



## NEEP 2015 QUARTERLY REPORT SECOND 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. NEEP continues to play its role—bringing stakeholders together to find solutions for the climate and economic challenges we face today. 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 strategies that accelerate energy efficiency on a regional scale. Highlights of our work this quarter include:

#### NEEP MISSION

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

### Make Energy Efficiency Visible

- **Planned for industrial energy efficiency workshops and recognition of the 2015 Northeast Business Leaders:** With the shift in focus from the 2015 Summit to the [2016 NEEP Summit and 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration](#), NEEP is now planning for a series of industrial energy efficiency workshops as well as a celebration of the [2015 Northeast Business Leaders for Energy Efficiency](#) to be held in November at the Omni Mount Washington Resort in Bretton Woods, NH, November 12-13.
- **The 2015 Business Leaders Recognition Program showcases regional business voices in support of efficiency:** This year's [Business Leaders](#) highlight efficiency as an important and cost-effective energy and economic development resource. After nomination by [NEEP Sponsors](#), [fourteen businesses and seven State Champions](#) were selected as exemplars in reaching environmental and budgetary goals via investments in efficiency. Written and video case studies were produced to highlight the accomplishments of these businesses, who collectively achieved an annual electricity savings of over 25 million kWh, over 200,000 therms, and cost savings of \$4,458,120.
- **NEEP Sponsors and Partners inform development of NEEP's new Strategic Plan:** The leadership of our [Sponsors](#) and [Partners](#) is key to achieving NEEP's mission to accelerate energy efficiency in the Northeast – Mid-Atlantic region. Our Sponsors and Partners provided vital input to inform NEEP's new 2016-2018 Strategic Plan, which identifies key strategies to achieve our mission of accelerating energy efficiency in homes, buildings, and industry as an essential part of demand-side solutions that enable a sustainable regional energy system. Key to this is NEEP's engagement with states, energy efficiency programs, and industry to ensure that we match their needs and readiness with regional initiatives to achieve our shared mission and vision. We look forward to sharing more information with you about how our new strategic plan will inform our projects moving forward.
- **Strategic Marketing & Communications (SMC) team engaged and broadened NEEP's audience:** Outreach through [www.neep.org](#), e-mail marketing, blog posts, and social media highlighted NEEP's thought leadership across all of our strategy areas. And by working with the communications teams at other regional energy efficiency organizations (REEOs) and national non-governmental organizations, NEEP's SMC team was able to communicate to a wider audience about the region's role as a national leader and innovator of efficiency programs and policies.



### *Reduce Building Energy Use*

- **NEEP released a new white paper, [Construction Codes in the Northeast: Myths and Realities of Energy Code Adoption and the Economic Effects](#):** This new resource provides an analysis of the economic effects of regional energy code implementation to address concerns over the upfront costs of these codes for builders. NEEP found no connection in the commercial or residential sectors between code implementation and levels of construction activity. Granular construction data from both sectors is included as a resource for targeted code trainings to increase compliance rates. The projections for energy cost and carbon savings can be used by states to predict the savings potential of switching to the latest energy codes.
- **Organized regional residential building asset rating meeting:** In response to the recent surge in [home energy labeling initiatives](#) in the Northeast, NEEP brought together some of the region's leading residential asset rating stakeholders on May 20 in North Haven, Connecticut. Attendees shared how they have achieved their success to date and identified potential future needs, followed by presentations by the U.S. Department of Energy and Earth Advantage. NEEP then facilitated a discussion of the barriers and opportunities for collaboration.
- **Provided national leadership for school operation, maintenance, and construction:** NEEP's Senior Program Manager for High Performance Buildings, Carolyn Sarno Goldthwaite, was appointed as Chair of the Board of Directors for the [Collaborative for High Performance Schools](#) (CHPS), the first green building rating program in the country especially designed for K-12 schools. In 2006, NEEP—on behalf of our regional stakeholders—purchased a license to create [New England-CHPS](#), which has been the standard for school construction since that time in Rhode Island, Vermont, and New Hampshire—and most recently in Massachusetts where it replaced [MA-CHPS](#).

### *Speed Adoption of High Efficiency Products*

- **Kicked-off planning for the 2015 Residential Lighting Strategy (RLS) Update:** NEEP hosted a webinar on April 28 to discuss progress on the RLS to date and begin planning for the [2015 Northeast Residential Lighting Workshop](#). The 2015 RLS Update, expected to be finalized early in the fourth quarter, will include: lighting baseline guidance, a summary of smart lighting options and controls, information on lighting market transformation, and updates on regional activities. NEEP also drafted a companion report, "State of our Sockets," to look at the big picture of the residential lighting market, market transformation, and the appropriate role for efficiency programs.
- **The DesignLights Consortium™ (DLC) continued to experience incredible growth and development:** The [DLC Qualified Products List](#) (QPL) exceeded the 100,000-product mark and increased its manufacturer participation by 11.6 percent. To further increase the relevance of the DLC's technical resources within the lighting market, the DLC refined and released [Technical Requirements Table Version 3.0](#). In addition, the DLC team focused on preparing for the annual [DLC Stakeholder Meeting](#) scheduled for August 3-5 in Washington, D.C.
- **Cold-Climate Air Source Heat Pump (ccASHP) specification listings:** With the publication of the [ccASHP specification](#), stakeholders across the region now have a model equipment and performance requirement specification. The specification and its associated metrics were developed to help regional stakeholders better identify products that perform under low-temperature conditions. Seventy-one units were added to the list in the second quarter. This interest clearly demonstrates the need for the ccASHP specification to provide better assurance



that units are performing during the coldest parts of the winter season, which will strengthen the reputation of ASHPs and drive accelerated adoption of the technology throughout the region.

- **Commercial Advanced Lighting Controls (CALC) project received ‘Green’ project health indicator from the US DOE:** NEEP continued to make significant progress on DOE-funded activities of the [CALC project](#) including Demonstration Projects, Training Resources, and a nationally-adopted incentive strategy to support the technology. As part of a quarterly project assessment, DOE assigned a ‘Green’ overall project health indicator, meaning that they believe the project is generally on track, there are no major concerns, and the project continues to hold strong promise.
- **Hosted a regional Advanced Roof-Top Unit (ARTU) workshop:** [NEEP held a workshop](#) on June 15 to engage stakeholders concerned with ARTU market barriers. Participants included energy efficiency program administrators, efficiency advocates, industry representatives, and state agency staff. After a presentation and panel on new ARTU program strategies, there were two break-out sessions. Stakeholders ranked common barriers, listed new ideas/solutions for overcoming them, and ranked strategic activities. These scores were tallied and the suggestions were incorporated into the ARTU Market Assessment in development.
- **Launched new Industrial Energy Efficiency initiative:** NEEP assembled a Leadership Advisory Committee of regional stakeholder to advise and advance a [new Industrial Energy Efficiency project](#). Participants were identified, engaged, and committed to advancing the adoption of Strategic Energy Management (SEM) amongst industrial customers throughout the region. The project will develop a market assessment of the region’s industrial sector, identify strategies to drive adoption of SEM, host a regional informational sharing exchange, and develop a directory of sector-specific experts that programs can tap into for highly specialized expertise.
- **Developed a draft comment letter for the federal [residential gas furnace appliance standards rulemaking](#) process:** NEEP conducted research and analysis to inform these comments and sought perspectives and data from regional stakeholders. The comments, which will be circulated for sign-on by supporting organizations, largely support the US DOE’s proposed levels of 92% annual fuel utilization efficiency (AFUE), but urge the incorporation of different assumptions into the analysis that would likely make the economics of a 95% AFUE standard preferable. Either of these levels will achieve significant energy savings in the Northeast - Mid-Atlantic region.

