



NEEP 2014 QUARTERLY REPORT

FIRST-QUARTER

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Energy efficiency has often been referred to as the least-cost, first order resource for achieving reduced energy use and improving air quality. In 2014, NEEP continues to play its role—bringing stakeholders together to find solutions for the climate and economic challenges we face today. In this report, NEEP will share some recent achievements toward the goals in our annual [Business Plan](#). With the support of our sponsors, partners, and funders from across the region and nation, NEEP continues to keep the region a national efficiency leader by advancing innovation and best practices, supporting leading-edge policies, programs, and strategies, and collaborating on development of regional strategies that deepen, broaden, and accelerate energy efficiency on a regional scale. Some highlights of our work this quarter include:

Make Energy Efficiency Visible

- **Planning for the 2014 Northeast Energy Efficiency Summit gained momentum:** The Summit's theme, [The Low-Carbon Future: Scaling Up Efficiency in a Brave New World](#), will take a holistic view of the essential role efficiency plays in working toward the new energy future. Activities in the first quarter included securing Platinum [sponsorship](#) from NSTAR Electric & Gas and National Grid and launching a call for speakers for the [NEEP Power Talks](#). The Summit, scheduled for June 2-3, will feature the 2014 Northeast Business Leaders for Energy Efficiency, three workshops, a tour of two high-performance schools in Newport, and an opening reception at the International Tennis Hall of Fame.
- **The 2014 Business Leaders Recognition Program to showcase another robust sample of regional business voices in support of energy efficiency:** [Fourteen businesses nominated by regional energy efficiency programs](#) highlight businesses who demonstrate outstanding acts of leadership and best practices in energy efficiency. Through their efforts to curb energy demand, these businesses are exemplars of reaching environmental and budgetary goals via investments in efficiency. The 2014 Business Leaders will be recognized at the annual Northeast Energy Efficiency Summit in June.
- **NEEP successfully secured 17 Sponsors and 11 Partners in the first quarter:** Their engagement and leadership will help develop strategies to meet regional goals for energy efficiency, as well as support NEEP's strategies for Buildings, Products, and Knowledge & Best Practices outlined in our 2014 Business Plan.
- **Launched development of a new [neep.org](#) website:** The new site, which will launch in the third quarter, will be easy to navigate, more visibly highlight NEEP's partnerships, bring NEEP's extensive resource library to the surface, and will be dynamic and interactive with NEEP's social media feeds including the NEEP blog, [Energy Efficiency Matters](#).

Reduce Building Energy Use

- **Mobilized Massachusetts Stretch Code Coalition to stimulate code update progress:** An update to Massachusetts's 2009 [Stretch Energy Code](#) became necessary after the state [adopted the 2012 IECC](#) last July. The Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources (DOER) began soliciting general comments on the update last November without setting a deadline. In response, NEEP assembled a coalition of core stakeholders to support DOER's efforts by submitting comments imploring

NEEP MISSION

Accelerate energy efficiency in homes, buildings & industry in the Northeast - Mid-Atlantic region.

Massachusetts to prioritize the update. These efforts produced, as intended, a wave of comments that more than doubled the number of comments submitted, prompting DOER to set a comment deadline of March 28.

- **Worked to streamline data access for commercial and residential buildings:** NEEP participated in the planning and build out of [The Building Energy Data Exchange Specification \(BEDES\)](#) to streamline data access. BEDES is intended to be used in tools and activities that help stakeholders make energy efficiency investment decisions, track building performance, and implement energy efficiency policies and programs such as rating and disclosure. NEEP is participating in both the BEDES stakeholder and technical working groups and is keeping our stakeholders—notably Vermont—informed as the project advances.
- **Prepared to release the latest update to the Northeast Collaborative for High Performance Schools' construction and renovation criteria, NE-CHPS 3.0:** The new criteria covers subjects such as crime prevention through environmental design, electric vehicle integration, the zero energy policy indicator scale, enhanced commissioning, and improved acoustic requirements. These additions to the criteria buttress NE-CHPS as a leader in school construction standards and will ensure that schools using the criteria remain healthy, productive, and safe learning environments.

Speed Adoption of High Efficiency Products

- **Presented on the 2013-2014 Residential Lighting Strategy (RLS) and market analysis at the Lighting Roadmapping Workshop at NEMA's headquarters in Rosslyn, Va.:** The January 30 workshop was hosted by NEMA and ENERGY STAR with a goal to discuss the long-term role of the ENERGY STAR program with respect to residential lighting given the market's complexity and rapid evolution. Product specifications, verification testing, and market trends and research of lighting products were all on the agenda. NEEP was asked to present based on the leadership the region has demonstrated in the area of ENERGY STAR lighting.
- **The DesignLights Consortium® experienced a never before seen influx in activity:** As of January 1, 2014, the DLC was operating under the version 2.1 Technical Requirements table, which led to a mass de-listing of products from the Qualified Products List (QPL) that no longer met the new Technical Requirements. After shrinking by 16,336 products, the QPL recovered quickly, adding 18,627 products and leaving the total product count on the QPL at an impressive 39,007 by the end of the quarter, representing products from approximately 590 different luminaire manufacturers.
- **Implementation of air-source heat pump regional strategies:** NEEP established subcommittees within the Air-Source Heat Pump (ASHP) Working Group to effectively implement a number of the critical recommendations that came out of the [Northeast/Mid-Atlantic Air Source Heat Pump Market Strategy report](#). Subcommittees were established for ASHP Research, Policy, Education & Awareness, Cold Climate, and Workshop Planning. Subcommittees are comprised of diverse stakeholders including utilities, service installers, policy makers, efficiency advocates, the technology sector, and beyond.
- **Initiated a Home Energy Management Systems (HEMS) Working Group to explore potential energy savings opportunities:** HEMS were identified in the regional [Business and Consumer Electronics Strategy Report](#) as a pathway to effectively manage electronics and other appliances throughout the home. NEEP is collaborating with the National Home Performance Council (NHPC) in the management of this working group to bring diverse stakeholders together. Through this working group, NEEP is actively exploring the integration of HEMS products into energy efficiency programs.
- **NEEP's Northeast Appliance Standards Project continues to drive strong federal appliance standards:** Regional stakeholders engaged a number of key product federal rulemakings including



Residential Furnace Fans, General Service Lamps, Residential Boilers, and Computers. Stakeholders were briefed on key issues related to rulemakings, enabling many to contribute to [public comments](#) submitted on the region's behalf aimed at influencing the ultimate outcomes.

Advance Knowledge & Best Practices

- **2014 Forum agenda and budget adopted by Steering Committee:** The Forum's Steering Committee, represented by energy regulatory commissioners from nine states and air regulatory representation, adopted a [2014 Agenda & Budget](#) in February. The agenda and budget were informed by Forum members, and include a mix of EM&V protocol and research & evaluation projects, as well as various education & information access activities to increase understanding of and access to EM&V data. First quarter activities also focused on review of draft deliverables for carryover projects from 2013, and scoping of several 2014 projects.
- **Released the *Regional Roundup of Energy Efficiency Policy in the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic States*:** This report provides NEEP's overview of the major successes and challenges in energy efficiency policy through data and narrative. One outgrowth of this report was our [2014 Policy Brief](#), in which we laid out what we see as some of the biggest issues facing states and the region as a whole. The brief has been personally distributed to gubernatorial candidates in Massachusetts, as NEEP looks to elevate energy efficiency and related clean energy issues to the forefront of public discourse. We plan to continue leveraging such materials and influence thought leaders about the value of efficiency.

We hope you enjoy reading about these achievements and many more in the following report. Thank you for your engagement and support in 2014—we look forward to many more successes and our continued partnership.

NEEP 2014 STRATEGIES AND PROJECTS

Keep the region a national efficiency leader by advancing innovation and best practices, and leading-edge policies, programs and strategies that deepen, broaden and accelerate energy efficiency on a regional scale.

STRATEGIES	OUTCOMES	PROJECTS
VISIBILITY 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Increased media coverage and public understanding and support of energy efficiency as a critical energy resource ➤ Northeast & Mid-Atlantic region widely recognized as national energy efficiency leader ➤ Visible business leadership for energy efficiency policies and programs 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Northeast Energy Efficiency Summit 2. Northeast Business Leaders Recognition Program 3. NEEP Sponsorship & Partners Program 4. NEEP Strategic Marketing & Communications
BUILDINGS 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The region leads the nation in adoption of, and compliance with, progressive building energy codes ➤ Markets value high efficiency homes, buildings ➤ States, municipalities commit to maintaining, building high performance schools, public buildings ➤ Model programs and resources address market barriers to energy efficiency retrofits in key market segments 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Building Energy Regulation 2. Market Valuation of Building Energy Performance 3. Building Energy Best Practices
PRODUCTS 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Northeast leads in penetration of high efficiency products ➤ Higher baselines through appliance standards lock in market gains ➤ Regulatory policy supports new technologies and strategies to advance high efficiency options 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. High Efficiency Residential Lighting 2. DesignLights Consortium® SSL Qualified Products List 3. High Efficiency Emerging Technologies 4. High Efficiency Business & Consumer Electronics 5. Appliance Efficiency Standards
KNOWLEDGE 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ States and local government commit to energy efficiency - top energy priority ➤ Build greater transparency and consistency in EM&V and reporting practices ➤ NEEP secures funding for regional best practices project to advance industrial efficiency (<i>tent.</i>) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Regional Evaluation, Measurement & Verification Forum 2. Public Policy Outreach & Analysis



MAKE ENERGY EFFICIENCY VISIBLE

Position the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic region as the national efficiency leader with efficiency as a critical and tangible energy resource with significant and immediate impact on the economy, the region, and the planet.

