

# Governor's Energy Advisory Council

## 2023 Annual Activity Report

Prepared by the State Energy Office,  
DNREC Division of Climate, Coastal and Energy



DELAWARE DEPARTMENT OF  
**NATURAL RESOURCES AND  
ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL**

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## Introduction

The Delaware Energy Act, first adopted in 2004, established the Governor’s Energy Advisory Council (GEAC or Council). The GEAC is charged with providing recommendations to the Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control’s (DNREC) State Energy Office, located within the Division of Climate, Coastal and Energy, on updates to the Delaware Energy Plan and with monitoring and proposing actions to enhance Delaware’s energy system, including actions to lessen the climate change impacts and providing counsel to the Governor on promoting an economic, reliable and competitive energy market for all Delaware consumers.

In 2022, the Delaware Energy Act was amended to expand the Council to 25 members and update its mission. These members, representing various state agencies and constituencies, are appointed to terms of one, two, or three years. Walter (Ed) Kee, former Secretary of Agriculture, was appointed by the Governor in 2023 to serve as the Chair for a term of three years and will be eligible for re-appointment. The list of members is attached to this report as Appendix A.

The Act was further updated in 2023, directing DNREC’s Energy Office to “provide technical and administration support” to the council and “develop and update, at least every 5 years, a comprehensive State Energy Plan” that includes but is not limited to “...encouraging and promoting conservation of energy ... and encouraging and promoting the use of renewable electric generation facilities and alternative energy technologies...” and “support[s] the state’s greenhouse gas emissions reductions targets...” In developing its recommendations, the GEAC built on the policy work of previous planning efforts: the 2009 Delaware Energy Plan and the 2021 Climate Action Plan and the many energy programs and policy initiatives being implemented.

As required by the Delaware Energy Act, on or before January 31, 2023, and on or before every January 31 thereafter, the Council will submit an annual report to the Governor, President Pro Tempore of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives for distribution to the members of the General Assembly, with a copy to the Director and the Legislative Librarian of the Division of Research of Legislative Council, and the Delaware Public Archives. This report covers the activity of the GEAC during 2023 and briefly details the process by which DNREC shall deliver the updated state energy plan.

## Timeline

Chairman Kee and DNREC staff proposed an ambitious timeline for the GEAC and updating the state energy plan during the first Council meeting on June 16, 2023. All four workgroups were asked to deliver their final recommendations to the full Council for consideration by December 2023. The Council was asked to deliver their official recommendations to DNREC’s Energy Office before January 1, 2024. A draft of the state energy plan will be developed during the first quarter of 2024. After the first draft is complete, a second round of public engagement sessions will be hosted to solicit feedback. Updating the state energy plan is expected to be completed by July 2024.

## The Process

During the first meeting, Chairman Kee proposed establishing four workgroups to help facilitate the work of the Council. The four workgroups were Renewable Energy & Clean Technologies, Energy Efficiency & Electrification, Grid Modernization, and Environmental Justice & Energy Equity. These workgroups were discussed, agreed upon and were open for all members to join. To ensure that all

Delawarean's interests were represented and to utilize technical subject matter experts, a small number of non-GEAC members were appointed to serve on workgroups by Chairman Kee. Chairman Kee appointed Dale Davis chair of the Renewable Energy & Clean Technologies Workgroup, Bahareh van Boekhold chair of the Energy Efficiency & Electrification Workgroup, Steve Hegedus chair of the Grid Modernization Workgroup, and Cassandra Marshall chair of the Environmental Justice & Energy Equity Workgroup. A full list of workgroup members is attached to this report as Appendix B.

All four workgroups were asked to consider climate change, public health and safety, workforce development, business opportunities, ratepayer impact, innovative technologies, and environmental justice in their deliberations.

To accomplish their task, the workgroups each met for three hours once a month from July to December. This resulted in each workgroup meeting five times which totaled 20 workgroup meetings between July 17 and December 14, 2023. Initial workgroup meetings focused on providing background information and technical presentations to members while later meetings focused on the discussion of member priorities, goals and objectives, and the review and discussion of recommendations. The full Council met five times between June 16 and December 19, 2023.

