

NOVA SCOTIA UTILITY AND REVIEW BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF: THE PUBLIC UTILITIES ACT

- and -

**IN THE MATTER OF: AN APPLICATION BY EFFICIENCYONE FOR APPROVAL OF
THE USE OF MEASURE-LEVEL NON-ENERGY BENEFITS
WITHIN THE CONTEXT OF COSTS-EFFECTIVENESS TESTING
ASSOCIATED WITH FUTURE DEMAND SIDE MANAGEMENT
PLANNING REGULATORY PROCESSES**

INFORMATION REQUESTS

To: James R. Gogan
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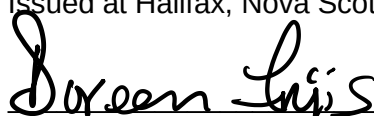
From: Synapse Energy Economics, Inc.
Board Counsel Consultant

Responses Due: Wednesday, November 14, 2018

Copies: 1 electronic copy – pdf searchable
3 hard copies

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Doreen Friis, Regulatory Affairs Office  Clerk

Request IR-1:

Please refer to Table 1 on Pages 4 and 5 of Vermont Energy Investment Corporation's (VEIC) June 14, 2018 Final Measure-Level Non-Energy Benefits Study (the Study), filed as Attachment 4 to EfficiencyOne's application.

- a. Please indicate why the Study lists only the Non-Energy Benefits (NEBs) included in Massachusetts' low-income programs, rather than Massachusetts' NEBs portfolio-wide. Please provide Table 1 with an additional column for all NEBs included in Massachusetts' portfolio.
- b. Does EfficiencyOne plan to include any information from NSPI in future cost-effectiveness testing regarding avoided generating capacity costs and avoided T&D line losses and capacity costs? If so, what values will EfficiencyOne use? If not, why not?
- c. Does EfficiencyOne consider avoided utility costs an area for future considerations or research?

Request IR-2:

Please refer to Page 14 of the Study.

- a. How were water and wastewater NEBs calculated prior to the VEIC analysis for Nova Scotia?
- b. Were the water and wastewater non-energy benefit values used previously in Nova Scotia compared to the new values based on the Massachusetts TRM?
- c. Please provide a comparison of the water and wastewater non-energy benefit values used previously in Nova Scotia with the new values based on the Massachusetts TRM values.
- d. Why was the VEIC methodology deemed to be more appropriate than the previously used one?
- e. Were there any cases in which the original value was deemed more appropriate for the measure? For each such measure, which value (based on the original value or based on the VEIC methodology) is being proposed in this filing, and why?

Request IR-3:

Please refer to the explanation of heating degree days and cooling degree days on Page 16 and 17 of the Study.

- a. Why were the heating degree days and cooling degree days combined into a single average conditioning days value for the purpose of comparing Massachusetts and Nova Scotia?
- b. Did the study analyze the extent to which cooling degree days in Nova Scotia translate into actual cooling hours, given the low penetration of

- 1 installed cooling systems? Please provide any relevant studies and
2 information.
- 3 c. Is EfficiencyOne incentivizing any measures that focus exclusively on
4 cooling? Please list all applicable measures.
- 5 d. Is EfficiencyOne incentivizing any measures that focus exclusively on
6 heating? Please list all applicable measures.
- 7 e. How might the methodology of combining total heating and cooling days
8 skew the value of NEBs claimed?

9 **Request IR-4:**

10 Please refer to Page 20 of the Study.

- 11 a. How are low-income customers defined?
- 12 b. By program, what percentage of customers eligible for market-rate
13 programs offered by EfficiencyOne qualify as low-income?
- 14 c. By program, what percentage of customers participating in market-rate
15 programs offered by EfficiencyOne qualify as low-income?

16 **Request IR-5:**

17 Were there any measures that were previously excluded from EfficiencyOne's portfolio because
18 they were not cost-effective before the inclusion of NEBs, but are now cost-effective?

- 19 a. Will any such measures be reinstated into EfficiencyOne's 2019 portfolio? If so,
20 which ones?
- 21 b. Will any such measures be incorporated into EfficiencyOne's 2020-2022 Three-
22 Year Plan? If so, which ones?

23
24 **Request IR-6:**

25 Please refer to Page 46 of the Study regarding future opportunities.

- 26 a. Have any of the additional studies listed been commissioned?
- 27 b. If not, what is the timeline to investigate these areas?
- 28 c. If so, when does EfficiencyOne expect these studies to be completed?
29 Please provide the scope and design (sampling, data collection, etc.) of
30 the research study.

31 **Request IR-7:**

32 The following questions refer to EfficiencyOne's plan for updating NEB values.

- 33 a. Does EfficiencyOne plan to monitor any updates to the existing list of
34 Massachusetts NEBs?

1 b. How often does EfficiencyOne expect NEB values in Massachusetts to be
2 updated?

3 c. If Massachusetts fails to update NEB values, what actions will
4 EfficiencyOne take to ensure that the values used in Nova Scotia are
5 current and reasonable?

6 **Request IR-8:**

7 For each of the following NEBs, please provide 1) definitions consistent with the values
8 recommended by VEIC and 2) a description of the methodology used to calculate the
9 underlying Massachusetts NEB value.

10 a. Thermal comfort

11 b. Noise reduction

12 c. Home durability

13 d. Lighting quality and lifetime

14 e. Water and wastewater savings

15 f. Equipment maintenance

16 g. Property value increase

17 **Request IR-9:**

18 Please refer to the workbook titled "Attachment 4 – Appendix C", cell CK27. For this
19 measure, does a negative NEB signify an additional cost to the customer?