All NEEP staff contributes to our *Visibility* strategies, but the projects and objectives listed within this strategy relate specifically to our annual Summit, and the organizational marketing, communications, and development efforts of the Strategic Marketing & Communications Team. This work supports the strategies outlined in NEEP's 2014 Business Plan and maximizes NEEP's capacities for gaining visibility for efficiency and for promoting the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic region as a national leader in energy efficiency.

Northeast Energy Efficiency Summit

- Planning for the 2014 Northeast Energy Efficiency Summit gained momentum in the first quarter: The Summit's theme, [The Low-Carbon Future: Scaling Up Efficiency in a Brave New World](#), will take a holistic view of the essential role efficiency plays in working toward the new energy future. After securing Platinum [sponsorship](#) from NSTAR Electric & Gas and National Grid, we quickly signed on Efficiency Vermont, OSRAM Sylvania, Opower, the Connecticut Energy Efficiency Fund and many others as sponsors of the premier gathering for energy efficiency stakeholders across the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic. NEEP launched a call for speakers for the [NEEP Power Talks](#), a new program format for speakers to deliver 15-minute dynamic presentations designed to engage and inspire the audience. In addition to securing Power Talk speakers, we confirmed Gene Rodrigues, Vice President, ICF International, as the keynote speaker. The Summit will also feature the 2014 Northeast Business Leaders for Energy Efficiency, three workshops, a tour of two high-performance schools in Newport, and an opening reception at the International Tennis Hall of Fame.
- Three pre-Summit workshops will explore solutions to achieving the low-carbon future:
 - [Cold-Climate Air Source Heat Pumps: Warming Up the Market](#)
 - [Daybreak on Zero Net Energy Buildings: Illuminating Our Future with Comprehensive Strategies for the Built Environment](#)
 - [Evaluating Energy Efficiency: 5 Top Things You Should Know About the Emerging Evaluation World...](#)
- [NEEP Power Talk](#) speakers will engage and inspire the audience:
 - Abigail Anthony - Rhode Island Director, Environment Northeast
 - Edward White - Vice President, Customer Strategy, National Grid
 - Penni McLean-Conner - Senior Vice President & Chief Customer Officer, Northeast Utilities
 - Matthias Kurwig - Co-Founder, Enervee
 - Bennett Fisher - CEO & Co-Founder, Retroficiency
 - Scott Johnstone - Executive Director, Vermont Energy Investment Corporation
- Launched the annual [Student Scholarship and Mentoring](#) program to give students an inside glimpse into the efficiency industry: NEEP invites up to 15 students at any stage in their education to attend the NEEP Summit at no cost, pairing them with a mentor to provide career guidance and introduce them to efficiency professionals and opportunities.

- **Summit Co-Chairs confirmed to provide leadership and strategic guidance for the event:** Timothy Horan, President of National Grid - Rhode Island, and Marion Gold, Commissioner of the Rhode Island Office of Energy Resources will serve together as Co-Chairs of the 2014 NEEP Summit.
- **Tours offered of two Rhode Island zero net energy ready schools:** NEEP's Buildings Team will lead Summit participants on a tour of the East Bay Met School and the Claiborne Pell Elementary School.

Northeast Business Leaders for Energy Efficiency

- The 2014 Business Leaders Recognition Program to showcase another robust sample of regional business voices in support of energy efficiency: [Fourteen businesses nominated by regional energy efficiency programs \(NEEP Sponsors\)](#) highlight businesses who demonstrate outstanding acts of leadership and best practices in energy efficiency. Through their efforts to curb energy demand, these businesses are exemplars of reaching environmental and budgetary goals via investments in efficiency. The 2014 Business Leaders will be recognized at the annual Northeast Energy Efficiency Summit in June.
- The highest honor given to seven State Champions: Video filming of State Champion facilities took place in April, and media outreach to provide recognition for all of the business leaders is planned throughout the event and beyond. To encourage year-round collaboration, NEEP will continue to engage these businesses to promote their achievements and provide visibility for the benefits of energy efficiency.
- Business Leaders received media attention as a result of their award:
 - NEEP website: [General Announcement](#)
 - Massachusetts: [Falmouth Ice Arena](#)
 - JW Marriott: [Building Energy Performance Assessment News](#)
 - JW Marriott: [News 9](#)
 - JW Marriott: [Digital Journal](#)
- NEEP refocused its efforts on the Connecticut Businesses for Clean Economy Initiative: With our partner Cater Communications, we created revised project and communications plans with the goal of producing tool kit materials to highlight business leader support for clean energy policies in the state. To support this effort, NEEP hired a contractor to identify, recruit, and categorize business leaders according to their commitment to sharing their stories. We are also updating our Business Leader case studies from previous years, visiting business organizations, and working with PR staff at NEEP sponsor utilities to identify and showcase business success stories in the state. While the policy landscape in Connecticut is stable and the programs initiated as part of that policy are rolling out, NEEP and Cater created materials to educate the public about the business value of efficiency. As a result, three op-ed pieces were placed in CT-based media outlets.
 - The Connecticut Mirror: [Every Day is Earth Day](#)
 - New Haven Register: [Many Businesses Working to Combat Climate Change](#)
 - The Day: [Saving Energy Should be a goal of all of us](#)
- Explored partnership with Chambers for Innovation to engage with regional Chambers of Commerce to support clean energy initiatives: NEEP met with a PR representative from the Chambers of Innovation to determine if there is work that can be done collaboratively in the Northeast region, and will continue to discuss possibilities and look for a good fit moving forward.



NEEP Sponsorship & Partners Program

- NEEP successfully secured [17 Sponsors](#) in the first quarter: Sponsors represent utilities and efficiency program administrators from across the region committed to our common mission to accelerate energy efficiency in the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic. Our Sponsors' support is critical to the success of our projects, and their commitment to energy efficiency as a critical environmental and economic solution will help achieve our common goal to keep the region a national leader in energy efficiency. By the end of the quarter, we are on track to renew sponsorship from all of our 2013 Sponsors.
- The 2014 Partners Program is also off to a great start: We confirmed [11 Partners](#) in the first quarter, with others expected to join. NEEP Partners represent efficiency leadership from around the nation committed to accelerating energy efficiency. We are pleased to welcome [EnergySavvy](#) as a new NEEP Partner!
- Stakeholder participation in NEEP projects kicked off in the first quarter: Their engagement and leadership will help develop strategies to meet regional goals for energy efficiency, as well as support NEEP's strategies for Buildings, Products, and Knowledge & Best Practices outlined in our 2014 Business Plan.
- NEEP Sponsors and Partners invited to contribute to NEEP's blog - [EnergyEfficiencyMatters.org](#): Guest posts will be posted regularly, to highlight these organizations' leadership in energy efficiency.