## Recommendations

Over 250 recommendations, in varying forms, were initially submitted by members of the four workgroups. Workgroup chairs and DNREC staff worked with members to refine, clarify, and consolidate their recommendations where possible. Recommendations were grouped into strategic areas in each workgroup. This consolidation resulted in 37 recommendations being considered in the Renewable Energy & Clean Technology Workgroup, 23 in Energy Efficiency & Electrification, 31 in Grid Modernization, and 20 in Environmental Justice & Energy Equity. To be considered by the full Council, recommendations proposed in the workgroups were required to pass a simple majority vote of members present. The Renewable Energy & Clean Technology Workgroup passed 26 recommendations, Energy Efficiency & Electrification passed 21, Grid Modernization passed 18, and Environmental Justice & Energy Equity passed 17. During the voting process in each workgroup, recommendations were further refined, and some recommendations were merged. In total, 82 recommendations were sent to the full Council by the workgroups.

Two Council meetings were held in December to review the recommendations approved by the workgroups. All 82 recommendations were approved by the Council by a simple majority vote. These recommendations will be considered by DNREC while updating the state energy plan. The approved recommendations are attached to this report as Appendix C. Recommendations considered but not approved by the workgroups are attached as Appendix D.

## Public Engagement

During November 2023, the GEAC held a series of three public engagement sessions: the first on November 1, at the Dover Public Library in Kent County; the second on November 6, at the New Castle Route 9 Library & Innovation Center in New Castle County; and the third on November 15, at the Georgetown Cheer Community Center in Sussex County. DNREC staff and GEAC members were on hand at all three events, holding informal one-on-one conversations to address individual questions and concerns. At each event, paper surveys were handed out with a series of open-ended questions to

solicit public feedback on the state energy plan. Additionally, an online version of the survey was offered for those who could not make it to an in-person session, or for those who preferred to fill out a digital survey over a paper copy. A total of 20 participants attended the Kent County session, 70 at New Castle County, and 77 at Sussex County. A report summarizing the survey results can be found on DNREC's GEAC website: <https://de.gov/geac>.

All 25 meetings of the GEAC and its workgroups were open to the public, posted on the state public meeting calendar and posted on DNREC's public meeting calendar. These meetings were held in a hybrid format, allowing members and the public to participate in person or online via Zoom Webinar. Per request of GEAC members and in response to comments received from the public, most meetings featured two opportunities for public comment. Given the length of the meetings and highly technical nature, the decision was made to welcome public feedback halfway through workgroup meetings as well as at the end of each meeting. Public comments were also welcomed through a dedicated email for the GEAC: [dnrec\\_geac@delaware.gov](mailto:dnrec_geac@delaware.gov). Meeting minutes, presentations, and the official recommendations have all been posted to the GEAC website mentioned above.

## Conclusion

DNREC's Energy Office staff are pleased to submit this report on behalf of the Governor's Energy Advisory Council. This report and the attached recommendations represent six months of dedicated work by members of the Council, their designees, and staff.

## Appendix A: GEAC Members

<b>Member Name</b>	<b>Council Role</b>
Walter "Ed" Kee	Chairman
Sen. Stephanie Hansen	Senate
Rep. Debra Heffernan	House of Representatives
Sec. Shawn Garvin	Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Protection
Sec. Nicole Majeski	Delaware Department of Transportation
Sec. Michael Scuse	Delaware Department of Agriculture
Ruth Ann Price	Public Advocate (DPA)
Dallas Winslow	Public Service Commission (PSC)
Lisa Oberdorf	Delmarva Power and Light (DP&L)
Steve Baccino	Chesapeake Utilities
Kimberly Schlichting	Delaware Municipal Electric Corporation (DEMEC)
Rob Book	Delaware Electric Cooperative (DEC)
Drew Slater	Delaware Sustainable Energy Utility (SEU)
Dayna Cobb	Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP) Policy Advisory Council
Cassandra Marshall	Economically/environmentally overburdened and underserved communities
William "Don" Clifton	Agriculture and/or agribusiness interests
Dale Davis	Solar energy interests
Kris Ohleth	Wind energy interests
Bahareh van Boekhold	Energy efficiency interests
Dr. Steve Hegedus	Innovative energy technology
Christian Fuess	Industrial electricity users
Mark Baker	Transportation and heating fuels interests
Christophe Tulou	Environmental interests
Dr. Alan Greenglass	Public health interests
Lori Murphy Lee	Energy interests (PJM Interconnection)