### ***Advance Knowledge & Best Practices***

- **Advanced knowledge through timely release of new EM&V research:** NEEP released two new products of the Evaluation, Measurement and Verification (EM&V) Forum, and hosted two webinars in time for sponsors to include study results in their 2016 planning and evaluation activities. These resources included the [Mid-Atlantic Technical Reference Manual Version 5.0](#), the [Incremental Cost Study Phase 4 Final Report](#), the [June 5 Incremental Cost Study Phase 4 Public Webinar](#), and the [June 18 Loadshape Study Commercial Refrigeration Public Webinar](#).
- **Provided thought leadership, technical expertise, and coordination to advance energy efficiency as a resource:** With unprecedented energy policy proceedings underway in a number of key states, NEEP collaborated with other advocacy groups, program administrators, and government agencies to deliver [public comments](#) in Massachusetts, New York, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Connecticut, and Vermont. We also released an edition of our [Highlights](#) newsletter to share developments with our stakeholders.



## NEEP 2015 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
<p><b>VISIBILITY</b></p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Increased media coverage and public understanding and support of energy efficiency as a critical energy resource</li> <li>➤ Northeast &amp; Mid-Atlantic region widely recognized as national energy efficiency leader</li> <li>➤ Visible business leadership for energy efficiency policies and programs</li> <li>➤ NEEP Sponsors &amp; Partners support and actively engage in regional collaboration to scale up efficiency</li> </ul>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Northeast Energy Efficiency Summit</li> <li>2. Northeast Business Leaders Recognition Program</li> <li>3. NEEP Sponsorship &amp; Partners Program</li> <li>4. NEEP Strategic Marketing &amp; Communications</li> </ol>
<p><b>BUILDINGS</b></p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ The region leads the nation in adoption of, and compliance with, progressive building energy codes</li> <li>➤ Markets value high efficiency homes, buildings</li> <li>➤ States, municipalities commit to maintaining, building high performance schools, public buildings</li> <li>➤ Model programs and resources address market barriers to energy efficiency retrofits in key market segments</li> </ul>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Building Energy Regulation</li> <li>2. Market Valuation of Building Energy Performance</li> <li>3. Building Energy Best Practices</li> </ol>
<p><b>PRODUCTS</b></p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Northeast leads in penetration of high efficiency products</li> <li>➤ Higher baselines through appliance standards lock in market gains</li> <li>➤ Regulatory policy supports new technologies and strategies to advance high efficiency options</li> </ul>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. High Efficiency Retail Consumer Products</li> <li>2. DesignLights Consortium™ SSL Qualified Products List</li> <li>3. High Efficiency Air Source Heat Pumps</li> <li>4. Commercial Advanced Lighting Controls</li> <li>5. High Efficiency Consumer Packaged HVAC</li> <li>6. Industrial Energy Efficiency</li> <li>7. Appliance Efficiency Standards</li> </ol>
<p><b>KNOWLEDGE</b></p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ The region leads the nation in transparent and publicly accessible EM&amp;V and reporting practices that support energy efficiency as a public policy priority</li> <li>➤ States and local government commit to and implement energy efficiency as a top energy priority</li> </ul>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Regional Evaluation, Measurement &amp; Verification Forum</li> <li>2. Public Policy Outreach &amp; Analysis</li> </ol>



## Make Energy Efficiency Visible

*Position the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic region as the national leader for efficiency as a critical and tangible energy resource to support environmental sustainability, a robust economy, and a reliable and affordable energy system.*

### Northeast Energy Efficiency Summit

- **Planned for industrial energy efficiency workshops and recognition of the 2015 Northeast Business Leaders:** With the shift in focus from the 2015 Summit to the [2016 NEEP Summit and 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration](#), NEEP is now planning for a series of industrial energy efficiency workshops as well as a celebration of the [2015 Northeast Business Leaders for Energy Efficiency](#) to be held at the Mt. Washington Hotel on November 12-13. Staff also began planning for the 2016 NEEP Summit, which will include a celebration of NEEP's 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary to highlight the success of the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic region as an influential national leader and innovator in realizing the full potential and value of energy efficiency.

### Northeast Business Leaders for Energy Efficiency

- **The 2015 Business Leaders Recognition Program showcases regional business voices in support of energy efficiency:** This year's [Business Leaders](#) exemplify efficiency success stories, highlighting the resource as an important and cost-effective energy and economic development resource. Fourteen nominees were selected that highlight a variety of projects and overall commitments to doing more with less energy. Through their efforts to curb energy demand, these businesses are exemplar cases of reaching environmental and budgetary goals via investments in efficiency. Among the 14 businesses, seven State Champions were honored as exemplars, proving that efficiency measures can be deployed across myriad industries with positive effects on the environment, the community, and the bottom line. The [official announcement](#) of winners was made in June, and written and video case studies were produced to highlight the accomplishments of these businesses, who collectively achieved an annual electricity savings of over 25 million kWh, over 200,000 therms, and cost savings of \$4,458,120.
- **Business Leaders received media attention as a result of their award:**
  - General coverage: [Energy Efficiency Markets](#)
  - Central Vermont Medical Center (VT): [Rutland Herald](#), [VT Digger](#), [Waterbury Record](#), [WCAX](#), and [Wherezit](#)
  - Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe (MA): [Cape Cod Times](#) and [CapeCod.com](#)
- **Case studies and marketing collateral tell the story of efficiency as good business:** Inspiring [case studies](#), both written and video, were created to bring these Business Leaders success stories to life. The stories highlight business investments in energy efficiency and participation in ratepayer-funded programs. NEEP created a Public Relations tool kit to assist in coordinated outreach.
- **Targeted outreach created a drum beat of business support for efficiency:** NEEP created a four-month outreach plan to highlight each Business Leader for one week, supporting the outreach with social media and blog entries. NEEP will continue to engage Business Leaders and their [NEEP](#)



[Sponsor](#) nominators. This continued engagement will promote Business Leaders achievements, provide the case for the importance of efficiency as a valuable energy resource and economic development strategy, and enhance the region's collaborative effort to provide visibility for business efficiency.

