

## **ISO New England Consumer Liaison Group**

### *Section 1 Name and Purpose*

#### **1.1 Name of group**

The group is named the ISO New England Consumer Liaison Group, or “CLG.”

#### **1.2 Purpose**

The purpose of the CLG is to create a convenient and meaningful forum for communication between ISO New England (“ISO-NE”) and end use consumers, whether they be residential, commercial, or industrial electricity users and ratepayers.

ISO-NE will benefit from direct communications with consumers and their representatives and develop a better understanding of consumer issues, needs and concerns relative to the electric system and its costs. In a similar manner, consumers and their representatives will gain a better understanding of ISO-NE’s issues.

ISO-NE is the regional transmission organization serving the six New England states as authorized by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission ("FERC"). It operates the region's bulk power transmission system, oversees the planning of that system, and operates the region's markets for wholesale electricity and related services. ISO-NE is not responsible for electric distribution-level system planning and charges, which are subject to the jurisdiction of each of the individual New England states.

FERC requires regional transmission organizations to maintain an active two-way connection between its decision makers and the electricity

consumers these organizations serve. The CLG is a vehicle through which ISO-NE maintains its connection with the region's electric consumers.

### **1.3 Purposes and Responsibilities**

The CLG shall serve as a forum for consumers to:

- Obtain information on developments that have taken place or will take place at meetings that affect reliability and prices, including ISO-NE committees or working groups, or meetings of the New England Power Pool (“NEPOOL”), ISO-NE’s stakeholder body;
- Solicit views and information from ISO-NE and other sectors, including utilities, generators, and transmission owners;
- Provide a means of communication to ensure that consumers and their advocates hear from and have access to ISO-NE’s senior management;
- Examine and inquire about quantitative and qualitative information about cost impacts of proposed initiatives in the region;
- Receive other information from ISO-NE, including through its Board, and;
- Raise issues for advocacy or exploration at a future CLG meeting to the Coordinating Committee (in which case the Coordinating Committee shall decide by majority vote how to proceed).

To advance these purposes, the Coordinating Committee of the CLG shall, promptly after each meeting, transmit to the Board of ISO-NE a summary of the views of CLG members expressed at the meeting, with a request that such views be duly reflected in the Board’s meeting summaries.

ISO-NE shall:

- Coordinate with the Coordinating Committee to facilitate meetings of the CLG;
- Maintain an e-mail list of CLG members and provide communications on matters relevant to the CLG’s work in coordination with the Coordinating Committee and work with the Coordinating Committee to evaluate and enhance communications to the CLG, as needed;
- Provide CLG members, on at least a monthly basis, a report of ISO-NE and NEPOOL activities, including developments that have taken place or are going to take place at NEPOOL meetings and ISO-NE working groups, especially those activities that will affect prices, and including

any new reports, studies and initiatives ISO-NE has published or promulgated;

- Solicit the views and information from consumers, consumer organizations, advocates, and ratepayers on regional matters and issues pending before ISO-NE for decision;
- Provide a means of communication to ensure that ISO-NE's senior management and Board are informed about and consider consumers' views on issues and matters of regional consequence that ISO-NE will be making decisions on;
- Provide quantitative and qualitative information in a timely manner on the impacts of the proposed initiatives in the region to consumers; and
- Provide this information in a manner designed to help consumers understand the NEPOOL process.

### Section 2 Membership

All consumer organizations, consumer advocates, and ratepayers and consumers of electricity in New England shall be eligible for membership in the CLG. CLG meetings shall be open to the public and attendance shall not be limited to CLG members. While anyone who attends can participate in the CLG meetings, the CLG is intended to serve the needs of interested consumers, their advocates, consumer organizations, and ratepayers in New England. All consumer organizations, advocates, and consumers of electricity in attendance, whether in person, telephonically, or via a virtual platform, shall be considered CLG members when attending a CLG meeting. For the avoidance of doubt, the terms "ratepayers and consumers of electricity" encompass any municipality that uses, and pays for, electricity in New England.

### Section 3 Meetings

CLG shall meet at least four times per year. Meetings shall be open to the public. The Coordinating Committee will be responsible for preparing meeting agendas with input from ISO-NE and CLG members. Meetings, agendas and materials associated with the meeting will be posted on the CLG-designated section of the ISO-NE website, [http://www.iso-ne.com/committees/comm\\_wkgrps/othr/clg/index.html](http://www.iso-ne.com/committees/comm_wkgrps/othr/clg/index.html).

## Section 4 Coordinating Committee Structure

### **4.1 Coordinating Committee**

The CLG shall be led by a Coordinating Committee (CLG CC) which shall consist of fourteen (14) members, with a minimum of two (2) members from each of the New England states. The CLG CC Chairperson may waive this minimum requirement of two (2) members from each New England state if the Chairperson determines that extenuating circumstances exist to justify such waiver. The CLG CC Chairperson may also waive the minimum requirement of one (1) member representing commercial and/or industrial ratepayers.

