retail suppliers. Both let a city or town vote to bar new/renewed residential generation-service contracts with competitive suppliers (with municipal-aggregation carve-outs), enforceable by the Attorney General.

On-bill "inclusive utility investment" financing. Both bills include the creation of an optional tariff to finance energy projects on bills.

Portfolio standard / large clean transmission siting ("Section 69X"). Both create a near-identical consolidated permitting pathway for large transmission reconductoring/rebuild projects over $25 million, triggered at the siting division director's discretion.

Confidentiality of customer energy-usage data. Both exempt customer decarbonization/energy-audit data from public-records disclosure, with similar lists of permitted recipients.

Alternative Portfolio Standard Phase-Out. Both bills phase out the APS with no applications after January 1, 2028.

Small Hydropower Net Metering: Both bills shift the 2MW cap for small hydroelectric facilities from being measured at the facility level to the turbine/generator unit level clearing up existing ambiguity in statute. This allows each turbine to qualify on its own up to 2MW. Also adds "demonstrated operational capacity" as a way to measure the cap.

<u>Differences between the bill:</u>

Solar, Home Energy Devices, Grid Modernization

- H5175 only: Detailed consumer-protection rules for solar salespeople: licensing, ID badges, limits on sales hours, required disclosure forms, a 5-day cooling-off period. Instead of writing solar-salesperson protections directly into law, S3166 creates a study group to recommend rules by 2028.
- H5175 only: A vehicle-to-grid framework letting EV owners sell power back to the grid.
- H5175 only: Raises net-metering project cap for municipal/government projects from 10MW to 20MW; S3166 eliminates the 10MW per-facility cape entirely.
- S3166 only: Expands net-metering caps for multi-family housing near transit.
- S3166 only: Separate rules for plug-in home batteries, a lower auto-approval threshold for portable solar, and protections voiding HOA bans on these devices.

- S3166 requires consolidation of ESMPs, base rates, reconciliation charges by July 2028.
-

Energy Efficiency Programs

- H5175 only: A one-time $1 billion cut to planned efficiency-program (Mass Save) spending in the 2025-2027 three-year plan. Also includes an Inspector General-led audit of the programs.
- S3166 only: The Senate takes a different approach entirely and rewrites the current Mass Save plans to emphasize the focus on decarbonization. S3166 includes near-total ban on funding new fossil-fuel equipment, plus spending caps on administrative costs and requirements for spending on low income. S3166 also includes a temporary board reviewing efficiency-program finances (sunsets in 2030).

RPS

- S3166 rewrites the Class I RPS schedule to require the following:
    - + 3%/year through Dec. 31, 2026
    - +1%/year 2027-2030;
    - +3%/year 2031-2033;
    - + 2%/year through 2034-2036;
    - + 1%/year every year after that
- *Schedule currently is as follows:*
    - *+3% through 2029*
    - *+1% every year after*

Financing

- H5175 only: Writes the on-bill energy-upgrade financing program permanently into state law (S3166 runs the same program, just as a one-time directive rather than permanent law).
- H5175 only: Lets private financing partners help pay for gas thermal-network infrastructure, not just the electric grid.
- H5175: Bars utilities from requiring upfront cash for interconnection costs — they must accept a surety bond or letter of credit instead. S3166 doesn't lock this in; it just orders DPU to open an investigation into the idea.
- S3166 only: A new bond-financing tool (securitization) letting utilities spread big costs over time and recover them through customer bills — this is where the bulk of the Senate bill's ratepayer savings comes from.
- S3166 only: A standing process for clean-energy contract bidders to request price changes if costs shift unexpectedly; the House bill doesn't include this mechanism.

Data Centers & Grid Spending

- H5175 only: Requires new data centers to buy 80% renewable power and get their own utility rate. S3166 creates new requirements on data centers but does so through changing the requirements in the tax incentive program.

Gas System

- S3166 only: Phases out ratepayer funding for replacing old, leaky gas pipes by 2030. (GSEP)
- S3166 only: Creates state safety oversight for large geothermal/thermal systems run by non-utility operators.
- S3166 only: Requires the state to forecast gas demand and plan supply years ahead.
- S3166 only: Creates a formal process to coordinate gas and electric planning together.

Ratepayer Protection & Utility Accountability

- H5175 only: A task force comparing Massachusetts electric rates to other states.
- H5175 only: Requires utilities to return at least 70% of certain compliance payments to ratepayers when the fund collects more money than expected and energy costs are a burden.
- S3166 only: Studies on utility profit margins are too high, and on how to smooth out large month-to-month bill swings.
- S3166 only: A study of how utilities buy power for customers who don't pick a competitive supplier.
- S3166 only: Regular public reports comparing Massachusetts rates to five neighboring states.

Other:

- H5175 repeals the law requiring a statewide referendum for new nuclear; S3166 does not include this.

MMWEC Legislative/Regulatory Update

Look to this newsletter for the latest on legislative and regulatory activities that have potential impacts on municipal light plants. While we will aim to issue this newsletter once per month, rest assured that any urgent or especially timely matters will continue to be communicated as needed

Legislative Activity

On July 1, the Massachusetts Senate passed its energy affordability legislation, S.3143, by a 32-8 vote following a full day of floor debate. Senators considered 183 filed amendments, with only a limited number ultimately adopted.

The Senate bill is intended to reduce long-term energy costs through changes to utility financing, basic service procurement, Gas System Enhancement Program reforms, Mass Save oversight, utility planning, and consumer protection provisions. Senate leadership estimates the bill could produce more than $14 billion in ratepayer savings over the next decade.

From MMWEC’s perspective, one of the most significant developments was what did not happen. Amendment #9, which proposed sweeping changes to MMWEC’s governance and operations, was rejected during Senate debate. MMWEC, its Members, and our lobbyists at Ventry Associates worked closely throughout the amendment process to oppose the amendment. The proposal would have:

- Changed the composition of the MMWEC Board of Directors;
- Created a new and more burdensome standard of Department of Public Utilities review for MMWEC projects; and
- Eliminated longstanding trade secret protections for confidential MMWEC data and proprietary information.

MMWEC engaged extensively with Senate leadership, members of the Joint Committee on Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy, and other key stakeholders to communicate the operational, legal, and financial concerns raised by the amendment. Several Members also reached out directly to their senators to urge opposition. We appreciate those efforts.

As a result, the amendment was not adopted, preserving MMWEC’s existing governance structure, regulatory framework, and protections for confidential business information.

Other MLP-related amendments were also part of the Senate debate. Amendments related to mutual aid and municipal light plant emergency mutual aid were withdrawn by their sponsors. MMWEC worked with MEAM on these amendments and drafted redlines for the data reporting amendment. We are hopeful these issues can re-emerge during the conference committee process.

There are several additional MLP-related provisions to monitor as the bill moves forward. The Senate bill includes language allowing the DPU, in certain communities served by both an MLP and a non-MLP gas distribution company, to designate the MLP to administer building decarbonization and energy efficiency programs. It also requires MLPs to file annual building decarbonization and energy efficiency plans and includes quarterly building energy data reporting requirements, with confidentiality protections for customer-specific information.

The Senate bill also includes language affecting public-instrumentality group purchasing programs, including PowerOptions-related provisions. In addition, the Senate adopted an MLP-specific biomass amendment that would remove woody biomass as an eligible fuel under the greenhouse gas emissions standard for municipal light plants. MMWEC will continue reviewing the potential implications of these provisions.

Both the House and Senate have now passed energy affordability legislation, but the two bills differ substantially on several major policy issues, including Mass Save reforms, GSEP changes, utility planning and infrastructure investments, energy procurement reforms, and consumer protection provisions.

The House bill includes provisions supported by MMWEC relative to MLP mutual aid and the North Central MLP feasibility analysis.

The next step is for House and Senate leadership to appoint a conference committee to negotiate a compromise bill. Once appointed, conferees will work to reconcile the differences between the two versions before sending a final bill back to both branches for approval and then to Governor Healey.

MMWEC will remain actively engaged throughout the conference committee process, with a focus on preserving MMWEC's governance and regulatory framework, protecting confidential business information, advancing MLP mutual aid and data reporting priorities, and monitoring provisions that could affect MLP decarbonization planning, energy efficiency administration, procurement, and compliance obligations.

We will provide further updates as conferees are appointed and negotiations progress.

While most of the bills we began tracking at the beginning of this session have been sent to study, there remains about a dozen and a half pieces of legislation that remain active:

- H.3566 - An Act Relative to Surety Bonds

To protect telecom MLPs from excessive utility costs

- S.2270 - An Act Maximizing & Optimizing Small-scaled Assets

Establishes a DER mandate for solar and energy storage

- S. 2249 - An Act Relative to the Tactical Transition to Affordable, Clean Thermal Energy
- H.3466 - An Act Relative to Electric Payer Provisions

· *Prohibits new contracts for energy brokers*

- S.2330 - An Act reducing the financial penalty imposed on customers who shift to heat pumps, electric appliances, and EVs

Adjusts certain fees levied by utilities on behalf of the DPU

- S.2339 - An Act prohibiting the use of ratepayer funds for utility lobbying, promotions or perks
- S.2780 - An Act Facilitating Distributed Energy Resources in the Commonwealth

Eliminates 10 MW cap on net metering in municipalities

- S.2185 - An Act Relative to Responsibly Reducing Emissions in the Transportation Sector

Mandate for heavy-medium duty trucks to be electric

- H.3576 - An Act Relative to a Just Transition to Clean Energy

Introduces a clean fuel standard

- S.2242 -An Act relative to the purchase of zero-emission vehicles in green communities

Requires communities to purchase zero-emission EVs

- H.3513 - An Act to Ensure Notice to Abutter Communities of Applications to the Department of Public Utilities

Abutting notices requirements for permitted DPU projects

- S.2294 - An Act Relative to Building Energy and Decarbonization

Includes measures to reduce GHG emissions

- S.2231 An Act to Establish Home Energy Efficiency Ratings

Municipal opt-in energy efficienct rating program

- S.2285 - An Act to Establish Standards for the Pole Attachment Process to Facilitate the Construction of Broadband Networks
- H.5175 - An Act relative to energy affordability, clean power and economic competitiveness

Overhauls net metering and interconnection

- H.3179 An Act Relative to Clarifying Property Tax Exemptions for Solar and Wind Systems

The full tracking report can be viewed by clicking the link below.