### ***NEEP Sponsorship & Partners Program***

- **NEEP Sponsors and Partners inform development of NEEP's new Strategic Plan:** The leadership of our [Sponsors](#) and [Partners](#) is key to achieving NEEP's mission to accelerate energy efficiency in the Northeast – Mid-Atlantic region. Our Sponsors and Partners provided vital input to inform NEEP's new 2016-2018 Strategic Plan, which identifies key strategies to achieve our mission of accelerating energy efficiency in homes, buildings, and industry as an essential part of demand-side solutions that enable a sustainable regional energy system. Key to this is NEEP's engagement with states, energy efficiency programs, and industry to ensure that we match their needs and readiness with regional initiatives to achieve our shared mission and vision. We look forward to sharing more information with you in the coming months about how our new strategic plan will inform our strategies and projects moving forward.
- **Sponsors and regional businesses highlight the benefits of energy efficiency:** [NEEP Sponsors](#)—energy efficiency program administrators—are invited to nominate businesses that have utilized ratepayer-funded efficiency programs to achieve significant energy and costs savings in their operations. The [2015 Northeast Business Leaders for Energy Efficiency](#) showcase this joint effort and highlight the potential of regional efficiency programs and the economic and environmental benefits of energy efficiency for the region. Congratulations to this year's winners!
- **Sponsors and Partners providing regional leadership and engaging in NEEP projects:** [Sponsors](#) and [Partners](#) continued to be highly active in NEEP projects, providing leadership to develop strategies to meet the region's ambitious energy efficiency goals. They were invited to participate in NEEP working groups, webinars, workshops, and many other opportunities as outlined in the report below.
- **Hire of new Development and Partnership Manager:** NEEP is excited to announce the hire of [Karen Patterson Greene](#), who joined us in June. Karen will be leading our efforts to build and maintain a diverse and sustainable funding base to support NEEP's efforts throughout the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic. She looks forward to both strengthening and building new relationships with Sponsors, Partners, and other funders and stakeholders. Karen brings over 17 years of experience working with non-profit organizations, government agencies, and the private sector to further land conservation and water quality protection efforts, address climate change, and other sustainability issues. She looks forward to meeting each of you and getting your feedback on how NEEP can better serve our Sponsors and Partners in advancing our shared objective of accelerating energy efficiency throughout the region.

### ***NEEP Strategic Marketing & Communications***

- **Strategic Marketing & Communications (SMC) team engaged and broadened NEEP's audience:** Outreach through [www.neep.org](http://www.neep.org), e-mail marketing, blog posts, and social media highlighted NEEP's thought leadership across all of our strategy areas. And by working with the



communications teams at other regional energy efficiency organizations (REEOs) and national non-governmental organizations, NEEP was able to communicate to a wider audience about the region's role as an influential national leader and innovator of efficiency programs and policies, and share best practices as we collectively work to communicate energy efficiency's role as the least-cost energy resource to meet public policy goals.

- **Built organizational capacity with new hire:** NEEP welcomed Karen Patterson Greene as the Development and Partnership Manager. Karen comes to us with a wide range of non-profit fundraising experience and we are excited to have her join us.
- **Shared NEEP's story with local, regional, and national media outlets:** NEEP issued two press releases that highlighted the 2015 Business Leaders and NEEP's participation in a US DOE project:
  - [April 6](#): NEEP Names 2015 Northeast Business Leaders for Energy Efficiency
  - [May 28](#): Northeast Energy Efficiency Partnerships Joins Home Energy Information Accelerator
- **Gained media attention through collaborative efforts to position the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic region as a national efficiency leader:** NEEP appeared in several media stories that brought attention to the region as a national energy efficiency leader, while also demonstrating the value of efficiency as a critical energy resource. Through its work and the work of its partners, NEEP provided reliable and credible information to media. Some highlights include:
  - [July 3](#): The Housing Scene (syndicated column) – Guide for energy efficient buyers
  - [May 12](#): Energy Efficiency Markets – A Changing Landscape: Characterizing energy efficiency as a resource, not a cost (blog repost)
  - [May 15](#): Energy-in-Demand International - A Changing Landscape: Characterizing energy efficiency as a resource, not a cost (blog repost)
  - [May 16](#): Eagle Tribune – Street lights save money, energy (LTE)
  - [June 22](#): Cape Cod Times – Tribe gets award for energy efficiency
  - [June 26](#): Rutland Herald – UVM Health Network honored
  - [June 28](#): Energy Efficiency Markets – Quick Energy Efficiency News/Northeast Energy Efficiency Leaders
- **Engaged audiences on efficiency topics using multiple communications channels:** NEEP's Strategic Marketing & Communications team worked with program staff to use e-mail marketing, blog posts, and social media to spread the word and engage audiences on NEEP's products and thought leadership:
  - **Advance Knowledge and Best Practices**
    - [Can New York Fulfill its Promise to Reform the Energy Vision?](#)
    - [Utility Mergers: Where Does Energy Efficiency Fit In?](#)
    - [A Changing Landscape: Characterizing Energy Efficiency as a Resource, Not a Cost](#)
    - [New Study Unearths Energy Baseline for Clothes Dryers in the Northeast](#)



- **Reduce Building Energy Use**
  - [Comprehensive Checklist Enables Real Estate Professionals to Assess Home Energy Attributes](#)
  - [Regional Building Energy Code Rundown](#)
  - [Updates from the 2015 Better Buildings Summit: Big Progress Towards an Ambitious Presidential Goal](#)
- **Speed Adoption of High Efficiency Products**
  - [Looking for Winter-Proof Heat Pumps?](#)
  - [Impressions from LightFair 2015: LED Revolution to Evolution](#)
  - [Advanced Rooftop Units Are Keeping it Cool](#)
  - [What's on the Horizon for Home Energy Management Systems?](#)
- **NEEP's website served as an efficiency resource for visitors from around the country:** Over the course of the quarter, [www.neep.org](http://www.neep.org) attracted nearly 14,000 visitors with 85 percent of those visitors coming from the United States, mostly centered in the Northeast - Mid-Atlantic region. Stakeholders visited our website to get information about [cold climate air source heat pumps](#), the [Regional Energy Efficiency Database](#), and many other efficiency topics.