NEEP Strategic Marketing & Communications

- We were excited to start off the year by engaging a designer to build a new [neep.org](#) website: The new site, which will launch in the third quarter, will be easy to navigate, more visibly highlight NEEP's partnerships, bring NEEP's extensive resource library to the surface, and will be dynamic and interactive with NEEP's social media feeds including the NEEP blog, [Energy Efficiency Matters](#). In addition, another key focus of the Strategic Marketing & Communications (SMC) team was collaboration with staff across the organization to heighten visibility of NEEP's initiatives through press releases, Letters to the Editor and Op-Eds, and development of presentations and responses to calls for speakers at industry conferences. NEEP staff will be presenting at a number of conferences over the course of the year including [ACEEE's Summer Study](#), the [2014 ACEEE Market Transformation Symposium](#), [the Affordable Comfort Inc National Conference](#) and the [National Governors Association State Workshop on Innovations in Energy Efficiency Policy](#).
- NEEP staff contributed to our blog [Energy Efficiency Matters](#) with posts tackling a range of subjects such as climate change, big data, and building energy codes: The top five performing posts of the first quarter were:
 - [Innovation and Regulation: A Winning Partnership Formula](#)
 - [Ma. Stretch Code or: How I Learned to Stop Updating and Love the Timebomb](#)
 - [Efficiency's Climate Manifesto](#)
 - [NE-CHPS Paves the Way Forward for Schools](#)
 - [More Data, Fewer Problems: REED Releases 2012 Data](#)
- Engaged NEEP's Partners, Sponsors, and other allies to develop guest blog content: This resulted in five posts:
 - [Technology, Partnerships Help Shelters Save Energy and Money](#) - Dave McMahon, Co-Executive Director, Dismas House



- [Infographic: Energy Efficiency as an Investment](#) & [What is the Return on Investment of Energy Efficiency?](#) - Jim Merriam, Director, Efficiency Vermont
- [Building Energy for Resiliency](#) - Caitriona Cooke, Program Director, Conservation Services Group
- [LED Lighting.. for Zoos!](#) - Beth Hartman, Senior Research Associate, Utility Marketing, E Source
- Staff presented at the Better Buildings by Design Conference sponsored by Efficiency Vermont:
 - Carolyn Sarno - [Net Zero Buildings from Policy to Practice](#)
 - Claire Mizolek - [Residential Lighting: A Strategy for the Northeast to Get to Net Zero](#)
 - Irina Rasputnis - [LED Lighting in Commercial Spaces: Quality and Performance](#)
- Issued two press releases:
 - [DesignLights Consortium® Drives Innovation with Updates to SSL Qualified Products List](#)
 - [Annual Report Finds Region Leads Nation in Energy Efficiency Policy](#)
- NEEP's web presence remained steady, providing access to key resources and thought leadership: Our website neep.org had 13.5 thousand site visits in the first quarter, and our blog [Energy Efficiency Matters](#) had four thousand site visits—consistent with traffic to both sites in 2013.

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REDUCE BUILDING ENERGY USE

Make possible a future in which all homes and buildings are zero net energy, through incremental yet aggressive improvements to building energy policies and programs.

NEEP's *Buildings* strategies support the reduction of wasteful energy use in commercial, residential, and multifamily properties through support for public policies, incentive programs, advanced building energy codes and rating, and expansion of high performance schools and public buildings. The built environment is one of the largest users of energy, and improving home and building energy efficiency provides benefits to the economy, environment, and society.

Building Energy Regulation

- **Mobilized Massachusetts Stretch Code Coalition to stimulate code update progress:** An update to Massachusetts's 2009 [Stretch Energy Code](#) became necessary after the state [adopted the 2012 IECC](#) last July. This update was not a political priority despite the fact that neglecting it would cause market confusion for the [Stretch Code Communities](#), which comprise over half of the Commonwealth's population. The Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources (DOER) began soliciting general comments on the update last November without setting a deadline. In response, NEEP assembled a coalition of core stakeholders to support DOER's efforts by submitting comments imploring Massachusetts to prioritize the update. To facilitate these comments, NEEP developed a [comment template](#) and wrote a [blog post](#) providing a comprehensive look at the history behind and implications of this issue. NEEP then hosted a webinar to provide information about the update and next steps for interested stakeholders. These efforts produced, as intended, a wave of comments that more than doubled the number of comments submitted, prompting DOER to set a comment deadline of March 28. NEEP submitted [written comments](#) at the beginning of the comment period and, after arranging a meeting between DOER and our Coalition, provided [supplementary comments](#) to further encourage alignment with the 2015 IECC.
- **Provided testimony supporting code adoption in Delaware and Connecticut:** In January, NEEP attended and provided [testimony](#) for the public hearing for Delaware's [proposed 2012 IECC adoption](#). While there, NEEP also shared information about new provisions incorporated into the newly-finalized 2015 IECC, such as the new energy rating index compliance path, to the Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control (DNREC) and the Home Builders Association of Delaware (HBADE). In addition, NEEP [testified](#) in February in support of a Connecticut bill ([SB 352](#)) mandating the state to adopt the 2015 IECC. NEEP also provided recommendations for a bill ([SB 357](#)) allowing local stretch codes and phasing out LEED as the basis for state's above-code programs; the building-related elements of this bill have since been [removed](#).
- **Facilitated Energy Code Collaboratives in Delaware, New Hampshire, and Pennsylvania:** NEEP supports [State Energy Code Collaboratives](#) as effective vehicles for bringing together diverse stakeholders to promote transparency and dialogue concerning energy code adoption and compliance. NEEP has played an active role in Delaware, New Hampshire, and Pennsylvania's Code Collaboratives since their inceptions in 2011, 2012, and 2013, respectively:
 - NEEP worked closely with Delaware's Energy Code Coalition as the state moves closer to its anticipated spring 2012 IECC/ASHRAE 2010 adoption. NEEP continued to provide technical assistance to DNREC, particularly regarding air leakage testing and mechanical ventilation. NEEP also began to assist Delaware with developing a training program by connecting DNREC with groups working in Maryland and Washington State.



- NEEP continued to provide technical guidance to the New Hampshire Building Energy Code Compliance Collaborative, which convenes monthly to advance strategies set in the state's [Code Compliance Roadmap](#). As part of this collaborative, NEEP advises on two committees—one focused on enhancing code compliance and the other on engaging the real estate community and greening the Northern New England Real Estate Network. The Collaborative also decided to pursue a home energy labeling program: a motion inspired in part by Vermont's labeling initiative in which NEEP participates.
- NEEP continued to support the Pennsylvania Energy Code Collaborative's efforts to measure and achieve full code compliance and to develop methods to educate consumers and incentivize energy efficiency. In this quarter's meeting, NEEP helped to brainstorm solutions to energy code adoption, compliance, and enforcement barriers in the Commonwealth. NEEP also provided insight on the newest version of [SB 1023](#), which would mandate the adoption of the 2015 IECC.
- **Disseminated NEEP's utility claimed savings report:** In a January webinar hosted by the Alliance to Save Energy, [NEEP](#) and [National Grid](#) presented on how utilities can claim savings from building code support activities in both theory and practice. NEEP's presentation focused on last year's groundbreaking code attribution [report](#), while National Grid explained how the findings from this report have been utilized in the Code Compliance Enhancement Initiative (see below). Also, NEEP was able to directly disseminate this report to an engaged national audience through participation at large events, such as February's RESNET Conference.
- **Supported cutting-edge compliance enhancement efforts in Rhode Island:** As a result of the regional effort to require utilities to support code compliance and allow them to claim the savings from those programs as part of their regulatory proceedings, National Grid developed a methodology for attributing and being awarded savings credit for code support activities in Rhode Island. National Grid—in partnership with the Rhode Island Code Commission, NEEP, and a contractor team—administers these programs through its [Code Compliance Enhancement Initiative](#); NEEP participates in both its Implementation and Evaluation Working Groups. This quarter, the Implementation Working Group began to deliver a training program developed in conjunction with the state's adoption of the 2012 IECC and implemented a circuit rider program. NEEP also assisted this working group's efforts to establish rules for third-party energy specialists, draft documentation tools, and develop a residential stretch code. NEEP also continued to participate in the Evaluation Working Group, which reviews the program's checklists, key performance indicators, and eventual extension into Massachusetts.
- **Provided code development and compliance technical support to Vermont:** NEEP continued to assist Vermont in its 2015 IECC-based [energy code update](#) as well as the development of its first stretch code. In March, NEEP attended a stakeholder meeting and provided answers to technical code inquiries. NEEP also helped the state's Department of Public Service understand the implications of DOE's oncoming [REScheck and COMcheck software updates](#).
- **Extended knowledge and resources through NEEP's Codes Leadership Group:** NEEP continued to grow the membership and knowledge base of its Regional Building Energy Codes Leadership Group. In March, NEEP organized and delivered a webinar to about 50 Group members—including the New Hampshire Code Collaborative—focusing on: (1) lessons learned in Delaware's 2012 IECC adoption process; and (2) Vermont's 2015 IECC adoption and stretch code development process. NEEP answered questions concerning items such as Delaware's code amendments and Vermont's proposed stretch code framework. In addition to quarterly webinars, NEEP regularly provided the group with relevant state, regional, and national code updates.
- **Maintained national network of energy code allies:** NEEP continued to engage with our national and regional codes counterparts, providing updates on our region through monthly teleconferences with RECA, NASEO, and IMT. NEEP also participated in meetings with the

National Energy Codes Collaborative, a joint partnership of the US DOE, PNNL, BCAP, NASEO, and the other regional energy efficiency organizations (REEOs). The National Collaborative, whose common goal is promoting state code adoption and enforcement policies set by DOE, convened monthly to discuss energy code issues, best practices, and opportunities to streamline efforts.