Legislative Tracking Report

Regulatory Developments

Nuclear and Fusion Energy Roadmap
UMass Lowell's RIST Institute continued its development of an Advanced Nuclear and Fusion Roadmap with a discussion series. The roadmap is intended to define a realistic, fact-based role for advanced nuclear technologies in Massachusetts' long-term clean energy strategy. The discussion series continues to Build on the extensive stakeholder engagement conducted over the past several months by UMass Lowell and its partners.

MMWEC has participated in these discussions and emphasized the role public power can play in delivering reliable, affordable, and carbon-free electricity using MMWEC's not-for-profit financing and long-term planning. One more session is scheduled for July 15th at UMass Lowell on Safety, Spent Fuel, Public Trust and Community Engagement. MMWEC will be in attendance.

GOVERNMENT RELATIONS · BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT · PUBLIC RELATIONS

MMWEC Legislative Tracking Report

2025 – 2026 Legislative Session

*Bill Histories as of 6/30/2025

MLP Specific

SB2295 (SD1493) - An Act reforming the Massachusetts Municipal Wholesale Electric Company board of directors

Sponsor

Sen. Joan B. Lovely (D)

Refile

SB2146 (SD1671) - An Act reforming the Massachusetts Municipal Wholesale Electric Company board of directorsHB3806 (HD3410) - An Act reforming the Massachusetts Municipal Wholesale Electric Company board of directors

Summary

Changes the membership of the Massachusetts Municipal Wholesale Electric Company board of directors; requires the Board to consider include considerations of safety, security, reliability of service, affordability, equity, greenhouse gas emissions reductions, the project's compliance under Massachusetts statewide greenhouse gas emissions limits.

Last Action

06/05/2025 H - Hearing Held - 06/12/2025, 1:00 PM - Committee Hearing (Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy), State House, A-2 and Virtual

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HB3514 (HD1702) - An Act relative to the Massachusetts Municipal Wholesale Electric Company Board of Directors

Sponsor

Rep. Sally Kerans (D)

Refile

SB2146 (SD1671) - An Act reforming the Massachusetts Municipal Wholesale Electric Company board of directorsHB3806 (HD3410) - An Act reforming the Massachusetts Municipal Wholesale Electric Company board of directors

Summary

Changes the membership of the Massachusetts Municipal Wholesale Electric Company board of directors; requires the Board to consider include considerations of safety, security, reliability of service, affordability, equity, greenhouse gas emissions reductions, the project's compliance under Massachusetts statewide greenhouse gas emissions limits.

Last Action

06/05/2025 H - Hearing Held - 06/12/2025, 1:00 PM - Committee Hearing (Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy), State House, A-2 and Virtual

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HB3486 (HD552) - An Act relative to municipal light plant emergency mutual aid

Sponsor

Rep. Kimberly Ferguson (R)

Cosponsors

Rep. Kelly Pease (R), Rep. Hannah Kane (R), Rep. Bradley H. Jones, Jr. (R), Rep. Patricia Duffy (D), Sen. Peter J. Durant (R), Rep. Joan Meschino (D), Rep. Adam Scanlon (D), Rep. Adrianne Ramos (D), Rep. Jonathan D. Zlotnik (D)

Refile

SB2131 (SD74) - An Act relative to municipal light plant emergency mutual aidHB3699 (HD390) - An Act relative to municipal light plant emergency mutual aid

Summary

Amends GL 164:133 relative to emergency mutual in the manufacture and sale of gas and electricity by adding provisions that establish that any municipal lighting plant providing emergency mutual aid may sell, rent, or lease equipment, fixtures, and goods of any description related to the provision of emergency mutual aid. Employee of a municipal lighting plant providing emergency mutual aid are to be covered by the provisions of GL Chapter 32 relative to state pensions.

Last Action

06/05/2025 H - Hearing Held - 06/12/2025, 1:00 PM - Committee Hearing (Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy), State House, A-2 and Virtual

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HB3330 (HD553) - An Act relative to municipal light plants

Sponsor

Rep. Kimberly Ferguson (R)

Cosponsors

Rep. Kelly Pease (R), Rep. Hannah Kane (R), Rep. Bradley H. Jones, Jr. (R), Rep. Patricia Duffy (D), Sen. Peter J. Durant (R), Rep. Joan Meschino (D), Rep. Adam Scanlon (D), Rep. Adrianne Ramos (D), Rep. Jonathan D. Zlotnik (D)

Refile

HB3142 (HD1371) - An Act relative to municipal light plants

Summary

Authorizes a municipal light board to provide services and assistance to any municipal or state utility, tribal utility, or other publicly-owned or operated utility in the construction, installation, alteration, operation, maintenance or repair of utility poles and conduit, wires, cables, and equipment, and streetlights and traffic signals; allows municipal light boards to sell, rent, or lease equipment, fixtures, and goods related to such services; additionally entitles employees of municipal lighting plants providing such services public employee retirement benefit protections to the same extent as if they were performing duties within the scope of their employment; subjects and entitles employees providing emergency aid to rights and obligations under any existing laws while providing emergency aid.

Last Action

01/10/2025 H - Filed in the House	
02/27/2025 H - Referred to Joint Committee on State Administration and Regulatory Oversight	
02/27/2025 S - Senate concurred	

SB2158 (SD973) - An Act relative to municipal light plants

Sponsor

Sen. John F. Keenan (D)

Cosponsors

Sen. Robyn Kennedy (D)

Refile

SB2139 (SD906) - An Act relative to municipal light plants

Summary

Adds a new Section 19½ to GL Chapter 25 (Department of Public Utilities) to require costs associated with energy efficiency programs established by municipal lighting plants to be funded from amounts generated by cap and trade pollution control programs, including those established under the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative Memorandum of Understanding; directs such amounts to be allocated based on the percentage of each plant's electricity sales relative to the statewide total of such sales; requires not less than 80% of such allocated amounts be used for implementation of energy efficiency programs; requires programs funded by these additional amounts to be administered by each plan through either the Massachusetts Municipal Wholesale Electric Company or Energy New England LLC.

Last Action

01/15/2025 S - Filed in the Senate	
02/27/2025 S - Referred to Joint Committee on State Administration and Regulatory Oversight	

02/27/2025 H - House concurred

SB2277 (SD2332) - An Act relative to municipal light plants

Sponsor

Sen. Paul Feeney (D)

Cosponsors

Rep. Hannah Kane (R), Sen. John Velis (D), Sen. Adam Gomez (D), Sen. Peter J. Durant (R), Rep. Adam Scanlon (D)

Summary

This bill proposes amendments to the General Laws that pertain to municipal light plants and their operational frameworks. It specifically updates Section 4A of Chapter 40 to incorporate municipal light plants into existing municipal committee structures, enhancing their administrative and operational alignment. Additionally, the bill revises Section 47B of Chapter 164, broadening the authority of municipal light boards to offer services beyond their traditional regions. Under these provisions, municipal light boards can now collaborate with a variety of public utilities, including those at the municipal, state, and tribal levels, as well as other publicly-owned utilities both within and outside Massachusetts. The boards are empowered to undertake infrastructure tasks, such as the construction and maintenance of utility poles, conduits, and traffic signals, and to engage in the sale or lease of equipment. Importantly, the bill ensures that employees involved in these expanded services retain their rights and benefits as outlined in Chapter 32, ensuring consistency in their employment conditions.

Last Action

06/05/2025 H - Hearing Held - 06/12/2025, 1:00 PM - Committee Hearing (Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy), State House, A-2 and Virtual

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HB3457 (HD1292) - An Act relative to municipal light plants

Sponsor

Rep. Michael Chaisson (R)

Cosponsors

Rep. Hannah Kane (R), Sen. Peter J. Durant (R), Rep. Jonathan D. Zlotnik (D)

Refile

HB3142 (HD1371) - An Act relative to municipal light plants

Summary

Authorizes a municipal light board to provide services and assistance to any municipal or state utility, tribal utility, or other publicly-owned or operated utility in the construction, installation, alteration, operation, maintenance or repair of utility poles and conduit, wires, cables, and equipment, and streetlights and traffic signals; allows municipal light boards to sell, rent, or lease equipment, fixtures, and goods related to such services; additionally entitles employees of municipal lighting plants providing such services public employee retirement benefit protections to the same extent as if they were performing duties within the scope of their employment; subjects and entitles employees providing emergency aid to rights and obligations under any existing laws while providing emergency aid.

Last Action

06/05/2025 H - Hearing Held - 06/12/2025, 1:00 PM - Committee Hearing (Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy), State House, A-2 and Virtual

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HB3515 (HD927) - An Act to enhance municipal choice and provide affordable electricity options

Sponsor

Rep. Michael Kushmerek (D)

Cosponsors

Rep. Margaret Scarsdale (D)

Refile

HB3184 (HD2625) - An Act to enhance municipal choice and provide affordable electricity optionsSB2111 (SD1752) - An Act to enhance municipal choice and provide affordable electricity options

Summary

Amends various provisions related to the operation of municipal lighting plants; limits exemptions granted to municipal lighting plants from mandatory consumer charges of 2.5 mills per kilowatt-hour to fund energy efficiency programs to consumer of plants established before December 31, 2022; mandates the transfer of all rights and obligations of a distribution company purchased by a municipality or cooperative to the purchasing entity; amends provisions related to the department of public utilities resolution of disputes between a town which votes to establish a municipal lighting plant and the entity selling the property for such plant; requires the department to investigate the feasibility of the municipality's acquisition of the plant, as well as determinations of property to be included in the transaction; directs the department to establish a formula to determine the value of property included in such transactions; regulates terms of the conveyance, as well a subsequent municipal obligations; requires municipal lighting plants formed after December 31, 2022 to submit plans to allow retail customers competitive choices for generation supply; authorizes the department rules and regulations to establish service quality standards for municipal light plants formed after December 31, 2022.