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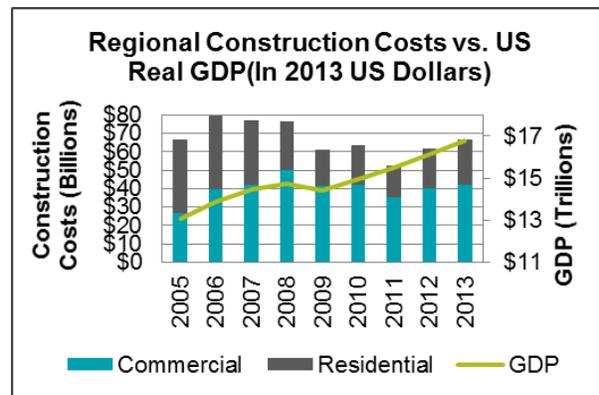
## Reduce Building Energy Use

*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.*

### Building Energy Regulation

- Released new white paper, [Construction Codes in the Northeast: Myths and Realities of Energy Code Adoption and the Economic Effects](#). This resource provides an analysis of the economic

effects of energy code implementation in the region to address concerns over the upfront costs of codes for builders. NEEP found no connection in the commercial or residential sectors between code implementation and levels of construction activity. Granular construction data from the residential and commercial sectors is included as a resource for targeted code trainings to increase compliance rates. The projections for energy cost and carbon savings can be used by states to predict the savings potential of adopting the latest energy codes.



- Facilitated the first Vermont Energy Code Collaborative:** NEEP provides technical assistance for code adoption and compliance to the Vermont Department of Public Safety and other Vermont stakeholders. NEEP hosted the kick-off meeting of the [Vermont Code Collaborative](#) on May 1. Over one dozen stakeholders attended to discuss the purpose, mission, and goals of the Collaborative. The primary mission is to facilitate compliance with the state’s building energy codes and to serve as a reliable and unbiased source for information on building energy codes and code compliance. The group will meet again on July 15 to review the current [Vermont Energy Code Compliance Plan](#).
- 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. This quarter, we:
  - Worked closely with Delaware’s Energy Code Coalition as the state completed its [2012 IECC/ASHRAE 90.1-2010](#) implementation last year. In the second quarter, NEEP provided technical support to the state’s Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control (DNREC) on code support training resources.
  - Provided technical guidance to the New Hampshire Building Energy Code Compliance Collaborative to advance strategies set in the state’s [Code Compliance Roadmap](#). NEEP also continued to lead the Collaborative’s pursuit of a home energy labeling program.
  - Supported the [Pennsylvania Energy Code Collaborative](#)’s efforts to measure and achieve full code compliance, educate consumers, and incentivize energy efficiency. NEEP helped



shape the Collaborative's short-term goal of educating the design professional community about code compliance and long-term goal of engaging utilities in code compliance enhancement activities. Beginning in the third quarter, NEEP will transition into the facilitator role for this Collaborative.

- **Developed technical code resources for the region:** To support states that have already adopted or have proposed to adopt the 2015 IECC, NEEP oversaw the development of a pair of residential construction field guides that are based on the 2015 IECC and customized for the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic region. The guides, which are organized by inspection stage (for code officials) and by trade (for builders), feature checklists and pictures for easy use onsite, and also include sufficient breadth and depth to be used as the basis of training. They include guidance for meeting the code and recommended practices for achieving additional energy savings. The guides are available [in print](#), and sections are freely available [online](#). To maximize the quality and usefulness of the guides, NEEP assembled a review team from its Regional Codes Leadership Group to incorporate recommendations from representatives across the region.
- **Supported cutting-edge code compliance enhancement efforts in Rhode Island:** National Grid—in partnership with the Rhode Island Code Commission, NEEP, and a contractor team—administers training programs (the savings from which it is allowed to claim as part of its regulatory proceedings) through its [Code Compliance Enhancement Initiative](#). NEEP participates in both its Implementation and Evaluation Working Groups. This quarter, the Implementation Working Group assessed and adjusted the training program being delivered in conjunction with the state's adoption of the 2012 IECC. The residential and commercial training programs, which feature in-field sessions and a 'circuit rider' program, held four residential and two commercial classes which drew a combined 75 attendees. The Evaluation Working Group continued to review the program's checklists and key performance indicators in order to guide National Grid to claim energy savings and has considered extending this knowledge to states interested in how a similar process could help them demonstrate compliance with the eventual 111(d) Clean Air Act mandate.
- **Provided technical assistance on code legal proceedings in New York and New Hampshire:**
  - NEEP provided technical assistance to the New York State Division of Building Standards and Codes at two public hearings and directly to Division staff. The New York State Code Council voted at its May 15 meeting for conceptual approval of the [2015 International Energy Conservation Code](#) with a few minor modifications for multifamily buildings. The Council will further discuss formal 2015 IECC review and rulemaking at [future meetings](#) on August 19 and November 10. NEEP will attend these hearings to support adoption of the 2015 IECC and offer technical assistance as needed.
  - NEEP provided counterpoints against efforts that would compromise New Hampshire's potential 2015 IECC adoption by rolling back envelope thermal resistance requirements to 2009 IECC levels.
- **Extended knowledge and resources through NEEP's Codes Leadership Group:** NEEP organized and delivered a [quarterly webinar](#) on June 25 to 33 regional stakeholders with a focus on NEEP's new Codes and Construction Trends paper and 2015 IECC Field Guides, both discussed above. In addition, NEEP provided the group with relevant and timely state, regional, and national energy code updates throughout the quarter.



- **Updated and refined NEEP’s Regional Code Adoption and Compliance Toolkits:** With many states in the region poised to pursue the 2015 IECC, and with the US DOE’s 2017 goal of 90-percent compliance now only three years away, NEEP disseminated [Code Adoption](#) and [Code Compliance](#) Toolkits earlier in the year to help streamline solutions to these issues. In the second quarter, NEEP released the first updates to these Toolkits, which were downloaded 40 times. The Adoption Toolkit includes code analyses and comparisons, talking points on key issues, state-specific resource amendments, useful code language, and stretch code guidance. The Compliance Toolkit includes compliance assessment findings, guides and FAQs, state-specific training and enforcement materials, and guidance for utility-claimed savings frameworks. The Toolkits will be updated periodically as new resources become available.
- **Defended against rollbacks of existing energy codes in Maine:** Three major code rollback bills — LDs 1093, 1120, and 1191 — were introduced in the Maine legislature. The aim of these bills ranged from limiting the number of municipalities where the Maine Uniform Building and Energy Code (MUBEC), based on the 2009 IECC, is effective to repealing it entirely. In response, NEEP partnered with a coalition assembled by the Natural Resources Council of Maine to develop strategies to educate stakeholders on why the proposed bills would weaken the current code. NEEP submitted [written comments](#) and the coalition efforts helped to defeat two of the bills, with LD 1191 still in legislative limbo.
- **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 the Responsible Energy Codes Alliance (RECA), National Association of State Energy Officials (NASEO), Building Codes Awareness Project (BCAP), and the Northeast HERS Alliance. NEEP also participated in meetings with the National Energy Codes Collaborative, a joint partnership of the US DOE, Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL), BCAP, NASEO, and the other regional energy efficiency organizations (REEOs).
- **Maintained our online building energy codes resource center:** NEEP maintained and regularly updated the [Building Energy Codes homepage](#), [News Bulletin Board](#), [Codes Tracker](#), and [Resources](#) pages to feature the latest news, events, and resources on code adoption and compliance throughout the region. NEEP also included a [2015 code adoption preview](#) describing the movement of these codes toward zero net energy in this year’s [Regional Roundup](#).

