



The Natural Gas Transition

New England Electric Restructuring Roundtable

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Overview

- Addressing the climate crisis
- D.P.U. 20-80-B, Order on Regulatory Principles and Framework
 - Evidentiary record in D.P.U. 20-80
 - Summary of Regulatory Principles
 - Key Considerations



Addressing Climate Change

- Climate change in Massachusetts: Impacts and response
- Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Reduction Limits and Sublimits





20-80 Record

- Review of eight decarbonization pathways
- Discussion of six regulatory design recommendations



Regulatory Principles

- Recovery of existing investment
- The regulatory framework going forward
 - A “beyond gas” future
 - “Exceedingly complex issues”





Key Findings

- Discourage further expansion of natural gas distribution system
 - Line extension policies, “public interest” standard
 - Non-gas pipeline alternatives (NPAs) and maintenance of existing system
 - Demonstration projects
 - Networked geothermal, electrification



Key Considerations

- Safety and reliability
- Financial integrity of LDCs
- Affordability and energy burden
- Disproportionate burden of negative impacts
- Workforce transition