Last Action

06/05/2025 H - Hearing Held - 06/12/2025, 1:00 PM - Committee Hearing (Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy), State House, A-2 and Virtual

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SB2257 (SD938) - An Act to enhance municipal choice and provide affordable electricity options

Sponsor

Sen. John Cronin (D)

Refile

HB3184 (HD2625) - An Act to enhance municipal choice and provide affordable electricity optionsSB2111 (SD1752) - An Act to enhance municipal choice and provide affordable electricity options

Summary

Amends various provisions related to the operation of municipal lighting plants; limits exemptions granted to municipal lighting plants from mandatory consumer charges of 2.5 mills per kilowatt-hour to fund energy efficiency programs to consumer of plants established before December 31, 2022; mandates the transfer of all rights and obligations of a distribution company purchased by a municipality or cooperative to the purchasing entity; amends provisions related to the department of public utilities resolution of disputes between a town which votes to establish a municipal lighting plant and the entity selling the property for such plant; requires the department to investigate the feasibility of the municipality's acquisition of the plant, as well as determinations of property to be included in the transaction; directs the department to establish a formula to determine the value of property included in such transactions; regulates terms of the conveyance, as well a subsequent municipal obligations; requires municipal lighting plants formed after December 31, 2022 to submit plans to allow retail customers competitive choices for generation supply; authorizes the department rules and regulations to establish service quality standards for municipal light plants formed after December 31, 2022.

Last Action

06/05/2025 H - Hearing Held - 06/12/2025, 1:00 PM - Committee Hearing (Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy), State House, A-2 and Virtual

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HB3566 (HD2768) - An Act relative to surety bonds

Sponsor

Rep. Aaron Saunders (D)

Cosponsors

Sen. Joanne Comerford (D), Rep. Natalie Blais (D)

Summary

The bill proposes an amendment to Section 25A of chapter 166 of the General Laws concerning the regulation of utility pole attachments. The primary objective is to protect municipal light plants, which provide telecommunication services, from being subjected to excessive costs imposed by utility companies when attaching their equipment to utility poles. The amendment prohibits utility companies from charging municipal light plants any additional expenses that exceed the rates established by the relevant department. These prohibited costs include direct or indirect expenses, like requiring a surety bond. By implementing this amendment, the bill aims to alleviate undue financial pressures on municipal light plants, ensuring a more equitable and accessible process for deploying telecommunications infrastructure.

Last Action

01/16/2025 H - Filed in the House

02/27/2025 H - Referred to Joint Committee on Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy

02/27/2025 S - Senate concurred
04/30/2025 H - Hearing Held - 05/06/2025, 11:00 AM - Committee Hearing (Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy), State House, A-2 & Virtual

HB3544 (HD3448) - An Act relative to energy efficiency funds generated by municipal light plants

Sponsor

Rep. Alice Hanlon Peisch (D)

Summary

This bill focuses on managing and allocating funds derived from carbon dioxide and NOx allowance trading programs to enhance energy efficiency in Massachusetts. It stipulates that at least 80% of the revenues from these programs are allocated to fund electric energy efficiency projects. This funding is overseen and approved by the Department of Public Utilities and distributed to programs managed by Municipal Light Plant (MLP) Program Administrators. Additionally, the bill introduces a mandatory charge of 2.5 mills per kilowatt-hour for non-municipal lighting plant consumers to further support these energy initiatives. The administration of the energy efficiency programs is entrusted to electric distribution companies and municipal aggregators, provided they have certified energy plans that ensure cost-effective and comprehensive capture of energy efficiency opportunities. The bill outlines specific guidelines for MLP Program Administrators to secure funding, urging them to align with the Massachusetts energy savings goals. These administrators must submit annual reports detailing projected and actual expenditures and savings, ensuring their efforts are in synergy with other energy companies and municipal aggregators, thus contributing to statewide emissions reduction targets. Municipal lighting plants are allowed to opt out of these funding and program requirements if they choose. Financial transfers to MLP Program Administrators are regularly reviewed and adjusted based on actual and projected expenditures, with an exemption from other legal statutes except as specified in the bill.

Last Action

06/05/2025 H - Hearing Held - 06/12/2025, 1:00 PM - Committee Hearing (Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy), State House, A-2 and Virtual

HB3466 (HD3883) - An Act facilitating public ownership of public utilities

Sponsor

Rep. Mike Connolly (D)

Summary

The bill establishes a task force designed to explore and provide recommendations on the public ownership of natural gas and electricity sectors throughout Massachusetts. This task force will consist of representatives from pertinent legislative committees, labor unions, environmental organizations, and other key stakeholders. Its primary objective is to analyze various models for statewide, municipal, or cooperative public ownership, with an emphasis on transitioning to renewable energy and identifying suitable governance structures for these changes. Furthermore, the task force will assess the advantages and disadvantages of private versus public utilities, considering factors such as infrastructure costs, consumer savings, equitable rate structures, access to technology, and union involvement. In addition to evaluating public vs. private utility models, the task force will review the Commonwealth's potential role as a shareholder in private utility companies and how to facilitate transitions from current gas infrastructure to electric systems. The task force is expected to convene at least once per month and is required to submit a comprehensive report containing policy recommendations to the state legislature by January 1, 2027. The ultimate goal is to lay the groundwork for public ownership of gas and electric utilities by 2028. The legislation is set to take effect immediately upon passage.

Last Action

06/05/2025 H - Hearing Held - 06/12/2025, 1:00 PM - Committee Hearing (Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy), State House, A-2 and Virtual

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HB3521 (HD4155) - An Act maximizing and optimizing small-scale assets in communities

Sponsor

Rep. Jack Patrick Lewis (D)

Cosponsors

Rep. Carmine Gentile (D), Rep. Lindsay Sabadosa (D), Rep. James Arena-DeRosa (D), Rep. Marjorie Decker (D), Rep. Sean Reid (D), Rep. Erika Uyterhoeven (D)

Summary

This bill focuses on significantly advancing the deployment and integration of distributed energy resources (DERs) within the state. It establishes a mandate for DERs, such as solar photovoltaic systems and energy storage, to provide at least 20% of the state's total electric load by December 31, 2035. The bill tasks the Secretary of Energy with collaborating across departments to create a comprehensive plan that includes setting interim targets, identifying deployment barriers, and ensuring equitable access to these resources. It also authorizes the Secretary to consider more aggressive goals or faster implementation schedules. In addition, the bill proposes the creation of a virtual power plant (VPP) program to be managed by electric companies. This initiative aims to coordinate the operation of customer-sited DERs for providing grid services such as peak load management. The VPP program must permit participation from third-party aggregators and individual customers while offering compensation and incentives, particularly for low-to-moderate income groups and those in environmental justice populations. Notably, the bill restricts electric companies from owning resources within the program or acting as aggregators themselves. The Department of Public Utilities will oversee the review of VPP proposals, set procurement targets, and ensure that ratepayer benefits are maximized. Municipal light plants have the opportunity to voluntarily join the program through established processes. Additionally, the bill outlines the development of performance-based incentives and penalties to enhance the interconnection of DERs, alongside a framework for periodic monitoring and review to ensure ongoing improvement and accountability in these efforts.

Last Action

01/17/2025 H - Filed in the House

02/27/2025 H - Referred to Joint Committee on Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy

02/27/2025 S - Senate concurred

Ratepayers

HB4144 (HD4707) - An Act relative to energy affordability, independence and innovation

Sponsor

Governor Maura Healey (D)

Cosponsors

No cosponsors.

Refile

No refiled bills.

Summary

This bill introduces comprehensive reforms aimed at transforming the energy system and infrastructure of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. The focus is on building decarbonization, enhancing energy efficiency, and investing in clean energy. Key measures include establishing mandatory charges to fund these initiatives and creating frameworks to recover costs through mechanisms like rate reduction bonds. The bill requires periodic goal-setting for reducing greenhouse gas emissions and adopts a centralized approach to financing and incentivizing clean energy projects and decarbonization efforts. Electric and gas companies are mandated to develop annual and triennial plans for building decarbonization, electrification, and energy efficiency. These plans focus on reducing fossil fuel usage, increasing system reliability, and maintaining affordability, especially for underserved communities. Furthermore, gas and electric distribution companies must establish transparent mechanisms to track progress towards climate goals and uphold customer protection standards. The bill also outlines regulations for solar incentive programs, strategies for connecting new electric customers, and grid modernization efforts. A significant aspect is its focus on low-income and moderate-income residents, ensuring that financial frameworks are inclusive and offer discounts while engaging these communities in energy transitions.

Last Action

06/16/2025 H - Hearing Held - 06/25/2025, 1:00 PM - Committee Hearing (Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy), State House, A-2 and Virtual

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HB3556 (HD2253) - An Act relative to current and future electric rates

Sponsor

Rep. Jeffrey N. Roy (D)

Cosponsors

Rep. Danielle W. Gregoire (D), Rep. Paul McMurtry (D), Rep. Mark Sylvia (D), Rep. Steven Xiarhos (R)

Summary

The proposed bill establishes a Task Force dedicated to analyzing electric rates in Massachusetts, offering guidance to the state legislature, the Joint Committee on Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy, and the state's administration regarding current and anticipated electricity costs. Chaired by the Attorney General, this Task Force will encompass key stakeholders, including the Secretary of Energy and Environmental Affairs, the Commissioner of the Department of Energy Resources, representatives from investor-owned electric utilities, and ISO New England, among others. To ensure transparency and public involvement, the Task Force will conduct public meetings to gather input. The Task Force is mandated to meet within 30 days following the bill's enactment and produce a detailed report. This report will identify cost components of electric bills for both residential and commercial customers, presenting revenue data by utility and customer category, along with the current and projected costs. It will also review historical and future rate increases, comparing Massachusetts' rate components with those in other New England and competitor states. Furthermore, the report will delineate the origin, purpose, and connection of each cost component to the state's greenhouse gas reduction objectives. Following a period designated for public commentary, the finalized report will be submitted to key government officials within a specific timeline to inform future policy and regulatory decisions.

Last Action

01/15/2025 H - Filed in the House

02/27/2025 H - Referred to Joint Committee on Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy

02/27/2025 S - Senate concurred

05/28/2025 H - Hearing Held - 06/04/2025, 1:00 PM - Committee Hearing (Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy), State House, A-2 and Virtual

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HB3534 (HD2530) - An Act relative to electric ratepayer protections

Sponsor

Rep. Frank A. Moran (D)

Cosponsors

Sen. James B. Eldridge (D), Rep. Carmine Gentile (D), Rep. Carlos Gonzalez (D), Rep. Kevin G. Honan (D)

Refile

SB2106 (SD648) - An Act relative to electric ratepayer protectionsHB3196 (HD3214) - An Act relative to electric ratepayer protectionsSB2738 - An Act relative to electric ratepayer protections

Summary

Adds a new Section 1L to GL Chapter 164 to prohibit, beginning on January 1, 2020, any supplier, energy marketer, or energy broker from executing a new contract for generation services with any individual residential retail customer; exempts a government body that aggregates the load of residential retail customers as part of a municipal aggregation plan from this prohibition; provides that any violation of this provision shall be deemed an unfair and deceptive act pursuant to the provisions of GL Chapter 93A, and the Attorney General is hereby authorized to bring an action to enforce this provision and to obtain restitution, civil penalties, injunctive relief, and any other relief awarded pursuant to said chapter.