- **Leveraged Regional Knowledge to assist energy code allies:** This quarter, NEEP held an introductory call with the Global Cool Cities Alliance to discuss strategies that would accelerate the adoption of cool roofs and pavement provisions into codes and standards in our Mid-Atlantic states. NEEP also presented alongside other members of the National Energy Codes Collaborative to the Construction Specification Institute on national, regional, and state energy code resources available to support their implementation of and documenting compliance with energy codes and standards. Finally, NEEP discussed energy code legislation in Connecticut and Pennsylvania with Bayer and encouraged them to join the Pennsylvania Code Collaborative.
- **Maintained online codes resource center:** NEEP regularly updated its online codes “[Bulletin Board](#),” featuring the latest news, events, and resources on building energy code adoption and compliance throughout the region. NEEP also tracked the [status of state building energy codes](#) and maintained a page of [code resources](#). Finally, NEEP compiled a preview of [2014 Code Activities](#) in our region, as well as pertinent national developments.
- **International Code Council (ICC) code hearings and committee participation:** Staff member Darren Port, Building Energy Codes Manager and multifamily initiatives coordinator, reviewed 527 proposed code changes in preparation for participating on the consensus committee for 2015 International Green Construction Code (IGCC) update hearings. The ICC updates building codes on a three-year cycle. The last update to the 2012 IGCC was in 2012, and after the Memphis hearings in April 2014 the ICC was expected to publish the next version of the IGCC in early 2015. The IGCC is a comprehensive “integrated design” green code for commercial buildings. Additionally, in the first quarter Mr. Port served on the governing committee of ICC’s Sustainability Membership Council. The Council acts as a liaison between ICC members and the ICC Board of Directors. Finally, Mr. Port made an application to serve on the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB) consensus committee for the 2015 update of the NAHB/ICC-700 a residential green building standard referenced by the 2012 IGCC.

Market Valuation of Building Energy Performance

- **NEEP worked to streamline data access for commercial and residential buildings:** In the first quarter, NEEP participated in the planning and build out of [The Building Energy Data Exchange Specification \(BEDES\)](#) to streamline data access. A primary challenge of the retrofit market is the lack of data on actual energy performance of commercial and residential buildings. The Department of Energy via Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory is currently working on a solution through the development of tools (standards and software) called BEDES. The goal is to facilitate the utilization and sharing of empirical building energy performance data among software tools and data collection and analysis activities. BEDES is intended to be used in tools and activities that help stakeholders make energy efficiency investment decisions, track building performance, and implement energy efficiency policies and programs such as rating and disclosure. NEEP is participating in both the BEDES stakeholder and technical working groups and is keeping our stakeholders—notably Vermont—informed as the project advances. NEEP answered stakeholder inquiries regarding the interface of BEDES, SEED, HPXML and DOE Portfolio Manager.
- **Continued work piloting innovative, cost-effective methodologies for building asset rating:** NEEP and the Massachusetts DOER continued to lead Phase 2 of the [Massachusetts Raising the BAR \(Building Asset Rating\) Pilot](#). Last year, Phase 2 of the project was launched to further explore two of the innovative methodologies tested in Phase 1 through broader deployment



across a sample of approximately 35 commercial office buildings in the Greater Boston area. We began to test and analyze the results of the collected data in the first quarter. In addition, the group has endeavored to create a uniform, repeatable method for gauging energy consumption in certain special use spaces.

- **Maintained online building energy rating resource center:** NEEP regularly updated its online rating “[Bulletin Board](#),” featuring the latest news, events, and resources on building energy rating throughout the region, as well as a complete list of disclosure ordinances throughout the country. NEEP also maintained a page of [rating resources](#).
- **Working to advance energy efficiency in affordable multifamily housing:** In March, NEEP staff participated in a National Roundtable to create a network of energy efficiency and affordable housing organizations with the common goal of creating healthy energy efficient housing through policies such as building energy rating and disclosure.
- **Provided technical expertise in support of a municipal energy reporting and disclosure ordinance in the City of Cambridge, Mass.:** NEEP was invited by city officials to participate in the stakeholder engagement process for this ordinance, which began in January, to advance last year’s progress. NEEP continues to provide talking points, fact sheets, and technical guidance as the ordinance is developed.
- **Participated in the Boston Society of Architects’ Committee for the Advancement of Sustainability:** NEEP continued to attend the monthly meetings held by the Committee, which assembles Massachusetts community stakeholders to share ideas and best practices in meeting their energy and climate goals. The Committee plans to expand this by organizing a TED-style panel tentatively titled “Communities Empowered by Climate Action” to highlight local efforts and inspire new initiatives this June.
- **Provided advice and supporting materials to municipal officials in Portland, Me. regarding building energy rating and disclosure:** NEEP’s Buildings team provided guidance to Portland, Maine’s Mayor Michael Brennan and Councilor John Hinck regarding implementation of a building energy rating and disclosure ordinance; this advice was supplemented by NEEP’s [Building Energy Rating and Disclosure Lessons from the Field Update](#) and other resources.
- **Peer reviewed a publication by the Keystone Energy Efficiency Association Energy Education Foundation:** The Buildings team peer reviewed the Keystone Energy Efficiency Association Energy Education Foundation’s publication “Tracking to Save Energy: A Comprehensive Guide to Municipal Benchmarking for Pennsylvania.” We used this peer review process to disseminate NEEP’s resources and insights regarding building energy rating and disclosure ordinances.
- **Supported development of commercial rating and disclosure in Vermont:** Throughout the quarter, NEEP held several conference calls to provide technical guidance to Vermont stakeholders as they began to develop their recommended path forward. NEEP’s Carolyn Sarno also co-presented to the working group on building asset rating alongside MA DOER.

Building Energy Best Practices

- **NEEP prepared to release the latest update to the Northeast Collaborative for High Performance Schools’ construction and renovation criteria, [NE-CHPS 3.0](#):** NEEP hosted a [Public Comment Webinar](#) on January 24 with the Collaborative for High Performance Schools (CHPS). Due to this extensive public outreach and its related stakeholder engagement process, the latest revision incorporates input from state agencies, architects, engineers, and others located at the leading edge of sustainable building design and operation. As a result, the new criteria covers subjects such as crime prevention through environmental design, electric vehicle integration, the zero energy policy indicator scale, enhanced commissioning, and

improved acoustic requirements. These additions to the criteria buttress NE-CHPS as a leader in school construction standards and will ensure that schools using the criteria remain healthy, productive, and safe learning environments. See NEEP's blog about the release [here](#); a one page NE-CHPS summary anticipating the update [here](#); and a new map of the Northeast's High Performance Schools [here](#).

- **Presented NE-CHPS guidance to the New Hampshire Partnership for Healthy Schools Working Group:** At the invitation of the group, NEEP's Brian Buckley presented a [summary](#) of NE-CHPS and its linkage to creating healthy high performance schools, a core mission of the group. This effort resulted in greater awareness of the NE-CHPS among representatives of the New Hampshire State Government.
- **Contributed valuable insights to the Rhode Island Public Energy Partnership Schools Working Group:** NEEP's Buildings team compiled information for the [Rhode Island Public Energy Partnership's](#) Schools Working Group regarding best practices identified by a similar school retrofit program in Vermont. This information will streamline Rhode Island's path toward implementing retrofits at public facilities.
- **Updated the web-based resource center's High Performance Schools Exchange:** NEEP updated the High Performance Schools [Directory](#) with the addition of several schools to the [New York](#), [New Hampshire](#), [Rhode Island](#), and [Vermont](#) pages. These updates will provide further guidance for administrators, state agencies, or taxpayers considering school construction or renovation in their district.
- **Presented at the National Governor's Association's (NGA) State Workshop on Innovations in Energy Efficiency Policy:** At the invitation of NGA, in February NEEP's Carolyn Sarno presented on how [State-Utility Partnerships](#) can accelerate energy efficiency. This presentation disseminated the NE-CHPS criteria and the [Operations and Maintenance Guide for Schools and Public Buildings](#) to educate public officials throughout the region.
- **Provided advice and supporting materials to municipal officials in Portland, Me. regarding high performance schools:** NEEP's Buildings team provided guidance to Portland, Maine's Mayor Michael Brennan and Councilor John Hinck regarding high performance school construction and renovation, including several high performance school [exemplars](#) as well as NEEP's [Operations and Maintenance Guide for Schools and Public Buildings](#). This will help the city of Portland reduce their building energy consumption through optimized operation and maintenance of public buildings, as well as the construction and renovation of high performance schools.
- **Presented materials regarding the path to net zero at the Better Buildings by Design Conference:** NEEP's Carolyn Sarno presented at the conference in February on the topic of bringing [Net Zero Buildings from Policy to Practice](#). This presentation provided an opportunity to disseminate the [Zero Net Energy Roadmap](#) to a broad audience of industry professionals.
- **Advanced energy efficiency in existing commercial:** NEEP's Carolyn Sarno was asked to Co-Chair the [State and Local Energy Efficiency Action Networks'](#) (SEE Action) Existing Commercial Buildings Working Group. In addition, NEEP's Buildings team peer-reviewed the final draft of a SEE Action publication: "Expanding Policy Frameworks for Building Energy Performance: Top 5 Policy and Program Solution Options."
- **Began planning a Zero Net Energy Buildings workshop for NEEP's 2014 Summit:** The NEEP Buildings team organized a planning committee and began designing a [workshop](#) for NEEP's 2014 summit. The summit aims to highlight how financial innovations and best practices can be combined with benchmarking initiatives help pave the way toward net zero buildings. This portion of the workshop will foreshadow a path toward low-to-no-cost capital for energy efficiency retrofits.



