

Issue-Focused Work Session Overview

The Interim Report of the Distributed Generation Stakeholder Group calls for the convening of issue-focused work sessions with additional stakeholders to address specific areas of the successor program design. Issue-focused work sessions will be organized to provide input on design criteria for policy focused components of the successor program by mid-2022. Design criteria highlighted to date include equity and access and land use. Additional topics under consideration include billing and crediting; energy storage; and interconnection.

Objectives

Each work session will have a set of defined objectives linking the work session topics to the design of the successor program.

Examples:

Land use

- Identify land use or other siting characteristics that may be considered for a successor program – including preferred siting attributes and non-preferred. Identify specific definitions and data/metrics to specify the characteristics where necessary.

Equity and access

- Identify program design attributes that support equitable access to program benefits. Identify specific definitions and data/metrics to specify equitable access.

Format

Work sessions will be conducted virtually via Zoom meetings and will be open to the public. Each work session will be led by a member of the DG Stakeholder Group with support from GEO staff. Presenters and panelists may attend in person or virtually. Work session summaries and materials will be prepared by GEO staff.

Agenda

Work sessions will include three components:

1. Topical presentations from experts with information relevant to achieving the work session objective.
 - a. Presenters should have topical expertise with comparable distributed generation program design relevant to the work session objective, either from other jurisdictions or previous work in Maine.
 - b. Presentations will range from 15-30 minutes.
2. Panels of representatives from key constituencies providing reactions to presentation material, and perspective on how they could inform a program in Maine.
 - a. Panelists should have practical, on-the-ground experience and connections to Maine relevant to the work session objective. Familiarity with distributed generation programs is helpful, but not required.
 - b. Panels will be moderated by a DG Stakeholder Group member.
3. Structured feedback opportunities for all attendees to provide additional input on the work session topic, such as meeting polls, open-response questions, and/or public comment.

Planning timeline

- July 27, 2022 – Final issue-focused work session worksheets submitted to GEO staff.
- August 3, 2022 – Issue-focused work sessions schedule and agendas published.
- August/September 2022 – Issue-focused work sessions held.

WORKING DRAFT – For discussion at July 19, 2022 Distributed Generation Stakeholder Group meeting

Issue-focused Work Session Outline – Worksheet

One worksheet should be completed for each proposed issue-focused work session. Worksheets must be submitted by DG Stakeholder Group organizing sub-groups to GEO staff by July 27, 2022.

Date	
Time	
Location (if in person option)	
Virtual meeting link	

Topic	[Land use, Equity and access, ...]
Objective	

Presentations	
Presenter, Affiliation	Topic

Panelists	
Panelist	Affiliation

Public input tools

Options could include Zoom polls/multiple choice, open response forms, or public comment. Consider providing structured questions or topics for input with meeting materials in advance.