## Appendix B: Workgroup Members

<b>Renewable Energy &amp; Clean Technology Workgroup Members</b>	<b>Designee(s)</b>
Dale Davis, Chair	
Kris Ohleth, wind energy interests	
Christian Fuess, industrial energy users	
Christophe Tulou, environmental interests	
Don Clifton, agriculture and/or agribusiness interests	
Mark Baker, transportation and heating fuels	
Dayna Cobb, WAP Policy Advisory Council	Thomas Noyes
Sec. Michael Scuse, Dept. of Agriculture	Jimmy Kroon, George Class-Peters
Ruth Price, DPA	Andrea Maucher
Dallas Winslow, PSC	Tricia Gannon
Lisa Oberdorf, DP&L	Jim Jacoby
Steve Baccino, Chesapeake Utilities	Shane Breakie
Kimberly Schlichting, DEMEC	Scott Lynch
Rob Book, DEC	Grace Malcom
Yushan Yan, University of Delaware Center for Clean Hydrogen	Ke Gong
Dustyn Thompson, Delaware Sierra Club	
John Deemer, Delaware City Refining Company	
Dave Stevenson, Caesar Rodney Institute	

<b>Energy Efficiency &amp; Electrification Workgroup</b>	<b>Designee(s)</b>
Bahareh van Boekhold, Chair	
Christophe Tulou, environmental interests	Dustyn Thompson
Christian Fuess, industrial electricity users	
Mark Baker, transportation and heating fuels	
Dayna Cobb, WAP Policy Advisory Council	Susan Love, Maya Krasker
Sec. Nicole Majeski, Dept of Transportation	Stephanie Johnson
Drew Slater, SEU	Suzanne (Sue) Sebastian
Ruth Price, DPA	Andrea Maucher
Dallas Winslow, PSC	Malika Davis
Lisa Oberdorf, DP&L	Christine Measamer
Steve Baccino, Chesapeake Utilities	Derrick Craig
Kimberly Schlichting, DEMEC	Scott Lynch
Rob Book, DEC	Lucas Zlock
Jamie Nerys, Applied Energy Group	Matt Lillard
Cory Budischak, Temple University	
Paul Waddell, City of Dover	

<b>Grid Modernization Workgroup Members</b>	<b>Designee(s)</b>
Dr. Steve Hegedus, Chair	
Christophe Tulou, environmental interests	
Dale Davis, solar energy	
Lori Murphy Lee, PJM	
Drew Slater, SEU	Suzanne (Sue) Sebastian
Sec. Shawn Garvin, DNREC	Thomas Noyes
Sen. Stephanie Hansen	
Ruth Price, DPA	Andrea Maucher
Dallas Winslow, PSC	Matthew Hartigan
Lisa Oberdorf, DP&L	Rajul-i-Haque Mahmud
Kimberly Schlichting, DEMEC	Scott Lynch & Heather Contant
Rob Book, DEC	Dave Shapley
Evan Vaughan, MAREC Action	
Steve Steffel, Quanta Technology	