Last Action

01/16/2025 H - Filed in the House

02/27/2025 H - Referred to Joint Committee on Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy

02/27/2025 S - Senate concurred

05/28/2025 H - Hearing Held - 06/04/2025, 1:00 PM - Committee Hearing (Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy), State House, A-2 and Virtual

SB2255 (SD1545) - An Act relative to electric ratepayer protections

Sponsor

Sen. Brendan Crighton (D)

Summary

Adds a new Section 1L to GL Chapter 164 to prohibit, beginning on January 1, 2020, any supplier, energy marketer, or energy broker from executing a new contract for generation services with any individual residential retail customer; exempts a government body that aggregates the load of residential retail customers as part of a municipal aggregation plan from this prohibition; provides that any violation of this provision shall be deemed an unfair and deceptive act pursuant to the provisions of GL Chapter 93A, and the Attorney General is hereby authorized to bring an action to enforce this provision and to obtain restitution, civil penalties, injunctive relief, and any other relief awarded pursuant to said chapter.

Last Action

01/16/2025 S - Filed in the Senate

02/27/2025 S - Referred to Joint Committee on Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy

02/27/2025 H - House concurred

05/28/2025 H - Hearing Held - 06/04/2025, 1:00 PM - Committee Hearing (Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy), State House, A-2 and Virtual

HB3575 (HD2834) - An Act relative to the Mass Save program

Sponsor

Rep. Jeffrey Turco (D)

Summary

This bill amends Section 21 of chapter 25 of the General Laws to incorporate a point-of-sale rebate within the Mass Save program specifically for customers purchasing heat pumps for which they qualify. The purpose of this amendment is to integrate an immediate financial incentive at the time of purchase, thereby potentially enhancing energy efficiency and reducing the costs associated with heat pump installations for eligible customers.

Last Action

01/16/2025 H - Filed in the House

02/27/2025 H - Referred to Joint Committee on Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy

02/27/2025 S - Senate concurred

SB2230 (SD1533) - An Act reducing the financial penalty imposed on customers who shift to heat pumps, electric appliances, and electric vehicles

Sponsor

Sen. Michael Barrett (D)

Refile

SB2529 (SD2748) - An Act reducing the financial penalty imposed on customers who shift to heat pumps, electric appliances, and electric vehicles

Summary

Amends several sections of GL Chapters 25 and 164 to adjust the structure of certain fixed charges imposed by gas and electric companies on consumers, including fees that fund energy efficiency programs and the Massachusetts Renewable Energy Trust Fund, and recover costs associated with DPU assessments; requires that said fixed charges utilize a tiered structure that places a reduced burden on low-income ratepayers; additionally, requires that gas and electric company rates, prices, charges, or schedules be structured in such a way as to advance compliance with the Commonwealth's emission limits; and authorizes DPU to promulgate regulations implementing these provisions.

Last Action

01/16/2025 S - Filed in the Senate

02/27/2025 S - Referred to Joint Committee on Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy

02/27/2025 H - House concurred

05/28/2025 H - Hearing Held - 06/04/2025, 1:00 PM - Committee Hearing (Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy), State House, A-2 and Virtual

HB3400 (HD1883) - An Act prohibiting the use of ratepayer funds for utility lobbying, promotions, or perks

Sponsor

Rep. Steven Owens (D)

Summary

This bill introduces stringent regulations on the financial operations of gas and electric companies governed under Chapter 164, specifically focusing on prohibiting the recovery of certain costs from ratepayers. Notably, it bans the recovery of expenses related to promotional or political advertising, with specified exceptions for advertising that educates consumers on matters like energy conservation, safety, or service disruptions. The bill broadly defines prohibited advertising to include efforts aimed at boosting energy consumption or influencing public opinion on legislative or electoral issues.

Beyond advertising, the bill disallows the recovery of costs linked to various non-essential activities, such as memberships in certain associations, charitable donations, lobbying, political campaign contributions, regulatory litigation, and costs linked to representation in contested proceedings. To ensure compliance, companies must annually submit a detailed report by March 1, outlining their non-recoverable expenses from the prior year. This report should include payments to external services, detailed costs of prohibited activities, and employee salaries linked to these activities, alongside payments to third-party vendors. The preparation and submission of these reports are unrecoupable expenses.

Enforcement responsibility lies with the department and the Office of Ratepayer Advocacy, which are authorized to investigate company compliance with the bill's stipulations. Companies found to have improperly recovered such costs face penalties at least equal to the disputed amounts, including mandatory customer refunds, possibly with interest, and potential distribution of penalties as rebates to ratepayers or to enhance enforcement activities.

Last Action

01/15/2025 H - Filed in the House

02/27/2025 H - Referred to Joint Committee on State Administration and Regulatory Oversight

02/27/2025 S - Senate concurred

SB2239 (SD742) - An Act prohibiting the use of ratepayer funds for utility lobbying, promotions or perks

Sponsor

Sen. Cynthia Stone Creem (D)

Summary

The bill amends Chapter 164 of the general laws to prevent gas and electric companies regulated by the department from passing certain costs on to ratepayers through the rates they charge. Specifically, it disallows the recovery of costs related to promotional or political advertising, and other specified activities. These activities include memberships, charitable donations, lobbying, political contributions, institutional advertising, specific litigation activities, non-regulated services, certain tax penalties, and expenses related to travel and entertainment for company officers. For clarity, the bill defines what constitutes advertising, political advertising, and promotional advertising, while making exceptions for costs aimed at educating consumers about energy conservation, safety, service interruptions, and legal compliance.

Moreover, the bill prohibits the recovery of costs linked to participation in contested department proceedings, including legal fees and employee salaries. It mandates that gas and electric companies submit annual reports to the department, detailing expenses, the vendors used, and related employee salaries, to ensure adherence to these rules. The department and the office of ratepayer advocacy are tasked with monitoring compliance. Should a company incorrectly record an expense that should not be recoverable, the department can impose penalties and mandate the refund of such amounts to customers. These penalties may be distributed as rebates to ratepayers or used to enhance enforcement resources.

Last Action

01/14/2025 S - Filed in the Senate

02/27/2025 S - Referred to Joint Committee on Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy

02/27/2025 H - House concurred

05/28/2025 H - Hearing Held - 06/04/2025, 1:00 PM - Committee Hearing (Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy), State House, A-2 and Virtual

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Solar

HB3520 (HD4154) - An Act facilitating distributed energy resources in the commonwealth

Sponsor

Rep. Jack Patrick Lewis (D)

Cosponsors

Rep. Carmine Gentile (D), Rep. Dan Sena (D), Rep. Lindsay Sabadosa (D), Rep. William C. Galvin (D), Rep. James Arena-DeRosa (D), Rep. Marjorie Decker (D), Rep. Sean Reid (D), Rep. Erika Uyterhoeven (D)

Summary

The proposed bill seeks to overhaul and modernize the permitting process for residential solar photovoltaic systems in Massachusetts by developing a "Smart Residential Solar Permitting Platform." This platform aims to automate the review and approval process, allowing for electronic submission of applications and online payment of fees, with an implementation deadline of July 1, 2027. Municipalities with populations over 5,000 are required to process at least 75% of solar applications on existing structures using this platform, minimizing manual reviews. Compliance and annual performance reports detailing platform use and adoption plans must be submitted to the Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources. To further promote solar adoption, the bill offers a 15% tax credit, up to $7,500, for renewable energy expenditures, with additional benefits for low- to moderate-income taxpayers and communities identified as environmental justice populations. Additionally, a mandate requires solar canopies on parking lots 16,000 square feet or larger, built or significantly renovated from January 1, 2028, with potential exemptions for affordable housing projects or areas with low solar potential. The bill also encourages the development of energy microgrids and streamlines the interconnection of small renewable systems by updating tariffs, simplifying applications, and eliminating specific fees. Sales tax exemptions are extended to equipment related to solar and other renewable energy systems, broadening the incentive scope for energy solutions within Massachusetts. The allowance for remote inspections through video or photo submissions is another key feature, accommodating projects approved through the new permitting platform.

Last Action

01/17/2025 H - Filed in the House

02/27/2025 H - Referred to Joint Committee on Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy

02/27/2025 S - Senate concurred

SB2269 (SD2488) - An Act facilitating distributed energy resources in the commonwealth

Sponsor

Sen. James B. Eldridge (D)

Cosponsors

Sen. Jason M. Lewis (D), Sen. Sal N. DiDomenico (D), Sen. Liz Miranda (D)

Summary

This bill focuses on streamlining the permitting process for residential solar photovoltaic systems in Massachusetts by introducing the "Smart Residential Solar Permitting Platform." This platform automates permit reviews and approvals, facilitating electronic submissions and payments. Municipalities with populations over 5,000 are mandated to adopt the platform by July 1, 2027, aiming to manage at least 75% of solar applications electronically and eliminate certain manual review processes to minimize delays. It also allows for remote inspections via recorded videos or photos and places limits on inspection demands for platform-approved projects.Furthermore, the bill revises tax credits for renewable energy installations in residences to offer a 15% credit on net expenditures, capped at $7,500. It includes provisions allowing low to moderate income taxpayers, or those in environmental justice areas, to treat excess credits as tax overpayments. The bill also mandates solar canopy installations for new or substantially renovated parking lots over 16,000 square feet, with exemptions possible for projects like affordable housing. Additionally, the bill promotes the development of municipal energy microgrids and revises interconnection standards for small-scale energy projects, including simpler procedures for systems under 25 kW. It also establishes sales tax exemptions for certain renewable energy equipment. Finally, the bill modifies net metering policies to remove specific restrictions for non-municipal or non-governmental facilities.