### ***Market Valuation of Building Energy Performance***

- **Organized regional residential building asset rating meeting:** In response to the surge of recent progress of home energy labeling initiatives in the Northeast, NEEP convened a group of the region’s leading residential asset rating stakeholders on May 20 at the Energize CT Center in North Haven, Conn. Representatives from Connecticut, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York, and Vermont shared how they have achieved their successes and identified potential future needs. This was followed by presentations by US DOE and Earth Advantage to provide some national context. Finally, NEEP facilitated a group discussion of these barriers and opportunities for collaboration. While the policy environment, housing stock, and priorities vary from state to state, participants were able to make connections with their counterparts in other states, learn from the successes of one another, and move toward streamlining work in this space going forward.



- **Disseminated resources to support energy efficiency valuation in real estate transactions:** NEEP continued to address the demand for home energy labeling initiatives in the region by disseminating resources to facilitate the incorporation of energy efficient building characteristics into real estate transactions. NEEP’s [Checklist for Real Estate Professionals on Home Energy Efficiency Characteristics](#) was highlighted in an [article](#) that outlined the different components of the checklist and their importance for real estate professionals and home buyers. We leveraged our relationship with Craig Foley, a green realtor, to continue to spread our resources at his trainings around the region, as noted in the table below.

NEEP Buildings Q2 2015 Real Estate Checklist Dissemination	
Venue	Attendees
Eastern Middlesex Association of Realtors	20
Cape Cod & Island Association of Realtors	50
Making Efficiency Visible in the Real Estate Market Webinar	100
<b>Total:</b>	<b>170</b>

- **Engaged real estate professionals on the value of energy efficiency:** NEEP hosted a webinar, [Making Efficiency Visible in the Real Estate Market](#), to 100 attendees. The webinar laid out the barriers and opportunities for real estate professionals in incorporating the energy efficient characteristics of residential buildings into real estate transactions. Resources were outlined including the [Checklist for Real Estate Professionals](#) and the Appraisal Institute’s Green and Energy Efficient Addendum for Appraisers. This webinar provided tools to real estate professionals that ensure proper valuation of energy efficiency characteristics in the built environment.
- **Promoted commercial asset rating methodologies developed by Massachusetts and US DOE:** NEEP presented on the [Massachusetts Building Asset Rating \(BAR\) Pilot](#) and US DOE’s Commercial Asset Score programs to the Commercial & Industrial Committee of the Connecticut Energy Efficiency Board, which is interested in incorporating commercial asset rating into the state’s upcoming three-year energy plan. NEEP and the Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources (DOER) continued to lead the BAR Pilot, this year embarking on Phase 3, which focuses on extending the program in the state and beyond. NEEP participated in a meeting between DOE and DOER to help maintain alignment between the BAR and Commercial Asset Score programs.
- **Supported residential and commercial building rating efforts in Rhode Island:** NEEP continued to support an initiative to develop statewide building energy rating policies and programs led by the Rhode Island Office of Energy Resources. After providing guidance at initial meetings last quarter, we supported the new residential and commercial rating working groups by sharing the latest lessons from leading regional efforts and developing resources to contextualize this for Rhode Island, including a comparison of the information collected by the Rhode Island Association of Realtors’ disclosure form, a standard home inspection, a National Grid energy audit, and a DOE Home Energy Score.
- **Joined DOE’s Home Energy Information Accelerator:** NEEP signed on in May to participate in DOE’s new [Home Energy Information Accelerator](#), which seeks to expand the availability and use of reliable home energy information at relevant points in residential real estate transactions. NEEP,



along with partners at NYSERDA and VEIC, will represent the region in this effort by convening state energy offices, utility program administrators, real estate professionals, and local MLS firms to create a best practice exchange and develop supporting tools and resources. Our participation in the Accelerator also aligns well with NEEP's potential development of a Home Energy Labeling Information Exchange (HELIX) initiative, which would aim to develop a consistent regional platform supporting streamlined access to, and transfer of, home energy data.

- **Promoted home energy labeling programs in Massachusetts and New Hampshire:** NEEP provided oral and [written technical guidance](#) at a June public hearing in support of Massachusetts Senate Bill 1761, which would require home sellers to complete an energy audit prior to listing their home for sale and disclose the home's energy performance to potential homebuyers through a state-developed energy label. Additionally, NEEP continued to co-chair the New Hampshire Energy Code Collaborative's effort to develop home energy labeling program recommendations, which will be voted on at the next Collaborative meeting, and which will work in harmony with the federally-funded Vermont-New Hampshire energy rating project launched this year.
- **Finalized new resource on facilitating public-sector data access and benchmarking:** NEEP completed the final draft of the report "Public Sector Building Energy Benchmarking: Utility Data Access Options and Opportunities," planned for release early in the third quarter. The paper includes case studies and strategies from across the region to facilitate energy data access, as well as recommendations for utilities and policymakers to assist in public-sector benchmarking.
- **Facilitated a national workshop on energy data management:** NEEP—alongside the US DOE and other REEOs—facilitated a workshop of 90 people at the [DOE's Better Buildings Summit](#) on energy data. The workshop provided a venue for state and local government representatives to share knowledge and best practices around energy data access and management to help achieve their energy reduction goals.
- **Maintained regional and national network of energy rating allies:** NEEP shared updates on regional building energy rating activities with our Building Energy Codes and Public Buildings Leadership Groups. We also continued to engage with our national and regional codes counterparts, most notably by providing regional updates with allies such as the Institute for Market Transformation (IMT) and NASEO.
- **Maintained our online building energy rating resource center:** NEEP maintained and regularly updated the [Building Energy Rating homepage](#), [Multifamily Retrofit homepage](#), and [Resources](#) page to feature the latest news, events, and resources on commercial energy benchmarking and home energy labeling. These resources help to accelerate building energy rating efforts throughout the region by providing state and municipal officials with the most current information.