<b>Environmental Justice &amp; Energy Equity Workgroup Members</b>	<b>Designee(s)</b>
Cassandra Marshall, Chair	
Dr. Alan Greenglass, public health	
Bahareh van Boekhold, energy efficiency	
Don Clifton, agriculture and agribusiness	
Drew Slater, SEU	
Sec. Shawn Garvin, DNREC	Dr. Katera Moore
Ruth Price, DPA	Andrea Maucher
Dallas Winslow, PSC	Samantha Hajek
Lisa Oberdorf, DP&L	Ralph Bolton, Martin Harrison
Steve Baccino, Chesapeake Utilities	Michele Piper-Afriyie
Kimberly Schlichting, DEMEC	Scott Lynch
Rob Book, DEC	Kevin Yingling, Dave Shapley
Harold Stafford, DE Help Initiative	Eric Wright
Pat Coleman, New Ecology	
Angie Bivens, Franklin Energy	



## Appendix C: GEAC Recommendations

Strategic Area	#	Recommendation
<b>Renewable Energy and Clean Technologies</b>		
RPS	RE 1	The Renewable Energy Taskforce to develop necessary policies/legislation to promote in-state SREC procurement as a first-procured resource for Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS) Compliance. These might include multipliers on in state generated solar renewable energy credits (SRECs) and renewable energy credits (RECs) that support equity, economic/workforce, climate, and energy-related goals.
	RE 2	Charge the Renewable Energy Taskforce with evaluating the appropriateness of a solar carveout percentage for net energy metering (NEM) solar.
	RE 3	Charge the Renewable Energy Taskforce to periodically review Renewable Energy Portfolio Standards Act (REPSA) percentages and recommend adjustments as required to maintain growth in renewables.
	RE 4	Evaluate whether Delaware should move from an RPS to a clean energy standard.
	RE 5	Study pathways and mechanisms from other jurisdictions towards requiring greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction plans from all electric utilities to achieve our climate and RPS goals.
Offshore Wind	RE 6	Develop a procurement mechanism to solicit bids for offshore wind power projects of at least 800MW, for review with stakeholders. The competitive procurement should be designed to: consider affordability as a factor in bid evaluation, protect the State from inflationary risks, and provide evaluation credits to projects that maximize in-state economic benefits, minimize negative ecological impacts, and contribute to climate and equity-related goals.
	RE 7	Renewable Energy Taskforce to review impacts of offshore wind (OSW) on REC markets and RPS compliance costs and goals.
Renewable Natural Gas	RE 8	Gas utilities, DNREC, and interested stakeholders study ways the state can increase renewable natural gas (RNG) gas production and incentivize markets for its use as a fuel as stated in the November 2021 Delaware Climate Action Plan.
	RE 9	Participate in the development of low-carbon fuels legislation that allows natural gas utilities to purchase and invest in the production of low-carbon fuels, such as Renewable Natural Gas and Hydrogen, as a solution to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, that also allows the natural gas utilities cost recovery of such purchases and investments if deemed approved by the Public Service Commission.
	RE 10	Develop and incentivize projects for Class 7 & 8 vehicles to transition to low carbon fuels, with a focus on waste haulers, and support the installation of additional fueling stations for low carbon fuel dedicated vehicles. In collaboration with the Delaware Solid Waste Authority, develop and incentivize programs for vehicles delivering to landfills that utilize alternate fuels.
Workforce Development	RE 11	In order to meet any of our goals, recommendations, or objectives, we need to build the workforce for energy efficiency and clean technology sectors.
	RE 12	Ensure the deployment of federal funds work to upgrade the distribution network in areas that provide the best opportunity to benefit the grid and serve to meet our economic, energy, climate, and equity-related goals.
	RE 13	Study existing state plans in other jurisdictions meant to increase supply chain production and workforce development and compare them with opportunities in Delaware and the current state incentives and strategies for state spending.