Last Action

01/17/2025 S - Filed in the Senate

02/27/2025 S - Referred to Joint Committee on Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy

02/27/2025 H - House concurred

Vehicles/Transportation

SB2326 (SD2131) - An Act to update vehicle emissions standards

Sponsor

Sen. John Velis (D)

Cosponsors

Sen. Adam Gomez (D), Sen. Michael O. Moore (D)

Summary

This bill proposes an exemption from California's emissions standards specifically for vehicles utilized in the maintenance and repair of essential public and utility infrastructures—covering sectors like electricity, water, gas, telecommunications, and sewage systems. The primary aim of this exemption is to prevent any disruption to these critical services that emissions regulations might cause. The bill is designed to take effect immediately upon passage, thereby allowing for swift implementation once it is approved.

Last Action

01/17/2025 S - Filed in the Senate
02/27/2025 S - Referred to Joint Committee on Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy
02/27/2025 H - House concurred
05/07/2025 H - Hearing Held - 05/14/2025, 1:00 PM - Committee Hearing (Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy), State House, A-2 & Virtual

HB3570 (HD3825) - An Act to update vehicle emissions standards

Sponsor

Rep. Aaron Saunders (D)

Cosponsors

Sen. John Velis (D)

Summary

This bill proposes an exemption from the adoption of California emissions standards for specific vehicles in Massachusetts. The exemption applies to vehicles used for the maintenance or repair of public and utility infrastructure. This includes sectors such as electricity, water, gas, telecommunications, and sewage systems. The purpose of the exemption is likely to ensure that these essential service vehicles can continue operations without the constraints of complying with California emissions standards. The bill is designed to take effect immediately upon passage, indicating an urgent need for this regulatory adjustment.

Last Action

01/17/2025 H - Filed in the House
02/27/2025 H - Referred to Joint Committee on Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy
02/27/2025 S - Senate concurred
05/07/2025 H - Hearing Held - 05/14/2025, 1:00 PM - Committee Hearing (Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy), State House, A-2 & Virtual

HB3406 (HD811) - An Act relative to responsibly reducing emissions in the transportation sector

Sponsor

Rep. Angelo J. Puppolo, Jr. (D)

Cosponsors

Rep. Steven S. Howitt (R), Rep. Christopher M. Markey (D), Rep. Jim Hawkins (D), Rep. James Arena-DeRosa (D), Rep. Patrick Kearney (D), Rep. Justin Thurber (R), Rep. Rodney Elliott (D), Rep. John Marsi (R), Rep. Todd M. Smola (R), Rep. Kimberly Ferguson (R), Sen. Ryan Fattman (R), Rep. Carmine Gentile

(D), Rep. Brian Murray (D), Rep. Bradley H. Jones, Jr. (R), Rep. John Gaskey (R), Rep. Jonathan D. Zlotnik (D), Rep. Joseph McKenna (R), Rep. Aaron Saunders (D), Rep. Michael Kushmerek (D)

Summary

This bill requires that, beginning July 1, 2025, all newly acquired medium- and heavy-duty trucks by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts must be zero-emission vehicles, particularly battery electric vehicles. The bill further stipulates that by June 30, 2035, the entire fleet of these vehicles must be zero-emission. In cases where suitable battery electric options are unavailable or incompatible with the existing infrastructure, the Secretary has the authority to explore alternative options but must report any decisions to opt for alternatives to the legislature. An annual report is mandated to include a detailed inventory of the fleet, indicating the type of propulsion systems used, such as internal combustion, hybrid, or electric, along with justifications for any deviations from the zero-emission requirement.Moreover, the bill delays the enforcement of Advanced Clean Trucks and Heavy-Duty Omnibus regulations by the Department of Environmental Protection until July 1, 2027. These regulations, which are modeled after California's Low Emission Vehicle program, demand a progressively increasing percentage of zero-emission vehicles and impose nitrogen oxide emissions standards for medium- and heavy-duty trucks. The act will be effective immediately once it is passed.

Last Action

01/13/2025 H - Filed in the House

02/27/2025 H - Referred to Joint Committee on State Administration and Regulatory Oversight

02/27/2025 S - Senate concurred

SB2185 (SD137) - An Act relative to responsibly reducing emissions in the transportation sector

Sponsor

Sen. Michael O. Moore (D)

Cosponsors

Sen. Michael D. Brady (D), Rep. Jim Hawkins (D), Rep. Angelo J. Puppolo, Jr. (D), Rep. Steven S. Howitt (R), Rep. John Marsi (R), Rep. Todd M. Smola (R), Sen. Ryan Fattman (R), Rep. Brian Murray (D), Rep. Steven Xiarhos (R), Rep. Bradley H. Jones, Jr. (R), Rep. Jonathan D. Zlotnik (D), Rep. Joseph McKenna (R), Sen. Dylan Fernandes (D)

Summary

The bill establishes a mandate for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, requiring that all new medium- and heavy-duty trucks purchased or leased starting July 1, 2025, be zero emissions vehicles, specifically battery electric trucks. It further mandates that by June 30, 2035, the entire fleet of such trucks owned or leased by the Commonwealth must transition to zero emissions vehicles. In cases where battery electric trucks are unavailable or inadequate due to existing charging infrastructure limitations, alternatives may be procured at the discretion of the secretary. The bill also includes a reporting requirement, obligating the secretary to submit an annual report by July 1 to the Senate and House clerks and the transportation committee chairs. This report must include updates on progress, a complete list of trucks by agency, their propulsion type, and justifications for any non-zero emission vehicle selections. Additionally, the bill prohibits the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection from implementing or enforcing the Advanced Clean Trucks and the Heavy-Duty Omnibus regulations before July 1, 2027. These regulations, part of California initiatives, enforce manufacturer targets for zero emissions vehicle sales and set nitrogen oxide emission standards for medium- and heavy-duty vehicles.

Last Action

01/08/2025 S - Filed in the Senate	
02/27/2025 S - Referred to Joint Committee on State Administration and Regulatory Oversight	
02/27/2025 H - House concurred	

HB3357 (HD1893) - An Act relative to responsibly reducing emissions in the transportation sector

Sponsor

Rep. Steven S. Howitt (R)

Cosponsors

Rep. Joseph McKenna (R), Rep. Ken Sweezey (R), Rep. Bradley H. Jones, Jr. (R), Rep. Paul K. Frost (R), Rep. John Marsi (R), Rep. Christopher M. Markey (D), Rep. Hannah Kane (R), Rep. Angelo J. Puppolo, Jr. (D), Rep. Rodney Elliott (D), Rep. Steven Ouellette (D), Rep. Todd M. Smola (R), Rep. Kimberly Ferguson (R), Rep. Brian Murray (D), Rep. Steven Xiarhos (R), Sen. Ryan Fattman (R), Rep. John Gaskey (R), Rep. Patrick Kearney (D), Rep. James Arena-DeRosa (D), Rep. Jonathan D. Zlotnik (D)

Summary

This bill mandates that beginning July 1, 2025, the Commonwealth must ensure all new purchases or leases of medium- and heavy-duty trucks are zero-emission vehicles, specifically battery electric trucks. It aims to have the entire fleet, owned or leased, transition to zero-emission vehicles by June 30, 2035. If suitable battery electric trucks are unavailable or charging infrastructure is insufficient, the bill permits discretion to purchase alternative types. The bill requires an annual progress report, including detailed fleet inventories and specifications, to be submitted to the legislature. If zero-emission vehicles are not acquired, justifications must be included in these reports. Additionally, the bill postpones the implementation of the Advanced Clean Trucks and Heavy-Duty Omnibus regulations, modeled after the California Low Emission Vehicle program, until July 1, 2027. These regulations include mandates for manufacturers to increase their sales of zero-emission medium- and heavy-duty vehicles and establish nitrogen oxide emission standards. The bill is set to be enacted immediately upon passage.

Last Action

01/15/2025 H - Filed in the House	
02/27/2025 H - Referred to Joint Committee on State Administration and Regulatory Oversight	
02/27/2025 S - Senate concurred	

HB3522 (HD2311) - An Act to establish a clean fuel standard

Sponsor
Rep. David Paul Linsky (D)

Summary

This bill seeks to establish a clean fuel standard in Massachusetts aimed at reducing the carbon intensity of transportation fuels by 80% from 1990 levels by the year 2050. The standard, to be overseen by the

Department of Energy Resources, involves creating and trading credits to offset carbon deficits and supports the development of clean energy and transportation projects, particularly in disadvantaged communities. Key components of the bill include an annual schedule for reducing carbon intensity, taking into account compliance costs, available technologies, and fuel quality. Carbon intensity will be assessed based on the lifecycle greenhouse gas emissions of fuels. Fuel providers must either meet the required carbon intensity standard or purchase credits for any shortfall. Public entities involved in credit generation are required to allocate a portion of their credit value to projects benefiting disadvantaged communities, with input from community stakeholders to define goals and criteria. The bill exempts fuels used in aviation, railroad locomotives, military vehicles, and interstate waterborne vessels where federal regulation overrides state laws, although providers of these clean fuels can voluntarily participate in credit generation. The Department of Energy Resources is responsible for developing the necessary regulations and administrative frameworks to ensure compliance and effectively manage the credit marketplace associated with the clean fuel standard.

Last Action

05/07/2025 H - Hearing Held - 05/14/2025, 1:00 PM - Committee Hearing (Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy), State House, A-2 & Virtual

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HB3535 (HD3944) - An Act relative to the sale of zero-emission vehicles

Sponsor

Rep. David Muradian (R)

Cosponsors

Rep. Bradley H. Jones, Jr. (R), Rep. Joseph McKenna (R)

Summary

This bill is designed to regulate and implement zero-emission vehicle (ZEV) requirements in Massachusetts. It assigns the responsibility to the Department of Environmental Protection to conduct an annual review of each vehicle manufacturer's adherence to the Advanced Clean Cars II Rule. This includes evaluating the sales ratio of zero-emission vehicles compared to internal combustion engine vehicles over the preceding five years. Should the majority of vehicles sold fail to meet annual ZEV targets, or if there is insufficient charging infrastructure to support these sales levels, the department may defer the implementation of ZEV requirements. Additionally, the bill sets a timeline for Massachusetts to transition all new medium- and heavy-duty trucks purchased or leased by the Commonwealth to zero-emission vehicles starting on July 1, 2025, aiming for a fully zero-emission fleet by June 30, 2035. Exceptions are provided where zero-emission vehicles do not satisfy state needs or are unsupported by current infrastructure. The secretary is tasked with providing annual progress reports on these objectives, including a detailed inventory of state agency medium- and heavy-duty trucks. Moreover, the bill prohibits the Department of Environmental Protection from enforcing the Advanced Clean Trucks and Heavy-Duty Omnibus regulations, which involve California Air Resources Board standards for zero-emissions vehicle sales and nitrogen oxide emissions for medium- and heavy-duty vehicles, before July 1, 2027. This act is set to take effect immediately upon its passage.