### **Building Energy Best Practices**

- Providing national leadership for school operation, maintenance, and construction:** NEEP’s Carolyn Sarno Goldthwaite was appointed in June as Chair of the Board of Directors for the non-profit [Collaborative for High Performance Schools](#) (CHPS), the first green building rating program in the country especially designed for K-12 schools. Carolyn’s election represents a milestone for CHPS as she is the first Board Chair elected from outside of California where the organization is based. Carolyn joined the CHPS Board of Directors in 2008 when it became a national organization and has been a Co-Vice Chair since 2009. In 2006, NEEP, on behalf of our regional stakeholders, purchased a license to create [Northeast-CHPS](#) which has been the



*Jim Ogdon, former Chair; Carolyn Sarno Goldthwaite, Chair; Bill Orr, Executive Director - CHPS*

- standard for school construction since that time in Rhode Island, Vermont, and New Hampshire—and most recently in Massachusetts where it replaced [MA-CHPS](#). The mission of CHPS is in direct alignment with NEEP’s mission as well as many of our states’ goals. Together, we are working to fundamentally change the way we design, construction, and operate schools.
- Leading development of a national energy efficiency leadership agenda for state and local governments:** NEEP’s Carolyn Sarno Goldthwaite co-Chairs the [SEE Action Existing Commercial Buildings Working Group](#). Most recently, she worked with EPA, DOE, and co-Chair Eric Coffman to create a framework and plan for establishing an agenda in preparation for a kick-off meeting with stakeholders in July. The objective of the agenda is to establish a national benchmark for state and local government leadership on energy efficiency by defining a suite of bold-yet-practical solutions they can implement over the next five years.
- Developed and disseminated case studies on exemplar school building projects:** NEEP participated in development of a [video case study](#) of a 2014 MA-CHPS verified school—the Southeastern Regional Vocational Technical School. The case study promotes the value of building and maintaining schools as healthy and high performing environments. NEEP also posted a [blog](#) to highlight the high performing features of the school, and developed a [case study of Arlington, Massachusetts’ Thompson Elementary School](#), one of two schools in Massachusetts to earn a CHPS “Verified Leader” designation. This case study will serve as guidance for above-code programs that are paving the way to zero net energy buildings and keeping the region a leader in the construction of high performance buildings.
- Collaborated with regional and national stakeholders to advance energy efficiency and health in the built environment:** NEEP participated in quarterly teleconferences of the New England Clean, Green and Healthy Schools initiative. The group is facilitated by EPA Region 1 and is focused on improving indoor environmental health to create better learning environments for students and staff. NEEP also participated in [New Hampshire Partners for Healthy Schools](#) meetings. Lastly, NEEP attended a [K-12 stakeholder meeting](#) held in conjunction with DOE’s Better Buildings Summit.



- **Facilitated Rhode Island Schools Leadership Group:** NEEP facilitated two meetings with the RI Schools Leadership Group, which is focused on promoting operational savings while paving the way to zero net energy schools. The first meeting allowed for best practice sharing from the Rhode Island Public Energy Partnership and the Rhode Island Department of Education. The second meeting focused on the end of the state's schools construction moratorium, which comes with a few changes to the funding structure and the creation of a school building authority.
- **Provided technical assistance on street lighting:** NEEP continued to disseminate the report released in January, entitled [Street Lighting Assessment and Strategies for the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic](#). The report provides a baseline estimate of LED street light penetration in the region and offers strategies that have been successful for cities and towns seeking to replace their street lights with LEDs. It also offers guidance to move the region toward achievement of the 1.76 TWH of estimated potential annual energy savings. NEEP disseminated the report to stakeholders considering street light conversion including representatives from the city of Newark, N.J., Scarsdale, N.Y., and Tioga County, N.Y.
- **Participated in the Network for Water, Energy, and Health in Affordable Buildings (NEWHAB) to increase retrofits in the multifamily sector:** NEEP shared resources with national stakeholders from NEWHAB in efforts to increase energy efficiency in the multifamily housing sector. We invited stakeholders to participate in the June 24 webinar, [Making Efficiency Visible in the Real Estate Market](#), to disseminate best practices to multifamily real estate professionals.
- **Provided technical assistance to advance zero net energy Buildings (ZNEBs) in the region and beyond:**
  - Provided oral and [written technical guidance](#) at a public hearing in support of Massachusetts Senate Bill 1771, which would require a ZNEB standard for residential and commercial buildings, with incrementally increases from 30-percent better than code to net zero.
  - Partnered with Arup, an engineering firm in Cambridge, Mass. to co-author an [article](#) for *July's Consulting Specifying Engineer*, which featured the John W. Olver Transit Center in Greenfield, Mass. and NEEP's [ZNE Roadmap](#).
  - Participated in the Cambridge Mass. Forum on their proposed [Net Zero Energy Action Plan](#), which was adopted in June by City Council.
  - Presented at the Mass. Green Building Council stakeholder meeting on pathways forward for the Commonwealth, including providing an overview of efforts from around the region and of the [Massachusetts Zero Net Energy Council](#), in which NEEP participates.
  - Participated in the R.I. Zero Net Energy Council at the invitation of National Grid and the Rhode Island Office of Energy Resources to work toward creation a ZNE roadmap for the state. NEEP attended the kick-off meeting in May, and presented at a June meeting on the recommendations from NEEP's [ZNE Roadmap](#) as well as on ZNE definitions, including one forthcoming from the US DOE.
- **Collaborated with partners to advance high performance school strategies in New York:** NEEP partnered with the [Healthy Schools Network](#) and [CHPS](#) to bring together New York stakeholders, including NYSERDA and the NY Department of Education, to discuss pathways for advancing high performance school construction. Options discussed included updating [NY CHPS](#), which hasn't been



updated since 2007, or use of [NE-CHPS](#) in its place. NEEP also shared best practices and resources, such as the [Operations and Maintenance Guide](#) and [exemplars](#) of high performance schools.

- **Improving the skillset of the regional facilities workforce:** At the invitation of the Massachusetts Facilities Administrators Association (MFAA), NEEP will organize three energy-focused tracks as well as a school tour for their annual fall conference, which will bring together facilities and energy managers from around the region. Sessions will include:
  - Benchmarking and Operations & Maintenance – EPA Region 1 and NEEP
  - Partnering with your Utility Provider – Cape Light Compact, National Grid, and Eversource
  - Strategies on Energy Bill Reduction and Solar PV Projects – Metropolitan Area Planning Council
- **Engaged with regional stakeholders to advance energy efficiency in the built environment:** NEEP participated in meetings, communications, and working groups dedicated to high performance building best practices in state and federal government, including:
  - New Hampshire Local Energy Solutions Working Group
  - AIA Massachusetts Government Affairs Committee
  - Rhode Island Association of School Maintenance Directors

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## Speed Adoption of High Efficiency Products