<b>Strategic Area</b>	<b>#</b>	<b>Recommendation</b>
Batteries	RE 14	Evaluate the need for and develop incentives to spark the installation of batteries both behind and in front of the meter, including projects that enhance reliability or provide grid support, target restricted feeders or areas targeted for growth/development, provide demand response or other grid support, or promote large deployment of renewable energy. Incentives might include state tax credits and financial incentives funded through federal and state grants.
Small Nuclear Reactors	RE 15	Study feasibility of small modular reactors in DE or the region.
Carbon Capture	RE 16	Study the feasibility of carbon capture prototype trials and commercial development, and chemical conversion of CO2 to chemical intermediates instead of sequestration.
GEAC/DNREC	RE 17	DNREC should catalog and track the progress of clean energy technology pilots or demonstration projects.
	RE 18	Establish objective criteria by which the State of Delaware will evaluate which clean energy technology to pursue.
	RE 19	Conduct a cost/benefit analysis of partnering with neighboring states on clean energy projects vs. the State of Delaware sponsoring stand-alone projects.
Solar	RE 20	Review plans from neighboring states or the region to consider subsidizing small projects for communities and how DE could use that framework to develop grants of various sizes for equity-focused solar projects (e.g. those with higher low to moderate income (LMI) thresholds or other high-risk profiles, non-profit/comm center-sited, CBA, bound, community-owned, etc.).
Hydrogen	RE 21	Study what enabling legislation is needed to ensure proper permitting, regulation, and safeguarding of LCF/H2 production, refining, transmission, and use.
Natural Resource Protection	RE 22	Consider approving the statutory ability of community solar to co-locate for higher LMI, agrivoltaics, battery/electrolysis/storage, or for brownfield development.
Biofuels / Renewable Diesel	RE 23	Charge DE Department of Agriculture and partner State agencies with assessing the regional (PA, MD, DE, NJ at minimum) potential for production and consumption of biofuels. Input should be solicited from the Depts of Ag, Energy, Economic Development, Environment in the various states plus other stakeholders (advocacy groups and private enterprise).
	RE 24	Establish a portfolio approach to carbon reduction goals in Delaware's Transportation sector that includes low carbon fuels for ICEVs in addition to existing policies. Work with other local jurisdictions, where practicable, in a regional approach to support and incentivize the expansion of low carbon fuels. These include, but are not limited to, E15, B20, Renewable Diesel, Renewable Natural Gas, and Bio-Diesel blends.
	RE 25	Examine the feasibility of a clean heat standard to meet carbon reduction goals in Delaware's heating sector that includes low carbon fuels for thermal applications. These include, but are not limited to, B20, Renewable Diesel, Renewable Natural Gas, Renewable Propane, and Bio-Diesel blends.
	RE 26	State agencies and stakeholders working with other states in the Mid-Atlantic region to determine the feasibility of an appropriate, consistent incentive for the production, distribution, or sale of renewable diesel within the Mid-Atlantic states to promote renewable diesel use in the region.
<b>Energy Efficiency and Electrification</b>		
	EE 1	Conduct a comprehensive GHG reduction potential study to identify and assess energy efficiency and electrification programs needed for reaching the State's 2050 GHG target.
	EE 2	Assess all potential and existing programs to find gaps, including incentives, and to ensure they are aligned with state climate goals.