Last Action

01/17/2025 H - Filed in the House

02/27/2025 H - Referred to Joint Committee on Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy

02/27/2025 S - Senate concurred

05/07/2025 H - Hearing Held - 05/14/2025, 1:00 PM - Committee Hearing (Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy), State House, A-2 & Virtual

SB2242 (SD758) - An Act relative to the purchase of zero-emission vehicles in green communities

Sponsor

Sen. Cynthia Stone Creem (D)

Refile

SB2098 (SD596) - An Act relative to the purchase of zero-emission vehicles in Green Communities

Summary

Amends provisions relative to the Division of Green Communities within Division of Energy Resources by adding to the requirement that cities and town purchase only fuel-efficient vehicles for municipal use whenever such vehicles are commercially available and practicable, to require that in the first instance cities and towns purchase only zero-emission vehicles. If those are not available or not practicable, fuel-efficient vehicles may continue to be purchased.

Last Action

01/14/2025 S - Filed in the Senate

02/27/2025 S - Referred to Joint Committee on Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy

02/27/2025 H - House concurred

05/07/2025 H - Hearing Held - 05/14/2025, 1:00 PM - Committee Hearing (Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy), State House, A-2 & Virtual

Environmental Justice/Public Participation

HB3513 (HD1380) - An Act to ensure notice to abutter communities of applications to the department of public utilities

Sponsor

Rep. Sally Kerans (D)

Refile

HB3800 (HD2881) - An Act to ensure notice to abutter communities of applications to the Department of Public Utilities

Summary

Adds a new section to GL c.25 (Department of Public Utilities) that establishes that every applicant seeking a permit from the DPU for any project is to notify the host community and all abutting cities and towns of the proposed project application within 30 days of filing the application. Further DPU is to send, within 60 days of receipt of any application for a permit or approval of a proposed project, written notice to the mayor or town administrator or town manager, city council or select board and the state representatives and state senators of the host community and abutting cities and towns of the application for the proposed project. Any applicant for a permit or approval from the department is to appear as requested at a public hearing convened by the legislative body of a host community or abutting city or town to describe the proposed project. Failure to appear as requested is to be communicated by the legislative body requesting the hearing and is to be grounds for DPU to grant intervenor status to any entity that was previously excluded from the meeting.

Last Action

06/05/2025 H - Hearing Held - 06/12/2025, 1:00 PM - Committee Hearing (Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy), State House, A-2 and Virtual

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Energy Storage

SB2237 (SD1217) - An Act defining clean energy

Sponsor

Sen. Joanne Comerford (D)

Summary

This bill proposes changes to the Massachusetts General Laws concerning energy storage facilities. It eliminates sections 20 and 21 from chapter 239 of the 2024 acts. The legislation clarifies that the definitions of "Small clean energy storage facility" and "Large clean energy storage facility" are revised to expressly exclude pumped storage hydropower facilities. Moreover, it updates section 98 to exempt existing energy storage systems from certain unspecified provisions. Additionally, the bill modifies section 105 to remove references to nuclear power generation facilities within the ISO-NE control area that started commercial operations before January 1, 2011.

Last Action

01/15/2025 S - Filed in the Senate

02/27/2025 S - Referred to Joint Committee on Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy

02/27/2025 H - House concurred

Municipal/Miscellaneous

HB3581 (HD3415) - An Act supporting electrical load aggregation programs in the Commonwealth

Sponsor

Rep. Tommy Vitolo (D)

Summary

The bill in question seeks to enhance and regulate electrical load aggregation programs in Massachusetts, granting municipalities the authority to create electricity supply solutions tailored to local needs, emphasizing renewable energy and cost management. It features several key amendments to the General Laws: Municipal Empowerment: Municipalities are empowered to inform electricity consumers about automatic enrollment in local programs, highlighting their opt-out rights and providing transparent service rate information alongside accessible comparisons of available supply options. Data Management and Consumer Privacy: Electric distribution companies must furnish municipal aggregators with necessary consumer data for enrollment and program management, while ensuring individual data confidentiality, exempting it from public record definitions. Access to Advanced Metering: Municipal aggregators have access to advanced metering data for consumers eligible for automatic enrollment, contingent upon consumer consent and data protection measures. Billing Protocols: Adjustments to billing practices authorize non-utility suppliers to engage in a single bill option, facilitating energy-related charges based on supplier data. As advanced metering technology becomes more widespread, this billing method will accommodate municipal aggregators and larger businesses. The overarching goal of the bill is to improve electricity service delivery and development, providing municipalities with adaptable and flexible aggregation program capabilities, while safeguarding consumer data privacy.

Last Action

06/05/2025 H - Hearing Held - 06/12/2025, 1:00 PM - Committee Hearing (Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy), State House, A-2 and Virtual

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SB2301 (SD2061) - An Act enabling municipal aggregation

Sponsor

Sen. Paul W. Mark (D)

Cosponsors

Sen. Joanne Comerford (D), Rep. Natalie Blais (D), Rep. Lindsay Sabadosa (D), Rep. Susannah M. Whipps (I), Rep. Mindy Domb (D)

Summary

This bill requires investor-owned utilities to establish a non-export interconnect permit tariff specifically for Municipal Aggregation customers, prohibiting the imposition of fees, studies, or delays for municipalities planning to develop renewable Distributed Energy Resources. Simultaneously, it stipulates that the Department of Public Utilities (DPU) must evaluate and decide on applications from certified Municipal Aggregation programs seeking funds from the Massachusetts Renewable Energy Trust Fund within a three-month period. If the DPU does not act within this timeframe, the application gains automatic approval. In cases of rejection, the DPU must clearly state reasons related to non-compliance with state policy, without imposing extra conditions on fund utilization or energy efficiency program design. Municipalities with approved petitions will receive a proportional share of energy efficiency funds within one year, ensuring their application towards energy efficiency and conservation initiatives.

Last Action

06/05/2025 H - Hearing Held - 06/12/2025, 1:00 PM - Committee Hearing (Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy), State House, A-2 and Virtual

SB2268 (SD2383) - An Act relative to alternative portfolio standards

Sponsor

Sen. James B. Eldridge (D)

Summary

The bill seeks to repeal Section 11F1/2 of Chapter 25A of the General Laws. This section likely pertains to energy regulations or renewable energy standards, but the specific implications of its repeal remain uncertain without further context or details about the content of the repealed section. As a result, the potential impact on existing energy policies or renewable energy mandates cannot be precisely determined at this time.

Last Action

01/17/2025 S - Filed in the Senate
02/27/2025 S - Referred to Joint Committee on Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy
02/27/2025 H - House concurred

Building Electrification/Efficiency

HB3529 (HD2154) - An Act relative to building energy and decarbonization

Sponsor

Rep. Joan Meschino (D)

Cosponsors

Rep. Sam Montaño (D), Rep. Manny Cruz (D), Rep. Marjorie Decker (D), Rep. Dan Sena (D), Sen. Joanne Comerford (D), Rep. Erika Uyterhoeven (D)

Summary

The bill introduces comprehensive measures to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in Massachusetts by establishing programs related to energy and emissions management. Key elements include amending section 10 of chapter 25A to set criteria for municipalities to qualify as "green plus communities." Requirements for this designation include submitting an application, creating a baseline inventory of greenhouse gas emissions, implementing an emissions reduction plan, and adopting specialized stretch energy codes. The bill mandates the development of an emissions-tracking system within one year to support these communities. Section 2 enhances funding for green communities with at least $10 million allocated specifically to green plus communities. Amendments to section 20 of chapter 25A introduce emissions regulations for large buildings, setting annual carbon intensity limits and performance standards that decrease over time. Adjustments can be made for on-site renewable energy, with

penalties for non-compliance directed to the building energy retrofit program trust fund. The bill establishes a Building Energy and Emissions Retrofit Funding Program aimed at financing energy retrofits and performance upgrades, especially in environmental justice communities and low-to-moderate-income housing. Funding may include federal and private grants, with section 22 creating a trust fund and requiring annual reporting. Additionally, section 23 creates a net zero energy building advisory council to oversee the implementation of net zero buildings, consisting of stakeholders from environmental justice communities, academia, and trade associations. The council is tasked with regular meetings, public hearings, and reporting its activities annually. Finally, section 8 repeals the current section 23 of Chapter 25A, effective January 1, 2030. The bill outlines regulatory frameworks and financial support to drive emissions reductions and promote sustainable building practices across Massachusetts.

Last Action

01/15/2025 H - Filed in the House

02/27/2025 H - Referred to Joint Committee on Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy

02/27/2025 S - Senate concurred

SB2294 (SD1188) - An Act relative to building energy and decarbonization

Sponsor

Sen. Jason M. Lewis (D)

Cosponsors

Rep. Manny Cruz (D), Sen. Joanne Comerford (D)

Summary

This Bill introduces comprehensive measures to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and enhance energy efficiency. Key components include the establishment of "green plus communities," requiring municipalities to develop plans to cut emissions by at least 20% within five years and adopt specialized energy codes. The legislation mandates the development of a tracking system for emissions across sectors, allowing for adaptations based on municipal specifics, and raises funding limits to support emissions reduction efforts. It also defines terms like "building emissions" and "building emissions intensity" for regulatory clarity. The bill proposes regulations for annual carbon intensity limits or energy performance standards for large buildings, allowing for variations based on building use and providing alternative compliance paths, such as on-site renewable energy usage. It introduces the Building Energy and Emissions Retrofit Funding Program, offering grants and loans for energy retrofits, prioritizing environmental justice communities and low-income housing, funded by a newly created trust fund. An advisory council on net zero energy buildings is established to oversee these initiatives. Additionally, the bill mandates multilingual outreach for energy efficiency programs and permits municipalities to adopt stricter reporting requirements than those set by the state.