- **Reviewed and revised NEEP's Multifamily Whitepaper to include Vermont Case Study:** NEEP finalized a white paper entitled "[Increasing Energy Efficiency in Small Multifamily Properties in the Northeast: Recommendations for Policy Action](#)." The report contains information on market characterization and data analysis, market barriers, current policy and recommendations, and ratepayer-funded multifamily energy efficiency program design and operation. The report was revised to include a new case study on Vermont's Fuel Efficiency Partnership's small multifamily pilot, as well as a brief overview on behavior and energy efficiency. NEEP will disseminate the paper to policy makers and other stakeholders in the second quarter.
- **Disseminated NEEP resources and garnered insights through informational meetings and working group participation:** Buildings team members participated in meetings and working groups dedicated to high performance building best practices in state and federal government including: (1) the Massachusetts Chapter of the U.S. Green Building Council's Green Schools Working Group; and (2) A meeting with ASHRAE's Manager of Governmental Affairs, Boston Society of Architects Committee on the Advancement of Sustainability.

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SPEED ADOPTION OF HIGH EFFICIENCY PRODUCTS

Accelerate the adoption of high-efficiency residential and commercial lighting and consumer products through education, incentive programs and public policies.

NEEP's *Products* strategies promote adoption of high efficiency lighting, consumer electronics, emerging technologies, and myriad other appliances. Many of the products currently on the market are inefficient, and their use is a major driver of electricity consumption and resulting greenhouse gas emissions. NEEP's regional efforts are essential to engage and leverage the marketplace and keep the region a national leader in the sale of high efficiency, market-ready products.

High Efficiency Residential Lighting

- Presented on the [2013-2014 Residential Lighting Strategy \(RLS\)](#) and market analysis at the [Lighting Roadmapping](#) Workshop at NEMA's headquarters in Rosslyn, Va.: The January 30 workshop was hosted by NEMA and ENERGY STAR with a goal to discuss the long-term role of the ENERGY STAR program with respect to residential lighting given the market's complexity and rapid evolution. Product specifications, verification testing, and market trends and research of lighting products were all on the agenda. NEEP was asked to present based on the leadership the region has demonstrated in the area of ENERGY STAR lighting.

In addition to the in-person workshop, NEEP continued to participate in the ongoing Roadmapping committees that meet regularly. The committees will explore balancing quality assurance with time to market, testing cost, and expected rise in consumer cost; selecting the more efficient lighting products; and innovations in lighting products. With the rapid advancement in lighting technologies, it is imperative that the region and NEEP participate in product quality programs that are forward thinking for lighting programs as they approach market transformation.

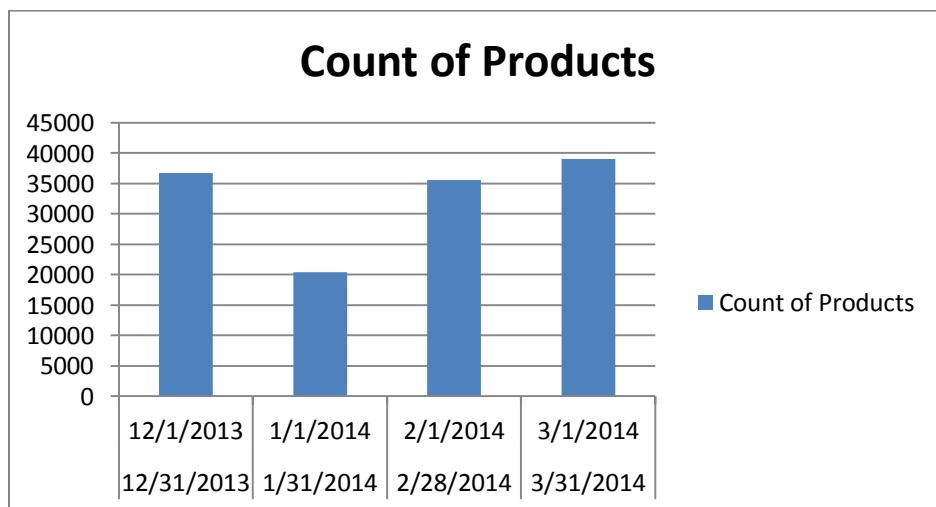
- Provided regional residential lighting coordination: NEEP holds quarterly Retail Products Working Group meetings to discuss regional strategies in residential lighting programs, among other topics. At the February 24 meeting, project Sponsors discussed lighting opportunities, the future of lighting programs, and potential technologies for NEEP to investigate further. Additionally, NEEP provides monthly updates to members of its Retail Products Working Group that include updates on activities and findings that relate to the 2013-2014 RLS Update.
- Developed the 2014 Residential Lighting work plan: This work plan serves as the basis for plans and activities the team has committed to complete in the coming year. This includes tasks and deliverables as they relate to the 2013-2014 Residential Lighting Strategy implementation, the 2014 Residential Lighting Workshop, developing trade ally relationships, participating in federal processes, maintenance of the web-based resource center, and general communications. This guiding strategy will provide scope for residential lighting activities for the remainder of the year.
- Disseminated the Residential Lighting Strategy: NEEP staff presented on the 2013-2014 Residential Lighting Strategy at the [Better Buildings by Design](#) Conference in Burlington, Vt., on February 5-6. Broad stakeholder support for the advancement of efficient lighting was evident at the event. Additionally, a paper and presentation incorporating findings from the 2013-2014 RLS was accepted for [ACEEE's Summer Study](#). NEEP staff developed and submitted for ACEEE review a draft paper in collaboration with paper co-authors, including several NEEP Sponsor organization (Efficiency Vermont, National Grid, NYSERDA, and United Illuminating).
- International lighting award comments and processes: NEEP submitted comments to two drafts of the Super-efficient Equipment and Appliance Deployment (SEAD) Initiative's rules for their [SEAD Global Efficiency Medal Award](#) for Solid State lighting. The Award will create a

global competition which encourages the production and sale of super-efficient lighting. By participating in this product quality program, NEEP helps to ensure that energy efficiency lighting products can be recognized and rewarded and more efficiency options are available for efficiency program promotion.

- **Provided social media visibility for residential lighting:** NEEP posted a residential lighting-focused blog “[They use Incandescent bulbs? That was so 1897](#)” on February 12. Additionally, NEEP’s RLS Update presentation at the Better Buildings by Design conference was shared via [Twitter](#).
- **Participated in regional and national efforts:** NEEP staff was active in the planning of the [2014 ACEEE Market Transformation Symposium](#), which was widely attended by NEEP employees and other energy efficiency experts. Additionally, NEEP actively participated in the Consortium for Energy Efficiency (CEE) Residential Lighting Committee in their process to develop an advance lamp specification that would help programs yield higher energy savings from lighting.
- **Continued to support EM&V efforts related to residential lighting:** NEEP’s residential lighting initiative continued to collaborate with the EM&V Forum on the need for adequate retail sales data by actively participating in the Consortium for Retail Energy Efficiency Data (CREED). This initiative, which is a coalition of energy efficiency programs pushing for access to retail sales data, made great progress and is in the process of purchasing sales data to improve program evaluation and planning. As CREED members, NEEP continues to connect project sponsors with opportunities to access retail sales data.

DesignLights Consortium® Solid State Lighting Qualified Products List

- **The DesignLights Consortium® experienced a never before seen influx in activity:** As of January 1, 2014, the DLC was operating under the version 2.1 Technical Requirements table, which led to a mass de-listing of products from the Qualified Products List (QPL) that no longer met the new Technical Requirements. After shrinking by 16,336 products, the QPL recovered quickly, adding 18,627 products and leaving the total product count on the QPL at an impressive 39,007 by the end of the quarter, representing products from approximately 590 different luminaire manufacturers.



