

## Notes from Carbon Free Boston Energy TAG Meeting 08\_21\_18

Need to define how nuclear energy is treated in context of zero carbon energy sources. Reference Pilgrim and Seabrook closing schedules.

Be more explicit and explanatory about that the state can do versus the city.

Be clear on distinction between offsetting versus “truly” decarbonizing the grid.

Be clear about how the GWSA (emissions-based) and the Clean Energy Standard (generation-based) are intended to work together.

Acknowledge that 100% clean grid is not a “done deal”—lots of things to deal with, such as a new winter peak, operating the grid with intermittent sources, etc.

Add health column to large matrix.

Bring in relevant content from the MIT S-Lab report.

Be more precise and prescriptive in terms of the timing of actions, e.g., a transition strategy vs. long-term strategy. For example, start with REC purchase or VPP now, transition to New England only.

Provide the common set of assumptions made across sectors that help interpret and contextualize analysis in Energy Chapter.

For options 2A, 2B, and 3A, positive economic benefits to Boston/state require bundling and retiring RECs.

Identify the irreducible, necessary conditions for an action to work.

Identify benefits and limits to procurements from outside City and ISO-NE

- Cleaning dirty Midwest grid improves health and environmental quality in NE
- City should assume responsibility for global impacts of release of well-mixed GHGs

A richer discussion is needed in regards to the additionality criterion associated with RECs: definition, measurement, uncertainty, risk, how they should be represented in inventories, and the ethics of an affluent population buying up RECs elsewhere while still buying “brown power” locally.

Any proposed future change in energy end use devices (stoves, water heaters, etc.) needs to be communicated clearly up front and as early possible so people know why they are being asked to change.

One value of the CFB report is to define pathways to zero and tradeoffs to other cities (otherwise we can just buy 100% offsets).

Renewable procurement strategy should take a portfolio approach and be flexible, responding to changes in the market over time in pursuit of various goals:

- Largest emissions reductions for cost
- Promoting changes to local grid
- Ensuring additionally
- Taking into account local (jobs) and non-local (upwind pollution reduction) co-benefits