Last Action

01/15/2025 S - Filed in the Senate

02/27/2025 S - Referred to Joint Committee on Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy

02/27/2025 H - House concurred

SB2231 (SD1549) - An Act to establish home energy efficiency ratings

Sponsor

Sen. Michael Barrett (D)

Cosponsors

Sen. James B. Eldridge (D)

Summary

This bill introduces a municipal opt-in energy performance rating program designed to improve the evaluation and transparency of energy efficiency in residential properties. Spearheaded by the Department of Energy Resources, it mandates comprehensive energy assessments and performance ratings for residential units, which must be disclosed to buyers, prospective buyers, lessees, or prospective lessees prior to the sale or lease. The bill establishes standardized protocols for these energy assessments and outlines the necessary qualifications for energy assessors to ensure uniformity in how energy efficiency is evaluated. To support implementation, the bill provides financial assistance through grants to municipalities and nonprofit organizations. These grants can be used to cover assessment and compliance costs and to assist in the development and training of energy assessors. Key definitions, such as "energy assessment," "energy assessor," and "energy performance rating," are included in the bill, alongside delineated responsibilities for utilities in the provision of these ratings, with the exception of municipal corporations. The bill specifies that the energy performance ratings should become operational within 18 to 30 months following the program's establishment. Additionally, public hearings are mandated for gathering input to customize the program for different communities, with consideration for variations based on building types. Participation in the program is voluntary for municipalities; however, those that choose to opt in must commit to complying with all established provisions and regulations.

Last Action

01/16/2025	S - Filed in the Senate
02/27/2025	S - Referred to Joint Committee on Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy
02/27/2025	H - House concurred

Clean Heat Standard

HB3555 (HD2072) - An Act relative to reporting on funds received from the Clean Energy Standard and future Clean Heat Standard program

Sponsor

Rep. Jeffrey N. Roy (D)

Summary

This bill requires the department to submit an annual report by August 15, detailing expenditures related to alternative compliance payments and transactions involving certificates or credits under current or future programs governed by Chapter 21N of the General Laws. The report must be provided to the governor, the joint committees on telecommunications, utilities, and energy, and the senate and house committees on ways and means. It is also required to include an analysis of cost impacts on ratepayers of electric distribution or gas companies and other regulated entities, with specific details on the approximate monthly bill impacts categorized by customer class or group. Furthermore, the report should elucidate how these expenditures contribute to meeting compliance limits and sublimits as outlined in sections 3 and 3A of Chapter 21N.

Last Action

01/15/2025 H - Filed in the House

02/27/2025 H - Referred to Joint Committee on Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy

02/27/2025 S - Senate concurred

Biomass

HB3548 (HD2066) - An Act limiting the eligibility of woody biomass as an alternative energy supply

Sponsor

Rep. Orlando Ramos (D)

Cosponsors

Rep. Lindsay Sabadosa (D)

Refile

SB2137 (SD2209) - An Act limiting the eligibility of woody biomass as an alternative energy supplyHB3211 (HD4003) - An Act limiting the eligibility of woody biomass as an alternative energy supply

Summary

Amends provisions of GL 25A:11F½ relative to the alternative renewable energy portfolio standard by adding provisions that establish that for intermediate or large generation units, no woody biomass fuel will be considered an alternative energy supply. Grandfathers in any biomass facility already qualified by the Department of Energy Resources as an alternative energy unit as of January 1, 2023.

Last Action

06/11/2025 H - Hearing Held - 06/18/2025, 1:00 PM - Committee Hearing (Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy), State House, A-2 and Virtual

SB2287 (SD1350) - An Act limiting the eligibility of woody biomass as an alternative energy supply

Sponsor

Sen. Adam Gomez (D)

Refile

SB2137 (SD2209) - An Act limiting the eligibility of woody biomass as an alternative energy supplyHB3211 (HD4003) - An Act limiting the eligibility of woody biomass as an alternative energy supply

Summary

Amends provisions of GL 25A:11F½ relative to the alternative renewable energy portfolio standard by adding provisions that establish that for intermediate or large generation units, no woody biomass fuel will be considered an alternative energy supply. Grandfathers in any biomass facility already qualified by the Department of Energy Resources as an alternative energy unit as of January 1, 2023.

Last Action

06/11/2025 H - Hearing Held - 06/18/2025, 1:00 PM - Committee Hearing (Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy), State House, A-2 and Virtual

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HB3549 (HD2076) - An Act to remove woody biomass from the greenhouse gas emissions standard for municipal lighting plants

Sponsor

Rep. Orlando Ramos (D)

Summary

This bill repeals sections 34 and 112 from Chapter 8 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2022 Official Edition, by removing woody biomass from the greenhouse gas emissions standard for MLPs.

Last Action

06/11/2025 H - Hearing Held - 06/18/2025, 1:00 PM - Committee Hearing (Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy), State House, A-2 and Virtual

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SB2288 (SD1351) - An Act to remove woody biomass from the greenhouse gas emissions standard for municipal lighting plants

Sponsor

Sen. Adam Gomez (D)

Summary

This bill repeals sections 34 and 112 from Chapter 8 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2022 Official Edition, by removing woody biomass from the greenhouse gas emissions standard for MLPs.

Last Action

02/27/2025 H - House concurred

Actions

06/11/2025 H - Hearing Held - 06/18/2025, 1:00 PM - Committee Hearing (Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy), State House, A-2 and Virtual

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Miscellaneous Renewable Energy

SB2542 (SD3002) - An Act to build resilience for Massachusetts communities

Sponsor

Governor Maura Healey (D)

Summary

This bill establishes funding for home weatherization and equipment upgrades to protect against extreme weather, establishing community resilience centers and providing cooling devices for vulnerable populations during heatwaves or storms, and enhancing municipal and regional capacity to coordinate local climate solutions. The bill also prioritizes climate-related workforce development by supporting training in green infrastructure, smart buildings, and nature-based solutions. To ensure equity, it includes anti-displacement protections for low- and middle-income residents who may face rising property values due to climate investments. In addition, it allocates resources to implement existing state and local climate plans, like Resilient Mass, and to foster innovation in climate adaptation. The legislation emphasizes equitable distribution of resources, particularly for environmental justice communities, while advancing both emissions reductions and resilience planning statewide..

Last Action

06/26/2025 S - Filed in the Senate

06/26/2025 S - Referred to Joint Committee on Environment & Natural Resources

06/26/2025 H - House concurred

06/30/2025 H - Hearing Scheduled - 07/15/2025, 1:00 PM - Committee Hearing (Environment & Natural Resources), State House, A-1 & Virtual

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HB3179 (HD3288) - An Act relative to clarifying property tax exemptions for solar and wind systems

Sponsor

Rep. Christopher M. Markey (D)

Refile

HB2885 (HD2675) - An Act relative to clarifying property tax exemptions for solar and wind systems

Summary

Rewrites the solar energy tax credit (as set forth in GL 59:5 ¶45th), first by requiring that the solar unit be capable of providing up to 125% of the electricity needs of the household in question, and second by requiring that solar or wind-powered systems are not to be exempt unless the owner has made payments to the municipality where the system is located in lieu of taxes in accordance with an executed agreement. Establishes the provisions under which a municipality may execute such an agreement; establishes that an exemption is to be for not more than 20 years from the date of installation; requires the house owner to make certain annual declarations under oath; and establishes certain exemptions.

Last Action

01/17/2025 H - Filed in the House

02/27/2025 H - Referred to Joint Committee on Revenue

02/27/2025 S - Senate concurred

HB3546 (HD822) - An Act to establish standards for the pole attachment process to facilitate the construction of broadband networks

Sponsor

Rep. Angelo J. Puppolo, Jr. (D)

Summary

Adds provisions to GL Chapter 166 (Telephone and Telegraph Companies, and Lines for the Transmission of Electricity) relative to “joint use” utility poles, which are those that are used together by a utility, cable licensee, or wireless provider. In particular, a pole owner may make available a list of contractors it authorizes to perform surveys and make-ready in the communications space on its utility poles in cases involving “one touch make-ready” work; if a requesting party hires a contractor, they may choose from the pole owner's list of authorized contractors, or request someone additional to be authorized under certain conditions; creates an application process for “one touch make-ready” work; establishes that the requesting party is responsible for all required surveys; and establishes requirements for a post-make-ready timeline.

Last Action

01/13/2025 H - Filed in the House

02/27/2025 H - Referred to Joint Committee on Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy

02/27/2025 S - Senate concurred

04/30/2025 H - Hearing Held - 05/06/2025, 11:00 AM - Committee Hearing (Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy), State House, A-2 & Virtual

ENERGY EFFICIENCY AT NEMT AND WHS

Both schools are being designed to achieve exceptional energy performance and qualify for an additional **2% Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA) reimbursement.**

Key Features Include:

- ✓ LEED-S Certified design standards
- ✓ More than 20% greater energy efficiency than Massachusetts baseline requirements
- ✓ Variable Refrigerant Flow (VRF) heat pump heating and cooling systems
- ✓ Energy-efficient LED lighting
- ✓ Enhanced insulation and high-performance building materials
- ✓ Advanced electric and water metering systems
- ✓ Full structural and electrical support for solar energy systems
- ✓ Electric vehicle charging infrastructure

BUILDING A MORE RESILIENT FUTURE

The WMGLD Energy Park represents a strategic investment in Wakefield's future by:

1. Supporting affordable electric rates for residents and businesses.
2. Advancing clean energy and sustainability goals.
3. Reducing construction costs for local schools.
4. Lowering long-term operating expenses.
5. Providing hands-on educational opportunities for students.
6. Expanding electric vehicle charging infrastructure.
7. Improving energy reliability and resiliency for critical community facilities.

Wakefield Municipal Gas & Light Department

Local Power. Local Control. Local Commitment.

Investing today in a cleaner, more reliable, and more affordable energy future for Wakefield.

WMGLD
Wakefield Municipal Gas and Light Department

ENERGY PARK

An Innovative, Modern Microgrid for Wakefield

Powering Wakefield's Future

The Wakefield Municipal Gas & Light Department (WMGLD) Energy Park is a forward-thinking energy project designed to support Wakefield residents, WMGLD ratepayers, local schools, and the environment. By combining renewable energy, battery storage, and reliable backup generation, the Energy Park will help ensure a resilient, sustainable, and cost-effective energy future for our community.