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

### High Efficiency Retail Consumer Products

- **Kicked-off planning for the 2015 Residential Lighting Strategy (RLS) Update:** NEEP hosted a webinar on April 28 to discuss progress on the RLS to date and begin planning for the [2015 Northeast Residential Lighting Workshop](#). The 2015 RLS Update, expected to be finalized early in the fourth quarter, will include: lighting baseline guidance, a summary of smart lighting options and controls, information on lighting market transformation, and updates on activities throughout the region. NEEP also drafted a companion report, “State of our Sockets,” to look at the big picture of the residential lighting market, market transformation, and the appropriate role for efficiency programs. NEEP believes that a market transformation perspective enables us to view the market in a way that can best inform decisions about the future of efficiency programs.
- **Sponsors highly satisfied with Retail Products Initiative:** NEEP provides a monthly newsletter update to members of the Retail Products Working Group, which this quarter averaged a strong 41% open rate, compared to the average open rate of [11.66%](#) for non-profit membership organizations. This demonstrates that Sponsors are actively using NEEP resources.
- **Sponsor Retail Products programs achieved significant energy savings:** In recognition of their regional collaboration and achievement, [NEEP Sponsors](#) were awarded [ENERGY STAR’s 2015 Partner of the Year - Sustained Excellence Award](#) on April 20. The ENERGY STAR Award Ceremony was well attended by NEEP staff and Sponsors. NEEP also presented each Sponsor with a framed certificate to commemorate the honor.
- **Drafted the Home Energy Management Systems (HEMS) Market Assessment Report:** NEEP finalized the contract with the [HEMS project](#) consultant, and held a successful project sub-committee meeting on May 22 via webinar to check in on research progress and review the first deliverable—a draft technology assessment to inform efficiency program planning and promotion development. The final product will include: a technology assessment, exploring the M&V potential of HEMS; assessment of program activity; efficiency program opportunities; areas for further study; and policy opportunities and recommendations.
- **Hosted two HEMS workshops:** NEEP convened two HEMS workshops. The first was co-facilitated by the Home Performance Coalition and took place in conjunction with ACI’s National Conference in New Orleans. The second [HEMS Workshop](#), held at Schneider Electric on [June 15](#), was a major stepping stone for the HEMS research project. Both workshops focused on emerging trends and challenges, introduced early findings, and gathered additional insights from key stakeholders.
- **NEEP Sponsors worked toward HEMS program promotions:** NEEP leads a HEMS Working Group with the goal to advance HEMS promotions in the region. The Working Group met via webinar on May 14 to provide an opportunity for stakeholders to share updates and build relationships, as well as work toward finalizing a HEMS Common Criteria document to align efficiency programs and vendors on expectations.



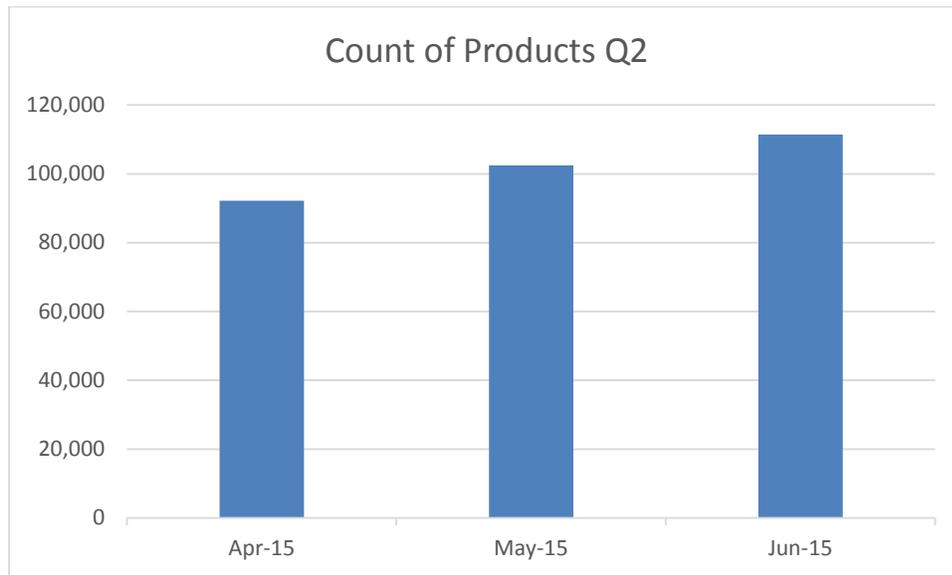
- **Published an Advanced Power Strips (APS) fact sheet:** NEEP's [Case Study on Tier 2 APS Products in Efficiency Programs](#) highlights several examples of successfully integrating Tier 2 APS into programs and touches on some existing research and analysis on Tier 2 products.
- **Engaged with ENERGY STAR's Retail Products Platform:** As part of our effort to connect program administrators with new opportunities in program design, NEEP participates in the ENERGY STAR Retail Products Platform (RPP) initiative, which is working with stakeholders across the nation to create a unified mid-stream efficient product program with national retail partners. NEEP attended bi-weekly calls for both the RPP EM&V Task Force as well as the larger RPP organizer calls concerning the implementation of a nationwide RPP pilot. NEEP also provided comments on EPA's Guidance on Evaluation of the RPP as well as their draft Product Guidance document.
- **Provided input to federal and state activities:** NEEP—with Cape Light Compact, the District of Columbia Sustainable Energy Utility, Efficiency Vermont, and National Grid—submitted comments on ENERGY STAR's [2.0 Luminaires Specification, Draft 2](#). Additionally—with Cape Light Compact, the District of Columbia Sustainable Energy Utility, Efficiency Vermont, Liberty Utilities, and the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority—we submitted comments to ENERGY STAR concerning the [2.0 Lamp Specification, Draft 2](#).
- **Maintained online retail products resource center and contributed to social media:** NEEP tracked web-traffic analytics and found that retail products webpages were visited significantly throughout the second quarter. The average on-page viewing time of the [APS](#) and [HEMS](#) pages were 3:12 and 2:44 minute respectively, compared to a NEEP website average of 2:06. Additionally, [What's on the Horizon for Home Energy Management Systems?](#) was posted to the NEEP blog.
- **Contributed regulatory/policy comments and guidance:** To assist in the long-term planning for efficiency programs, NEEP contributes comments relevant to retail products planning processes. This quarter, NEEP provided comments to Massachusetts efficiency program administrators on their draft three-year plan.
- **Attended regional and national meetings:** In addition to the HEMS workshops held on May 4 and June 15, NEEP presented at the ACEEE Market Transformation Symposium. Market Strategies Program Manager Claire Miziolek moderated a panel concerning the rapidly changing lighting market. The session covered how to support the successful market transformation and long-term success of CFLs & LEDs. Director of Market Strategies Dave Lis moderated a panel on emerging technologies. Additionally, NEEP attended the CEE Summer Study in June to engage with fellow efficiency stakeholders.