- **Updated and expanded QPL product categories:** As of January 1, 2014, the DLC is operating under the version 2.1 Technical Requirements table. The revisions, announced in early April, 2013, took full effect after a 270 day transition period. All products shown as qualified on the QPL have demonstrated compliance with the new requirements. To view the complete version 2.1 Technical Requirements Table, visit [this page](#).
- **Began investigating two new service areas—Tiering of the QPL and a Product Verification Testing Program:** These two efforts were requested by the DLC membership and represent significant undertakings to increase the relevance of DLC's robust technical resources within the lighting market. Tiering of the QPL may include adding new technical requirements in order to set apart products that perform particularly well in certain areas. The Product Verification Testing Program may provide a process to ensure that products listed on the QPL perform the way their testing data suggests. Both are tools for DLC members and industry to use in order to help shape the solid state lighting market and to ensure its transformation towards product energy efficiency, quality, and performance.
- **DLC Member Meetings and Communications:**
 - NEEP held the first DLC member meeting on March 18, where we provided members with an overview of developments in 2014. Presentation materials can be accessed [here](#).
 - The DLC Twitter account [@DesignLightsSSL](#) gained approximately 50 new followers as a result of daily tweets about industry news, conference outcomes and observations, as well as general updates from the DLC.
 - NEEP regularly prepared and distributed updates to DLC members including program updates, general information, and announcements. The feedback from members has been very positive. The DLC Member Update acts as a tool not only to inform members, but to assist them in informing their teams and customers about the DLC program and developments. This quarter, NEEP introduced a new publication, the DLC Industry Update. This newsletter is meant to be distributed to the lighting industry with timely announcements regarding developments and changes within the DLC program.
 - NEEP is in the process of renewing membership with DLC's current members and many have already signed commitment letters for. Additionally, the DLC project gained a new member, DTE Energy, and is in conversations with three other potential new members. This brought the member count to 67, covering the Northeast, Southeast, Northwest, and some of the South and Midwest of the United States, as well as some Canadian provinces.
- **Began planning for the 2014 DLC Stakeholder Meeting:** The event will be held on July 29-30 in San Diego, Ca. to once again bring DLC stakeholders together to address important topics in the SSL industry. In the first quarter, planning included selection of the conference venue, agenda development, solicitation for sponsorship, as well as planning for an off-site reception. The conference website [www.dlcmeeting.org](#) was updated with the current meeting banner, as well as other important information event details. Registration for the event is now open.
- **Briefings, Presentations, Webinars, and Receptions:**
 - On January 15-16, NEEP Commercial Programs Advisor Jon Linn attended the CEE Winter Meeting in Berkley, Ca.
 - On January 28-30, NEEP's DLC staff attended the DOE R&D workshop in Tampa, Fl. At this gathering of SSL R&D professionals, DLC was able to respond to inquiries about DLC from the nation's top researchers and industry, government, and academic leaders.
 - On February 4-6, NEEP's DLC staff attended the Better Buildings by Design Conference in Burlington, Vt. DLC was represented on a panel titled "[LED Lighting in Commercial](#)

[Spaces: Quality and Performance](#),” during which NEEP’s Commercial Programs Manager Irina Rasputnis discussed the State of LED Lighting Market, Life Cycle Cost Analysis of ELDs, Case Studies, available Tools and Resources, as well as Product Selection.

- On February 25-27, NEEP’s DLC staff attended the Strategies in Light conference in Santa Clara, Ca. While there, DLC staff spent time at the Intertek booth to respond to stakeholder questions about the DLC program.
- On March 27-28, Irina Rasputnis attended the Western Lighting Peer Exchange (WCULT) meeting in San Diego, Ca., where she presented on the latest DLC developments including new efforts regarding tiering of the QPL, the Products Verification Testing Program, and the 2014 DLC Stakeholder Meeting.
- On March 30-April 1, NEEP’s DLC staff attended the Market Transformation Symposium in Baltimore, Md.
- **Media attention for the DLC SSL QPL:** NEEP released a [press release](#) on January 7, announcing Technical Requirements version 2.1 coming into effect. Additionally, DLC Associate Fritzi Pieper was [interviewed](#) by IMARK Magazine for an article to be published in April.
- **Updates to the DesignLights web-based SSL resource center:** NEEP provided monthly updates to the [web-based SSL resource center](#), incorporated in the DLC website as well as the NEEP website.
- **Began development of a DLC long-term plan:** This is an investigation into the future of NEEP’s DesignLights Consortium, which will include preparing a recommended plan for approval by the NEEP Board of Directors. We expect that the recommendation will include elements to begin in 2015, with full transition shortly thereafter. The purpose of the plan is to strategically position and provide multi-year support for the DesignLights Consortium as a valued resource to accelerate energy efficiency by supporting ratepayer-funded efficiency programs to achieve significant energy savings through the market adoption and use of high quality, high efficiency lighting solutions for the commercial, institutional, and industrial sectors across the US and Canada. To support development of the plan, NEEP formed up an advisory committee of 23 members composed of NEEP board and staff as well as selected DLC member utilities. We then issued an RFP for contractor services to provide background research, assess the commercial lighting efficiency market and the DLC brand, and prepare a business, financial, and organizational plan. The team expects to have a draft recommendation available to summarize at the DLC Stakeholder Meeting in July, for review and comment by the general community. Finally the team will refine and package the recommendation for consideration by NEEP’s Board at a fall 2014 meeting.

High Efficiency Emerging Technologies

- **Implementation of air-source heat pump regional strategies:** NEEP established subcommittees within the Air-Source Heat Pump (ASHP) Working Group to effectively implement a number of the critical recommendations that came out of the [Northeast/Mid-Atlantic Air Source Heat Pump Market Strategy report](#). Subcommittees were established for ASHP Research, Policy, Education & Awareness, Cold Climate, and Workshop Planning. Subcommittees are comprised of diverse stakeholders including utilities, service installers, policy makers, efficiency advocates, the technology sector, and beyond.

The first ASHP Working Group meeting took place on March 20 to establish the sub-committees’ tasks and objectives to accomplish the strategy recommendations. The over-arching Working Group is actively exploring ways to expand the use of ASHP products in the region to reduce energy use and as a solution to meet demand in low-load homes. NEEP also began to organize the [ASHP In-person Workshop](#) planned in conjunction with the NEEP Summit on June 2.

- **Regional emerging technologies coordination:** NEEP holds quarterly Retail Products Working Group meetings to discuss regional strategies in residential programs including emerging technologies. At the [February 24 meeting](#), project Sponsors discussed emerging technologies opportunities and potential technologies for NEEP to investigate further. Additionally, NEEP provides monthly updates to members of its Retail Products Working Group that include updates on various projects, including activities and support related to the Super Efficient Dryer Initiative (SEDI) and the heat pump water heater and air-source heat pump strategies.
- **Dissemination of the air source heat pump strategy:** Following the December 2013 release of the Northeast/Mid-Atlantic Air Source Heat Pump Market Strategies Report, NEEP spent much of the first quarter of 2014 planning and executing its dissemination. A [webinar presentation](#) on January 16 set the stage for dissemination efforts throughout the year. This helped bolster interest in the ASHP Working Group and in implementing the recommendations set forth in the strategy report.
- **Broad program support for heat pump water heaters drives market uptake:** NEEP manages a HPWH Working Group that has successfully developed several resources for regional and national stakeholders. NEEP convened a webinar on March 11 to discuss recent market updates and present opportunities for two sub-committees to: 1) develop comments to the ENERGY STAR specification revision process; and 2) coordinate contractor training materials. Additionally, a [HPWH Incentive sheet](#) was created to give a snapshot of all promotional activities in the region.
- **Efficiency programs promote efficient dryers:** As an active partner of the Super Efficient Dryer Initiative (SEDI), NEEP participates on SEDI's Technical and Next Tier Working Groups. [NEEP submitted comments](#) for the ENERGY STAR Supplemental Proposal to the Clothes Dryers Draft 2 Version 1.0. Additionally, NEEP reviewed and signed onto SEDI's comments supporting ENERGY STAR's draft 2014 Emerging Technology Award. These activities will enable program promotions which will ultimately improve the market share of efficient dryers.
- **Participation in regional and national efforts:** NEEP staff was active in planning of the [2014 ACEEE Market Transformation Symposium](#), which was widely attended by NEEP employees and other energy efficiency experts. Planning and attending national meetings helps broaden our directory of program administrators and trade allies who ultimately support the increased market share of emerging technologies.
- **Provided social media visibility for emerging technologies:** NEEP continued to develop and maintain our online [Emerging Technologies Resource Center](#) with relevant resources produced by the NEEP team. In addition, we published the blog [A Breeze of Innovation, Air Source Heat Pumps Hold Potential](#) on January 7.

High Efficiency Business & Consumer Electronics

- **Initiated a Home Energy Management Systems (HEMS) Working Group to explore potential energy savings opportunities:** HEMS were identified in the regional [Business and Consumer Electronics Strategy Report](#) as a pathway to effectively manage electronics and other appliances throughout the home. NEEP is collaborating with the National Home Performance Council (NHPC) in the management of this working group to bring diverse stakeholders together, ranging from utilities, service providers, manufacturers, national laboratories, efficiency advocates, the technology sector, and beyond. Through this working group, NEEP is actively exploring the integration of HEMS products into energy efficiency programs.