Strategic Area	#	Recommendation
Building Energy Efficiency and Electrification (EE and E) Programs	EE 3	Refine and clarify the current state Energy Act to reflect HB99 state GHG goals by: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Aligning EE&amp;E reduction targets with the State 2050 GHG mandate after a potential study is complete and the findings are reviewed.</li> <li>2. Adding electrification targets.</li> <li>3. Ensuring utility Energy efficiency targets do not conflict with the load increase expected from electrification.</li> <li>4. Define and clarify how the targets are divided between utilities, DESEU, and DNREC and create a collaborative planning and tracking structure for achieving the state GHG reduction target.</li> </ol>
	EE 4	Identify DE-specific barriers and develop a building decarbonization plan to address these barriers (for customers, vendors, installers) and opportunities (Inflation Reduction Act (IRA), Investment in Infrastructure and Jobs Act (IIJA)/Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL), and other fundings) to guide the state's electrification programs, plans, and investments.
	EE 5	Identify and demonstrate opportunities for reducing energy use and GHG emissions among Delaware's largest energy users.
Codes and Standards	EE 6	In state code, clarify the process and timeline by which local governments adopt the state energy code to ensure code implementation, compliance, and enforcement by local government code officials reporting their compliance and enforcement findings to the State Energy Office and conducting energy code compliance studies on a regular basis.
	EE 7	Initiate an analysis of the benefits of a statewide building code that does not have to be adopted by each specific municipality or county (i.e. a statewide umbrella code)
	EE 8	Clarify in the state code that local governments can adopt more stringent building energy codes in the form of stretch codes. Enable and encourage local governments to adopt strengthening or stretch codes through technical assistance and clarifications to the state code.
	EE 9	Support zero net energy (ZNE) and beyond code construction through resources and training.
	EE 10	Conduct a study to determine whether statewide appliance standards are a feasible and cost-effective option towards EE.
	EE 11	Develop building performance and benchmarking standards.
Vehicle Electrification	EE 12	Ensure that electric vehicle charging capacity is installed at new single and multi-family residential buildings and expand the accessibility and affordability of public and multi-family electric vehicle (EV) charging.
	EE 13	Develop policies and programs to equitably reduce the impact of demand charges on nonresidential consumers and fleet owners, including transit operators.
	EE 14	Develop and recommend strategies that will shift EV charging load and optimize for potential distribution system constraints related to EV charging, including time of use rates, managed charging, and vehicle to grid.
	EE 15	Provide education and technical assistance for commercial customers and car dealers.
	EE 16	Identify and recommend strategies to aid the transportation system in preparing for, and benefiting from, the electrification of transportation.
	EE 17	Recommend legislation establishing a revised fee structure for all vehicles to include zero emission vehicles (ZEVs) and low emission vehicles (LEVs) that will provide for Delaware's infrastructure needs as motor fuel tax income is reduced.

<b>Strategic Area</b>	<b>#</b>	<b>Recommendation</b>
Training, Education, and Community Engagement	EE 18	Promote expanding workforce development opportunities for energy efficiency, electrification, and code compliance efforts by working with educational institutions and other stakeholders.
	EE 19	Increase education for stakeholders and community engagement around energy efficiency and electrification programs, opportunities, and benefits.
Data, metrics, and target setting	EE 20	Establish a tracking, reporting, and accountability system to accurately measure progress from EE&E programs toward state GHG emission reduction, electrification, and energy efficiency goals.
Funding	EE 21	Minimize utility bill impacts on ratepayers by exploring and leveraging federal and other funding opportunities.
<b>Grid Modernization</b>		
Infrastructure	GM 1	Working with state agencies, encourage utilities to proactively advocate for state policies that support utilities building necessary transmission and distribution infrastructure to meet overall future renewable energy (i.e., solar) and electrification needs. Coordinating state infrastructure planning and strategizing should occur on a regular basis to ensure the state is capturing the efficiencies of joint planning for projects; ultimately saving customers money.
	GM 2	Further study and evaluate the state’s distribution grid to identify opportunities (i.e., battery storage, microgrids, etc.) and establish a baseline of current conditions to help guide and plan future infrastructure investment.
	GM 3	Study benefits and barriers, including cost, to Distributed Energy Resource Management Systems (DERMS) to accelerate the integration of more PV on the distribution grid. Work with one or more utilities to implement DERMS. Identify resources to incentivize the development and deployment of pilot scale DERMS on feeders or substations having high DER penetration.
	GM 4	Study natural gas infrastructure for dispatchable generation needed to support grid reliability as the penetration of intermittent generation, such as renewables, increases to meet state mandates and increase the load due to initiatives such as EVs.
Infrastructure - Reliability	GM 5	Work with utilities to acquire needed resources for infrastructure/technology to support existing customer reliability when considering legislation that will further expand utilities’ loads.
	GM 6	Identify “hot spots” in the state where grid infrastructure (i.e. substations) will be most susceptible to climate change and sea level rise in Delaware to avoid placing critical infrastructure in those areas and exploring, and where necessary, mitigating vulnerabilities that already exist in those areas to the extent possible.
Cost Incentives	GM 7	Conduct analysis on whether the State of Delaware should incentivize projects that relieve transmission congestion in order to lower prices and enable greater grid electrification efforts.
	GM 8	To the extent that aggregate impacts restrict circuits because the mitigation cost is too high for the next system, study alternate methodologies of handling the cost.
Electric Rate Design	GM 9	For grid modernization recommendations, conduct a cost/benefit analysis.
EVs	GM 10	Encourage investments in EV charging stations in economically disadvantaged communities.
Climate Impact and Load Forecasting	GM 11	DNREC should work with utilities, PSC, DPA, and PJM to include consideration of the impacts of climate change in load forecasting.