The Coordinating Committee will serve as a conduit for information between ISO-NE and the CLG working closely with ISO-NE's designated liaison person.

### **4.2 Coordinating Committee Representation**

The Coordinating Committee shall have at least one representative of residential ratepayers and one representative of commercial and/or industrial ratepayers. Each member of the Coordinating Committee must be either a ratepayer (or directly represent ratepayers), a member of a consumer organization, or a government consumer or government ratepayer advocate. Employees, directors, or agents of (1) an electric or gas utility serving consumers in New England or (2) ISO-NE shall not serve on the Coordinating Committee.

### **4.3 Coordinating Committee Nominations**

The CLG Coordinating Committee Chair or her or his designee shall explain, at the September meeting prior to an election, the nominations process. Following that September meeting, the CLG Coordinating Committee shall solicit nominations via email. Candidates shall have an opportunity to submit statements in support of their candidacy. Candidates shall indicate in their nomination communication the following information: the New England state

they will represent on the Coordinating Committee; whether they are a ratepayer (or directly represent ratepayers), a member of a consumer organization, or a government consumer or government ratepayer advocate; or a representative of commercial and/or industrial ratepayers. All candidates shall also include in the nomination communication the entity or organization they represent or are employed by, if applicable, or—for candidates representing commercial and/or industrial ratepayers—an indication of whether they have clients and/or customers who are classed as commercial and/or industrial on their electric bill. The Coordinating Committee shall send out the list of the nominated candidates with their statements to CLG voting members in advance of the election.

#### **4.4 Coordinating Committee Election**

Voting for Coordinating Committee members shall take place at the final CLG meeting in every even-numbered calendar year (“CLG CC Election Meeting”). Those elected shall serve for a term of two (2) years beginning on the first day of the new calendar year following the election, or until successors are selected. The Voting period shall coincide with the commencement of the CLG CC Election Meeting and conclude prior to the adjournment of the CLG CC Election Meeting. Voting members include any member as set forth in Section 2.1 who attends the CLG CC Election Meeting, either in-person or through the virtual platform provided by ISO New England, and voting shall occur both in-person and virtually. Voting members shall cast their votes for Coordinating Committee at large. The Chairperson of the CLG CC shall announce the results of the election at the close of the meeting at which the election is finalized.

To ensure that the composition requirements for the Coordinating Committee set forth in sections 4.1 and 4.2, above, are met, the following protocols will be applied. The nominees from each state receiving the highest and second highest vote totals among nominees from their respective state shall become the elected members of the Coordinating Committee. This will provide 12 of the 14 members of the Coordinating Committee. In the event that one of those elected in the foregoing process is a representative of commercial and/or industrial ratepayers, and one of those elected is a representative of residential ratepayers, the requirement that the Coordinating Committee include at least one such member for each group shall be considered to have been met. If no such representative of commercial and/or industrial ratepayers or residential ratepayers is included among the state representatives, the nominee that is a representative of commercial and/or industrial ratepayers or residential

ratepayers receiving the highest vote total among such candidates shall become an elected member of the Coordinating Committee. Any remaining unfilled seats shall be at-large. To fill such an at large seat and ensure a full membership of fourteen (14), the nominee or nominees receiving the highest vote totals among nominees not already selected through the processes described in the previous sentences shall become an elected at-large member or members of the Coordinating Committee.

#### **4.5 Coordinating Committee Chairperson and Vacancies**

At its first meeting of each year, the Coordinating Committee shall elect a Chairperson from its membership by majority vote of those present at the meeting. In the event of a vacancy in the Chairperson position, the Coordinating Committee shall likewise elect one of its members to serve out the remainder of the annual term. Should a vacancy occur on the Coordinating Committee, the Chairperson shall fill the vacancy with the approval of a majority of the remaining members. The Chairperson shall consider CLG members who ran for, but were not elected to, Coordinating Committee membership pursuant to the last election. The replacement Coordinating Committee member shall be a resident and ratepayer representing the same state and same constituency (i.e. residential or commercial and/or industrial) as the departing Coordinating Committee member.

#### **4.6 Coordinating Committee Meetings**

Meetings of the Coordinating Committee may be open to members of the public by request or invitation, as determined on a case-by-case basis. The Chairperson shall be responsible for the taking and circulating, in a timely manner, the meeting minutes for each Coordinating Committee meeting among the members of the CLG CC.

Subcommittees, when used, will be assigned to explore and complete necessary tasks beyond the capacity of the regularly scheduled meetings of the Coordinating Committee. Subcommittees will assist in the planning of CLG quarterly meetings, or otherwise prepare reports, recommendations, and policies for Coordinating Committee deliberation. All subcommittee work, except the work of a subcommittee convened to plan for a quarterly CLG meeting, must return to the entire Coordinating Committee to be decided upon by a majority vote prior to implementation.

*Section 5 Procedure for Amendments to Purpose and Structure*

Subject to the solicitation and receipt of CLG member feedback, purpose and structure amendments shall be adopted by majority vote of the Coordinating Committee.