In the first quarter, NEEP developed the working group goals and objectives and began member recruitment. The first HEMS Working Group meeting took place on March 11 to establish the group's objectives and direction. Additionally, NEEP and NHPC are organizing an in-person workshop as part of the [Affordable Comfort Inc National Conference](#) focused on the HEMS

industry and opportunities with home performance. Ultimately, the HEMS Working Group aims to set a path for the technology to evolve with efficiency as a major component.

- **Regional consumer electronics coordination:** NEEP holds quarterly Retail Products Working Group meetings to discuss regional strategies in consumer electronics programs among other topics. At the [February 24 meeting](#), project Sponsors discussed opportunities and potential technologies for NEEP to investigate further, especially with regards to Advanced Power Strips, Home Energy Management Systems, and Game Consoles. Additionally, NEEP provides monthly updates to members of its Retail Products Working Group that include updates on activities related to the Business and Consumer Electronics Strategy (BCE Strategy).
- **Refined technology-specific 2014 work plans:** The BCE strategy report identified a number of priority product categories (e.g., HEMS, Set-top Boxes). In the first quarter, NEEP developed specific work plans for each technology area that serve as the basis for activities the team has committed to complete in the coming year, including BCE Strategy implementation, the BCE Workshop, developing trade ally relationships, participating in federal processes, maintenance of the web-based resource center, and general communications.
- **Supported implementation of advanced power strips (APS):** NEEP manages an [Advanced Power Strips \(APS\)](#) Working Group that has successfully developed resources for regional and national stakeholders. In 2014, this group will meet every other month, and NEEP convened the first virtual meeting on February 12 to discuss recent market updates, refine the APS work plan, and present primary output options—e.g., case studies, research opportunities, consumer education materials.
- **Maintained federal partnerships:** [NEEP submitted comments](#) to the ENERGY STAR Computers 6.1 Specification with sponsor Cape Light Compact as co-signer. Additionally, NEEP co-signed with the Appliance Standards Awareness Program (ASAP) and ACEEE on their comments regarding ENERGY STAR's Set Top Box version 4.1 specifications. Comments were submitted on February 12 on [version 4.1's Final Draft](#) and on March 17 on [version 4.1's Network Testing](#).
- **Participation in regional and national efforts:** NEEP was an event supporter and attended the [Smart Energy Summit](#) in Austin, Tex. where staff learned about the potential of HEMS in efficiency programs. NEEP staff was also active in planning of the [2014 ACEEE Market Transformation Symposium](#), which was widely attended by NEEP employees and other energy efficiency experts.
- **Provided social media visibility for business and consumer electronics:** NEEP posted two blogs related to BCE in the first quarter: [Join NEEP at the 2014 Smart Energy Summit: Engaging the Consumer](#) on February 4; and [Energy Efficiency has never looked smarter!](#) on March 12.

Appliance Efficiency Standards

- NEEP's [Northeast Appliance Standards Project](#) continues to drive strong federal appliance standards: Through NEEP's Appliance Standards Project, regional stakeholders engaged a number of key product federal rulemakings during the first quarter including Residential Furnace Fans, General Service Lamps (GSL, aka common light bulbs), Residential Boilers, and Computers. Stakeholders were briefed on key issues related to the GSL and Furnace Fan rulemakings, enabling many to contribute to [public comments](#) submitted on the region's behalf aimed at influencing the ultimate outcomes. The GSL letter largely provided a collection of regional resources to assist DOE in an accurate market assessment. The Furnace Fan comment letter supported the strong levels proposed by DOE and recommended that they consider a shorter implementation window.

NEEP builds its understanding of these rulemakings through a number of activities including attending DOE's public workshops (GSL on January 14 and Furnace Fans on December 3, 2013)

and coordinating with other national advocacy organizations through ASAP's Technical Advisory Committees (TAG). These rulemakings represent important opportunities for states to achieve energy savings through strengthening of baseline product efficiencies. NEEP also contributed to jointly developed comment letters for Residential Boilers and Computers that were developed in coordination with other national advocate organizations.

- **Development of the Annual Appliance Standards Project Strategy:** NEEP led development of the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic Appliance Standards Project's Regional Strategy Memorandum for 2014, outlining the project's key directions and strategies for the year. The identified strategies were developed based on an assessment of current opportunities associated with appliance standards, and involved input from all project stakeholders. As the project is comprised of stakeholders from a number of organizations—state energy offices, efficiency program administrators (PAs), efficiency advocates, state regulatory offices, etc.—the memo lays the foundation for regional work by aligning the efforts of the various players with a common plan and goals.
- **Convened the Appliance Standards Working Group via webinar:** To facilitate regional stakeholder input and share information and best practices, NEEP convened its first quarterly meeting via webinar on March 18. This meeting engaged stakeholders from across the region to review key elements of the annual strategy and prepare for upcoming appliance standards opportunities. This engagement promotes understanding and awareness of appliance standards as a valuable policy mechanism to achieve cost-effective energy savings.
- **Supported state-level appliance standards activities:**
 - NEEP has been a major supporter of the Massachusetts bill, [H. 3950](#) (formerly H 807), An Act relative to expanding resource efficiency in the Commonwealth, leading an effort to bring together a diverse set of groups to support this legislation, which has now advanced the floor of the Massachusetts House. Public Policy Director Jim O'Reilly recently wrote a letter to Massachusetts Commissioner of Energy Resources Mark Sylvia requesting his support for this bill. NEEP has also been active in supporting the staff of the lead sponsor of H. 3950, Frank Smizik, on technical questions regarding the efficiency product standards within the bill.
 - NEEP has also been the lead organizer in Rhode Island in support of [H. 7799](#), An Act relating to minimum energy and water efficiency standards sponsored by Representative Arthur Handy. NEEP organized regular meetings with representatives from the state's Office of Energy Resources (OER), Rhode Island's primary utility National Grid, as well as Rhode Island People's Power and Light and Environment Northeast to develop a strong coalition in support of the bill. Josh Craft, Manager of Public Policy Analysis, testified in support of the bill in front of the House Environment and Natural Resources Committee on April 3, 2014, and followed up with written comments to Rep. Handy with some suggested technical changes to the bill. Further action on H. 7799 is expected later this year.
- **Developing regional infrastructure to advance strong codes and standards:** NEEP met with staff from the Massachusetts DOER on January 29 to discuss opportunities for Massachusetts to positively impact both state and federal appliance standards. Massachusetts is one of two Northeast states that has begun to allow their ratepayer efficiency programs to get involved in the process to adopt and strengthen appliance standards. DOER is working to develop a plan for these entities to work cooperatively.
- **Coordinated regional efforts with national players:** NEEP gathered with other advocates to discuss long-term strategies for water heaters, particularly electric water heaters. The meetings allowed NEEP to influence strategies being implemented on a national scale, and also bring these national insights back to our regional stakeholders.

- Maintained the online [Appliance Standards Resource Center and promoted strong standards through social media](#): NEEP's online resource center was maintained and updated with new resources, providing stakeholders—including efficiency program administrators, regulators, policy makers, and the media—with access to key information.

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ADVANCE KNOWLEDGE & BEST PRACTICES

Promote knowledge and the use best practices that support the expansion, implementation and evaluation of policies and programs to increase and accelerate energy efficiency.

NEEP's *Knowledge and Best Practices* strategies support the expansion of policies and programs to accelerate energy efficiency. NEEP advocates for sustained public policy support, expanded financial resources, full integration of efficiency into energy planning, enduring efficiency infrastructure based on leading knowledge and best practices, and consistent standards across the region to measure, evaluate and report the impacts and benefits of energy efficiency.

Regional Evaluation, Measurement & Verification Forum

- **2014 Forum agenda and budget adopted by Steering Committee:** The Forum's Steering Committee, represented by energy regulatory commissioners from nine states and air regulatory representation, adopted a [2014 Agenda & Budget](#) in February. The agenda and budget were informed by Forum members, and include a mix of EM&V protocol and research & evaluation projects, as well as various education & information access activities to increase understanding of and access to EM&V data. First quarter activities also focused on review of draft deliverables for carryover projects from 2013, and scoping of several 2014 projects.
- **Released REED program year 2012 data:** As of January 2013, the [Regional Energy Efficiency Database \(REED\)](#) includes program year 2012 energy efficiency program data for nine jurisdictions in the EM&V Forum region including the New England states, Delaware, the District of Columbia, Maryland, and New York. Using a consistent reporting platform, REED allows for simple aggregation or comparison of energy efficiency program impacts at the sub-region, state, sector, or program type levels, and also provides direct links to supporting state energy efficiency information. Data is now provided for program years 2011 and 2012; program year 2013 data will be added to REED in the fourth quarter of 2014.
- **Filed comments with FERC on impact of ISO-NE FCM Performance Incentive Proposal on Energy Efficiency:** NEEP facilitated a working group of interested New England stakeholders (program administrators and PUC staff) to develop [comments](#) to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) on the potential negative impact of ISO New England's proposed changes to its Forward Capacity Market (FCM) rules, which would require demonstration of performance for all resources (including energy efficiency) for 8,760 hours, as opposed to a focus on summer and winter peak performance periods. FERC's review and decision of the ISO-NE proposal, along with an alternative NEPOOL proposal, is expected in May.
- **Commented on national EM&V protocols (US DOE Uniform Methods Project):** This project to build consistency in EM&V methods for determining Gross Savings for a set of priority measures, as well as for Net Savings, is being managed by the National Renewable Energy Lab (NREL), with Cadmus Group as the contractor overseeing the development of the EM&V protocols/guidance documents. The project is informed by a technical advisory group and technical experts and guided by a project Steering Committee (including EM&V Forum Director, Julie Michals). With support from Forum technical advisors, NEEP provided comment on draft documents last year, and additional comments on new measures in the first quarter. NEEP also provided comments on the draft Net Savings chapter, and reviewed these with Forum members. Final protocols/guidance material published to date are posted to the US DOE website [here](#), with additional protocols and Net Savings Methods guidance forthcoming.