A SMARTER ENERGY SOLUTION FOR WAKEFIELD

The Energy Park will function as a **microgrid** interconnected with:

- Wakefield Municipal Gas & Light Department's electric system
- The new **Northeast Metro Tech (NEMT)**
- The new **Wakefield High School (WHS)**

Both Schools Will Feature:

✓ All-electric heating and cooling systems

✓ 300 kW roof-mounted solar arrays at each school

✓ Five electric vehicle charging stations at each school

(10 EV charging connections per school)

INSIDE THE ENERGY PARK

Located on **Hemlock Road**, the Energy Park will include:

Battery Energy Storage System (BESS)

- 5 MW / 22MWh battery storage unit
- Charged through energy generated by the schools' solar arrays

Clean Natural Gas Generation

- One high-efficiency natural gas generator
- Replaces two separate diesel generators previously required for the schools

Reliable Emergency Power

- The battery system, supported by solar and the generator, will provide emergency power to both schools
- Capable of serving as the primary power source during rare, extended outages

Peak Shaving Technology

- Battery and generator resources will help reduce demand during peak energy usage periods
- Supports WMGLD's efforts to manage rising energy costs and maintain affordable electric rates

BENEFITS OF THE ENERGY PARK FOR WAKEFIELD

Keeping Electric Rates Affordable

The combination of solar energy, battery storage, and efficient generation helps WMGLD reduce peak power costs and support the goal of maintaining low electric rates for all customers.

Supporting Sustainability Goals

The project promotes electrification, reduces carbon emissions, and supports Massachusetts' goal of achieving net-zero emissions by 2050.

Lower Construction Costs

By replacing two separate diesel generators with a centralized energy solution, the project is expected to save approximately $1.2 million per school in construction costs.

Reduced Operating Expenses

The solar installations will significantly reduce electricity costs for both schools through a partnership with WMGLD.

Educational Opportunities

Students at NEMT and WHS will have unique opportunities to learn about:

- Renewable energy
- Battery storage technology
- Energy management systems
- Electric vehicle infrastructure
- Sustainability and environmental stewardship

Electric Vehicle Infrastructure

Each school will receive:

- 5 EV charging stations
- 10 total charging connections

WMGLD Heat Pump Rate

WMGLD
Wakefield Municipal Gas and Light Department

The HP-Res is an optional rate offered to WMGLD residential electric customers that utilize heat pumps as a primary or secondary heating source. It includes a discount on the Electric Distribution Charge during the heating season (November-April).

The rate is broken out into two categories:

1. Heat Pump All-Electric – **HP-RES A** ($0.03 discount per kWh)

2. Heat Pump while keeping fossil fuel – **HP-RES B** ($0.015 discount per kWh)

If you are a gas customer and enroll in HP-RES B, you will be switched from the Gas Residential Heat Rate to the Gas Non-Heat rate, which includes an additional $0.20 per CCF cost on gas used throughout the year.

Customers can fill out the application at wmgld.com under the Seasonal Heat Pump Rate tab.

FAQs

1) If I keep my gas and I switch to the HP-RES B rate, will I save money?

- In general, the HP-Res B is designed for anyone who significantly heats with heat pumps to benefit in the wintertime. WMGLD.com has a calculator on the website where you can put in your own usage data to estimate how much you would have or could save. There will be scenarios for people who keep their gas and continue to use it as a primary source of heat, where it may not be worth it to be on the optional season heat pump rate. No matter the situation though, to save the most money on HP-Res B, we highly recommend limiting your gas usage, it not only saves you money, but it also helps the Department manage the gas system during peak gas usage periods.

2) How do I know if I am already enrolled in this rate?

- The top of your utility bill will show you the meter(s) associated with your account. Electric meters begin with E. On the line with your "E" meter if you look all the way to the right there is a column called "Rate", under this column it will show what rate(s) your meter is on. The rate for your "E" meter will be HPRESA or HPRESB if you are enrolled in one of the optional residential heat pump rates.

3) Can renters enroll in this rate?

- Yes, renters can participate in this rate. Your rental unit may be enrolled in this rate already, you can check by contacting WMGLD, or you can look at your utility bill to see.

4) If I enroll in this rate and find that I don't want to be anymore, can I unenroll?

- Yes, if you find that this rate is not for you, you can reach out to WMGLD, and we can change your rate back to the standard residential electric rate.

WMGLD Residential Solar Program

WMGLD
Wakefield Municipal Gas and Light Department

To support the advancement of renewable energy in Wakefield, WMGLD offers a residential solar program to help fund qualifying residential solar projects. Approved solar projects will receive one-time rebates of **up to $0.80 per watt** off the cost of an installed system. Prospective projects must follow the guidelines mentioned below to qualify. It is important to note that this program is funded on an annual basis and as such is on a first-come first-serve basis while funds last. Any work done prior to rebate approval is done at your own risk.

NOTE: Solar projects should not be started until fully approved.

Requirements

- Program is available to residential and commercial customers in good standing.
- System must be owned by the customer.
- System must be installed between 90° and 270°.
- System size is capped at 10kW DC for residential systems and 25 kW DC for commercial systems (Systems larger than this can be installed with permission from WMGLD but will not be eligible for any rebate funds).
- Shade reports must show annual access is at least 80%.

Shade Analysis Requirements

The following shade analysis will be accepted:

- Solmetric SunEye
- Solar Pathfinder
- Wiley ASSET Software
- Aurora software with LIDAR data available
- Bright Harvest
- Scanifly

How Will I Be Billed?

- Just as we do now, we will continue to read your meter, and you will receive electric bills on your normal billing schedule.
- Any excess energy generated by the consumer and sent back to the distribution system in a given billing cycle will appear as a Solar Energy Credit on your next bill.
- Under WMGLD's current solar rebate program, the Solar Energy Credit rate will be 85% of the Energy Charge rate. The Energy Charge rate is the rate at which the customer buys energy from WMGLD during the current billing cycle. The Solar Energy Credit rate is the rate at which the customer sells energy back to WMGLD.

What is Solar Net Metering?

- For customers who generate their own electricity using small-scale solar systems, Solar Net Metering measures the electricity you buy from WMGLD and the excess electricity you produce using your own generating equipment.
- Your electric meter keeps track of the amount of electricity delivered to your home from the electric grid and the electricity generated from your home into the electric grid.

WMGLD Residential Solar Program

Application Instructions

The rebate application process will follow the standard interconnection process.

1. Submit the following documents to WMGLD at solar@wmgld.com
   - One-line diagram stamped by a Massachusetts Professional Engineer
   - Panel and Inverter spec sheets
   - Proof of property ownership (i.e. deed or tax bill)
   - Copy of Contractor/Homeowner Agreement
   - Shade report for each roof plane or a consolidated report showing shading impact on each roof plane
2. WMGLD's Interconnection Application is reviewed and approved by WMGLD and sent back to the customer, typically within 10 business days of receipt of application and all required documents by WMGLD
3. WMGLD's Interconnection Application and Interconnection & Solar Net Metering Agreement, both signed by the customer and WMGLD, are sent by the customer to MMWEC as part of the rebate application process.
4. To start the rebate application process, the customer must go to the MMWEC website at https://nextzero.org/wakefield/solar-rebates/ and complete the MMWEC online application and submit the required forms.
5. After the installation is completed, the local Wiring Inspector must inspect and approve the installation; and sign the WMGLD Certificate of Completion. The customer must submit the Certificate of Completion to WMGLD.
6. Upon receipt of the Certificate of Completion, WMGLD will schedule an inspection, meter installations, and witness testing with the customer and their solar company.
7. WMGLD will issue to the customer a Permission to Operate Letter after successful inspection and testing. This grants the customer permission to interconnect with WMGLD's electric distribution system.
8. To finalize the rebate process, the customer must send the following documents to MMWEC (help@nextzero.org) for processing:
   - WMGLD Permission to Operate Letter
   - MMWEC Project Completion Form (provided in the Rebate Reservation Notification email)
   - Installation invoice
   - If applicable, Change Request form (provided in Rebate Reservation Notification email)
9. Upon receipt of all documents required by MMWEC, a rebate check will be issued to customer within 90 days by MMWEC on behalf of WMGLD

Wakefield Municipal Gas and Light Department

WMGLD Residential EV Charger Rebates & Incentives

EV Charger Curtailment Program

Receive up to $650 toward a qualifying Level-2 residential EV charger.

WMGLD's Charger Curtailment Program allows customers to receive a rebate for qualifying Level-2 Residential Electric Vehicle Chargers. In exchange for the rebate (up to $650), customers must sign a 3-year charging agreement that allows WMGLD to lower the output of the EV charger during peak electricity times during non-holiday weekdays.

It is important to note that receiving a rebate for the charger will prevent you from accessing the Electric Vehicle Meter Time-of-Use rate (and corresponding rebate) until the end of your 3-year charging agreement.

Program Requirements:

- Install a qualifying Level-2 ChargePoint Home Flex Charger (three options)
- Sign and submit the WMGLD Residential EV Charging Agreement
- Submit the EV Smart Charging Rebate Form
- Submit the Plug-in Hybrid Electric Vehicle (PHEV) Rebate Form

**Instructions for enrolling your charger and all required forms are available on the WMGLD website under EV Charger Programs.

Electric Vehicle Meter Time-of-Use (EVM-TOU) Program

WMGLD offers a residential rate structure for customers who install a separate meter for the sole purpose of EV charging, the Electric Vehicle Meter Time-of-Use Rate (EVM-TOU). Alongside the Time-of-Use rate is the ability for customer to apply for a rebate of up to $1,250 for work performed by a licensed electrician to prepare a residence for this separately metered charger.

Eligibility Requirements:

- Customer account must be in good standing
- Provide proof of EV ownership
- Provide proof of Level-2 charger installation
- Submit a paid invoice from a licensed electrician
- Complete and sign the EVM-TOU Rebate Acknowledgement Form
- Enroll in the EVM-TOU rate before applying for the rebate
- Submit EV Separate Meter Upgrade Rebate Form

It is important to note that customers looking to receive a rebate for residential charger through the Charger Curtailment Program cannot take advantage of the Time-of-Use rate or associated rebates. Customers that are already participating in the 3-year charging agreement either have to wait until the agreement has expired or pay the prorated cost of the charger based on how many months left in the charging agreement.

*Please review the EVM-TOU Guide available on the WMGLD website under EV Charger Programs before applying.

For applications, program guides, and enrollment information, visit WMGLD's EV Charger Programs page at wmgld.com.