<b>Strategic Area</b>	<b>#</b>	<b>Recommendation</b>
Microgrids	GM 12	Define microgrids, identify barriers, and develop goals, incentives, and selection process for the installation and operation of several Microgrid pilot projects serving different load customers. Encourage ‘value stacking’ of multiple financial and operational benefits (resilience, reliability, deferred distribution upgrade, demand charge reduction, PJM arbitrage, and frequency stabilization services).
Substation	GM 13	Encourage deployment of ‘modern’ substations as more than one-way providers of power by including substation level peak power generation and storage, demand response, and removing reverse flow restrictions.
Transmission / Distribution	GM 14	Development of utility-defined smart Inverter requirements and settings to prepare us for DERMS/FERC2222. Includes specifying utility profile settings to improve overall grid behaviors and avoid unnecessary real power curtailment when applied universally.
	GM 15	Enable proactive utility investment, including investments into communication and other infrastructure, including voltage headroom, required to safely and reliably interconnect DER. This must include pre-determination regarding cost recovery for the investments.
Batteries / Storage	GM 16	Study Delaware’s electrical energy storage needs and set incremental goals to achieve both stand-alone and PV-attached storage goals. Encourage pilot deployments of different battery technology and scale (residential, commercial, utility) including expected lifetime and safety issues.
Time of Use Rates	GM 17	Study time of use (TOU) rates to incentivize residential storage and other DERs. Use industry-accepted modeling programs and results from other states to develop an optional TOU schedule to enable more storage to be added.
Workforce Development	GM 18	Identify what programs, career path education, job skill training, etc. are currently being offered in the state and determine what programs or policies will be needed to meet future grid modernization needs.
<b>Environmental Justice and Energy Equity</b>		
Transportation	EJ 1	Ensure that DeIDOT, WILMPACO, and other transportation entities are communicating and collaborating to eliminate EJ and EQ issues for all forms of transportation projects. Review current DeIDOT, WILMAPCO, and other planning agency transportation guidance to provide policy and regulatory changes that will address the elimination of EJ and EQ issues for all forms of transportation projects.
	EJ 2	Increase adoption of electric vehicles among low to moderate income (LMI) customers by identifying and reducing barriers, providing incentives, enhancing regulations, and increasing education.
	EJ 3	Develop strategies to support the transition to clean and renewable fuels for public transit vehicles.
Reducing Impacts of Extreme Heat	EJ 4	Identify Delaware heat islands and establish programs that will increase the heat resiliency of these neighborhoods.
Workforce Development	EJ 5	Create a clean energy workforce hub that focuses on training outreach, mitigation of training barriers, engagement with potential employers, training leads to clean energy jobs and employment transition support.
Community Engagement	EJ 6	Create a Community Engagement Plan that provides actionable guidance and roadmap on strategies to obtain meaningful, community-centered input on energy policy that supports community improvement requirements and goals.
	EJ 7	Create a Heat Resilience Leadership Plan that partners with neighborhood organizations, local influencers and elders, community centers, and hubs designed to inform and educate community members on energy plan subjects and issues, as well as facilitate access to available programs.