- Launched two new projects:
 - **Commercial Refrigeration Loadshape:** The focus of this project is pre- and post-installation metering and analysis to develop savings loadshapes and peak coincidence factors for the following measures: evaporator fan controls, electrically commutated motors installed in refrigerators and freezers, and anti-sweat door heat controls.
 - **EM&V Methods Standardized Forms project:** The Forum is actively developing the ‘food label’ equivalent for EMV Methods used by program administrators (or relevant state entities) to evaluate their energy efficiency programs, in order to build standardized transparency and understanding of EM&V practices. The project contractor, Cadmus Group, developed draft standardized forms for subcommittee review and comment, including an *Impact Evaluation Summary Form* and a *Program Portfolio EM&V Methods Summary* form. The forms will be finalized in June, and presented to the Steering Committee in late July for adoption.
- Drafted deliverables for several projects: Update of the Mid-Atlantic Technical Reference Manual; development of loadshapes for Variable Frequency Drives on pumps and fans; in-field performance of cold climate ductless minisplits; and Phase 3 of incremental cost research. Final reports are expected to be posted to the EM&V Forum website in the second quarter.
- Kick-off and scope development for 2014 projects:
 - **Meta-study of ductless heat pumps:** This project will be kicked off in May and builds on the recently completed Forum research and the NEEP Heat Pump Strategy. Its focus is preparation of planning assumptions and other relevant information for common scenarios (new construction, retrofit, fuel-switching, etc.) in which energy efficiency programs may install ductless heat pumps based on leveraging recently available secondary research.
 - **Phase 4 of incremental cost research:** This project will be kicked off in May and develops incremental cost curves for additional priority efficiency measures of interest in the region and will also produce a compendium of all the still-timely incremental cost results from Phases 1 through 4.
 - **Ggeotargeting:** The scope of this project is in draft form; its focus will be on updating case studies of geotargeting projects, reviewing opportunities and constraints associated with implementation and evaluation of this energy efficiency strategy, and development of recommendations and guidance for potential expanded regional implementation of geotargeting initiatives.
- Broad participation by Forum members from across the region: Participants from throughout the Forum region continued to participate actively in Forum committees and project subcommittees. Representatives from nine Forum states participated in the quarterly Steering Committee meeting on February 13, and representatives from eight Forum states participated in the quarterly Project Committees meeting on February 27. Forum staff also facilitated numerous project subcommittee meetings that were well attended.

Public Policy Outreach and Analysis

- Released the [Regional Roundup of Energy Efficiency Policy in the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic States](#): This report provides NEEP’s overview of the major successes and challenges in energy efficiency policy through data and narrative. One outgrowth of this report was our [2014 Policy Brief](#), in which we laid out what we see as some of the biggest issues facing states and the region as a whole. The brief has been personally distributed to gubernatorial candidates in Massachusetts, as NEEP looks to elevate energy efficiency and related clean energy issues to the forefront of public discourse. We also partnered with the other REEOs around the country to develop a national version of the resource: an [Intro to REEOs and Policy Brief](#). This

document was shared at the orientation of the National Association of State Energy Officials (NASEO). We plan to continue leveraging such materials and influence thought leaders about the value of efficiency in helping to solve pressing public policy matters that encompass economic development, energy distribution and reliability, health and safety, environmental protection and climate goals.

- **Supported emerging energy efficiency leaders:** NEEP staff was actively supportive of new legislative and regulatory initiatives to promote energy efficiency as a resource in New Hampshire and Delaware. Public Policy Director Jim O'Reilly and Manager of Policy Analysis Josh Craft gave a presentation detailing on the benefits of an expanded energy efficiency policy to the New Hampshire Energy Efficiency and Sustainable Energy (EESE) Board at its February meeting, called "[Why Not New Hampshire?](#)" NEEP staff also provided comment in support of an important new energy efficiency measure, HB 1129, which has now passed the full New Hampshire House and is headed to the Senate. Likewise, staff continues to be in touch with staff from the Delaware energy office about its major energy efficiency reform measure, HB 179, which is expected to be considered later in the session.
- **Evolving the regulatory framework in Maryland:** Josh Craft, Manager of Policy Analysis, took a leading role in working with the Maryland Energy Administration and other key stakeholders to devise a revised screening framework, providing input on best practices and evolving thinking on cost-effectiveness. Josh has also been educating and collaborating with on-the-ground allies about the importance of updating the state's regulatory practices to better harness the power of efficiency. A sample of NEEP's comments on the cost-effectiveness screening proposal can be found [here](#).
- **Outreach to new commissioners:** With new faces in energy offices and regulatory agencies in several states, NEEP's Policy team has been reaching out to arrange introductory meetings with new commissioners; some of whom have little experience in energy efficiency. Director of Public Policy Jim O'Reilly and EM&V Forum Director Julie Michals met with Robert Klee, the new commissioner of Connecticut's Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, and with Martin Honigberg, the newest member of the New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission.
- **Energy efficiency and section 111(d) of the Clean Air Act:** NEEP's Policy team worked with EM&V Forum staff to provide [comment](#) to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) on the impact of state energy efficiency policies from the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic states in its modeling of the power sector for emissions planning. Such modelling will become increasingly important as the EPA considers how state energy efficiency policies and the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI) can be used as compliance tools with the new regulations on carbon emissions for existing power plants under Section 111(d) of the Clean Air Act.
- **Engaging on natural gas issues:** Capacity, cost, fuel mix, expansion, leaks, and the role of energy efficiency are all issues that NEEP is closely following, studying, and considering with our partners in state government, advocacy, and program administration. Taking the view that gas leaks undermine system efficiency and erase gains of energy efficiency programs, NEEP has joined allies in support of Mass. Bill, [S. 2073](#), which would compel utilities to repair delivery infrastructure, while allowing at least some rate recovery for these investments.
- **Working for all-fuel efficiency programs:** NEEP continued to communicate with advocates and program administrators in Massachusetts to advance the concept of expanding energy efficiency to all oil heat customers. Currently S. 2025 is the vehicle to create a dedicated funding source, which NEEP is advocating should augment and complement existing Mass Save programs.
- **Working with allies, holding leaders accountable:** NEEP has worked with the Mass. Global Warming Solutions Project that released a [scorecard](#) on the state's landmark Global Warming Solutions Act. We joined 30 environmental and energy organizations in hosting a forum for



Mass. gubernatorial hopefuls. We've been allies in defending against raids on efficiency and clean energy funding in New York and Maine, and continue our work with the RGGI advocates group and the New England Clean Energy Council's policy advisory group.

- **Supporting strong state energy plans:** While work to plan, implement, and evaluate clean energy and efficiency plans is ongoing across the region, New York and Vermont are two states developing long-range energy plans this year. NEEP is consulting with PAs, in-state advocates, and energy offices to understand issues and provide constructive comments, based on our knowledge of policies, programs, market developments, and best practices in the region.
- **Participating in energy stakeholder meetings:** NEEP's Policy team continues to actively participate in state energy efficiency stakeholder board meetings throughout the region. Staff have participated in monthly meetings of the Mass. Energy Efficiency Advisory Council (EEAC), the Rhode Island Energy Efficiency and Resource Management Council (EERMC), the N.H. Energy Efficiency and Sustainable Energy Board, and the newly formed New York E(2) Working Group.
- **Tracking and commenting on trends in state energy efficiency policies and savings:** Through the [NEEP blog](#), [Twitter](#), [Highlights](#), the [Policy Snapshot](#), and the [Policy Tracker](#), NEEP has been monitoring, engaging, and sharing information on state legislative and regulatory proceedings as well as regional developments with the ISOs and federal developments.

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