

NEPPA Resolution

Support a Reliable, Affordable Transition from Natural Gas

WHEREAS, natural gas serves as both a direct source for home heating, manufacturing and a fuel for electricity generation, and;

Whereas, New England has significantly reduced greenhouse gas emissions by switching from coal to natural gas for generation, and now relies on natural gas for over half of the generation mix in the region, and;

Whereas, natural gas supplies to New England are constrained by many factors, including insufficient firm pipeline capacity to meet regional demand, global energy market volatility, and transportation challenges, and;

Whereas, when natural gas is unavailable for electricity generation, generators must burn oil to meet demand and maintain reliability, and

Whereas, recent ISO-NE studies have shown that as the share of renewable resources in the New England resource mix grows, fully dispatchable resources become more important to preserve reliability in a cost-effective manner; and

Whereas, ISO studies also show that conventional battery technology alone is not sufficient to address the regions need for fully dispatchable resource; then;

Be it now

RESOLVED, that NEPPA:

1. Supports the use of natural gas as a bridge fuel to maintain grid reliability until sufficient dispatchable renewable and clean energy resources can be introduced into the energy mix in New England.
2. Supports efforts to improve natural gas deliverability to the region, including the construction of additional pipeline and energy storage capacity, waivers of Jones Act restrictions on liquified natural gas shipments, and other policies to reduce costs and increase availability of natural gas during periods of critical constraints so that it can be used as a bridge fuel.
3. Advocates for the prioritization of cost and reliability impacts on consumers as States and other stake holders develop clean, dispatchable energy resources to reduce New England's dependance on natural gas.

Board of Directors voted unanimously to support this resolution 8/17/2022