<b>Strategic Area</b>	<b>#</b>	<b>Recommendation</b>
Reducing Energy Burdens	EJ 8	Develop a statewide framework for reporting of utility disconnections and related data and develop programs and policies that may have a positive impact on customer arrearages, disconnections, and affordability, including Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP), Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP), and other available resources.
Weatherization / Electrification	EJ 9	Develop detailed policies with the appropriate legal review to limit rent increases for a specified period of time for landlords using grant-funded weatherization or electrification improvements.
	EJ 10	Develop a test program that would study a subset of homes where weatherization was completed (>5 years) to determine the need for and requirements for a program to update/repair installed measures.
Renewable Energy	EJ 11	Develop policies and programs that will ensure equitable access to the benefits of renewable energy sources regardless of income, tenure (owner vs renter), or location (multifamily vs single-family and utility service territory).
Indoor Air Quality	EJ 12	Develop programs that bring together multiple programs and services to improve indoor air quality: energy efficiency/electrification (air sealing, ventilation, heat, stoves, hot water heaters), weatherization, indoor air pollutants assessments, and air conditioning installation. Healthcare providers, non-profit organizations, schools, medical providers, service providers, and other public and private agencies that work in or with LMI communities should work to identify buildings and families most at risk for exposure to indoor air pollutants.
Energy Equity Framework, Target-Setting, and Evaluation	EJ 13	Develop a robust energy equity framework based upon this workgroup's recommendations by which policies and programs can be evaluated to track implementation in identified communities, monitor the performance of approved program implementation, and identify opportunities for implementation improvements.
Collaboration	EJ 14	Support meaningful and actionable collaboration across state agencies and between state, county, local governments, and nonprofits to leverage and coordinate related initiatives to advance EJ and EE objectives.
Customer Protections	EJ 15	Review how to eliminate current and potential future predatory practices relating to energy and energy services.
Funding	EJ 16	Develop fair long-term funding streams and leveraging opportunities to support current programs, expand the reach of current programs, and continue programs that will be funded from the IRA, BIL, or other funding sources to continue equity work well after the funds are exhausted.
	EJ 17	Develop an equity screening tool for publicly funded projects to evaluate potential impacts on the community.

## Appendix D: Unapproved Workgroup Recommendations

Workgroup	Unapproved Recommendations
RE	Pause any effort on procurement of offshore wind (probably to 2025) until the current pricing, durability, environment, and legal issues are resolved.
RE	RNG development and deployment costs should not be rate based to residential customers and should rather be deployed only in hard to decarbonize sectors of the economy such as long-distance trucking, construction, or other heavy-duty vehicles.
RE	Pass state legislation that establishes a bonding requirement that guarantees full decommissioning of 3 <sup>rd</sup> party owned ground mounted solar installations and reversion of farmland productive capabilities at the end of a contract period (and any extensions thereof), or business demise of the contractor.
RE	Require any transition toward low carbon fuels be matched by permanent proportional reduction in associated GHG emissions with claims to be supported by third-party full-spectrum lifecycle emission studies across all three scopes of emissions.
RE	Prioritize hydrogen deployment to hard to decarbonize sectors of the economy while incentivizing development and deployment at or near the point of use to reduce leakage potential and efficiency losses.
RE	Form a workgroup with stakeholders to study/develop ways to co-locate RE and storage deployment owned by private companies in existing public rights-of-way and utility-owned properties.
RE	Delaware state government, in cooperation with regional state governments, to enact legislative measures to facilitate production, distribution, and use of regionally produced Biofuels through effective and appropriate incentives.
RE	Delaware Assembly to introduce legislation for passage that provides an incentive (\$1.00/gallon tax credit) for producers to produce or import renewable diesel into the state of Delaware.
EE&E	Recommend legislation to reverse the adoption of the Advanced Clean Cars II Regulation issued by DNREC.
EE&E	Study the effect that a range of federal carbon fee plans would have on our GHG reduction plans.