### ***DesignLights Consortium™ Solid State Lighting Qualified Products List***

- **The DesignLights Consortium (DLC) continued to experience incredible growth and development:** The [DLC Qualified Products List \(QPL\)](#) exceeded the 100,000-product mark and increased its manufacturer participation by 11.6%. To further increase the relevance of the DLC's technical resources within the lighting market, the DLC refined and released [Technical Requirements Table Version 3.0](#), the final requirement resulting from the restructuring proposals first released for comment in July 2014 and finalized throughout the first half of 2015.



- **Maintained DLC resources:** NEEP served DLC members by maintaining the DLC QPL via a publicly available, searchable, and comprehensive web-based listing of qualifying solid state lighting (SSL) products. The QPL and its technical requirements are the backbone of the DLC project which members rely on to promote high efficiency lighting products and achieve energy efficiency program savings goals.
  - **QPL growth:** The DLC QPL grew by 19,247 in the second quarter, leaving the product count at 111,462 products at the end of June. This represents products from approximately 1,250 different luminaire manufacturers.



- **Improved web-based functionality:** The [DLC website](#) functionality was updated in accordance with the new Technical Requirements. Users are now able to search the DLC QPL by five main categories and their respective sub-categories—Primary Use Designation, Specialty Use, as well as the DLC Standard and DLC Premium classifications.
  - **Increased web traffic:** Over the course of the second quarter, the DLC website received 424,544 page views by 45,686 users, 29.1% of which were new users. Approximately 70% of the sessions came from the U.S., while roughly 12% came from China, and approximately 10% from Canada. The remaining visits came from countries including Taiwan, South Korea, India, Hong Kong, United Kingdom, and Mexico.
  - **New QPL policies:** To keep the DLC QPL on the leading edge of SSL product introduction and to provide DLC members with enhanced technical information to support and inform their energy efficiency programs, NEEP worked with DLC members and invited stakeholders to inform new policies.
- **Restructuring the Technical Requirements Table (TRT):** The restructured [Technical Requirements Table](#) was released at the end of the second quarter. The new table reflects months of discussion and feedback from members and stakeholders. The modified structure of the requirements includes four key elements:



- **An alternate structure for the categorization of products:** Under previous versions, products were identified only with a single category. Under the new structure, products have a Category, General Application, and Primary Use Designation. These changes are intended to expand the types of luminaires that are eligible for DLC qualification, streamline the qualification process, add flexibility to the functionality of the list, and enable members and stakeholders to use the DLC QPL more effectively.
- **A “Specialty” Primary Use designation:** This allows for the qualification of products that may not fit neatly into the definitions of previously established categories, but still meet baseline performance requirements. This change will provide greater flexibility and new routes for qualification of niche products and allow the DLC to better address innovation in the lighting market.
- **DLC Premium classification:** The DLC Premium classification identifies products with higher performance than those that meet the DLC Standard classification. This change will enable members to identify the most efficacious products for incentive consideration. Manufacturers of these products can also distinguish themselves on the QPL and through the use of the new DLC Premium logo.
- **Challenge testing:** The challenge testing policy underwent third-party review, which resulted in recommendations for streamlining the program and managing program operation costs. The implementation timeline for these changes is forthcoming.
- **Maintained the integrity of the DLC brand:** The DLC has two main registered logo trademarks. DLC also uses and protects the trademark “DesignLights Consortium.” The DLC logos, as well as the trademark are all either pending applications or registered with the US Patent and Trademark Office.
  - **Monitoring DLC logo use compliance:** NEEP continued to implement the DLC Logo Compliance Process. This involved working with a legal team to support the process of bringing third parties into compliance with the DLC logo guidelines. Having support from experts in trademark law has made the process more uniformly applicable and has allowed the DLC to better communicate the seriousness and importance of logo guideline compliance to DLC stakeholders. The DLC continues to monitor access to and the use of the logo on marketing materials and websites.
  - **Development of a brand strategy:** An RFP to develop a DLC brand strategy was released in June, and after review of proposals, Brand Cool was selected as the consultant. Their work will begin at the start of the third quarter.
- **Broadened the base of support:**
  - **DLC member meetings and communications:**
    - The DLC held regular member meetings and Technical Committee meetings in the second quarter.
    - [@DesignLightsSSL](#) gained approximately 50 new followers on Twitter as a result of tweets about industry news, conference outcomes and observations, and general updates from the DLC.



- The DLC regularly prepared and distributed updates to DLC members and industry including program updates, general information, and announcements through the DLC Member Update, the DLC Industry Update, and Stakeholder Meeting e-blasts.
- **Increasing memberships:** The DLC renewed membership with most existing members and is in the process of wrapping up the 2015 member commitment process. DLC continues to be in conversation with potential new members.
- **DLC QPL Annual Stakeholder Meeting:** Planning for the [2015 DLC Stakeholder Meeting](#) continued through the second quarter. Agenda development, solicitation for sponsorship, as well as planning for an off-site reception were finalized. The conference website [www.dlcmeeting.org](http://www.dlcmeeting.org) was updated with the most recent information on panel topics, speakers, and other information, and registration was on track to meet the goal of 200 attendees for the event scheduled for August 4 – 5 in Washington, D.C.
- **Briefings, presentations, webinars, and receptions:** The DLC attended five conferences and meetings, and hosted three technical webinars:
  - March 31: DLC Director Tina Halfpenny attended the DOE Controls Workshop in Golden, CO.
  - April 7-10: Program Manager Irina Rasputnis attended the IES TPC-S Meeting in New Orleans, LA.
  - April 13-14: Irina Rasputnis attended the SPEER annual conference in Dallas, TX.
  - April 20-22: Irina Rasputnis, Tina Halfpenny, and Intern Amy Millet attended the ACEEE MT Symposium in Washington, D.C.
  - May 4-7: the DLC team exhibited at Lightfair International in New York, NY.
  - May 13-15: Tina Halfpenny and Irina Rasputnis attended the West Coast Utility Lighting Team meeting in Los Angeles, CA.
  - May 21-22: Irina Rasputnis and Program Manager Gabe Arnold attended the Eastern Lighting Peer Exchange in Montreal, Canada.
  - May 27-29: Gabe Arnold attended the DOE Better Buildings Conference in Washington, D.C.
- **Preparing for the future:** DLC Director Tina Halfpenny presented the scope of work for the DLC business development and transition plan to the NEEP Board of Directors on June 17. The Board supported the plan, and next steps include convening a new DLC Advisory Committee and hiring a consultant to support the development of the business plan.

### **High Efficiency Air Source Heat Pumps**

- **Cold-Climate Air Source Heat Pump (ccASHP) specification listings:** With the publication of the [ccASHP specification](#), stakeholders across the region now have a model equipment and performance requirement specification. The specification and its associated metrics were developed to help stakeholders better identify products that perform under low-temperature conditions. Seventy-one units were added to the list in the second quarter, and five manufacturers participated in the process. This interest demonstrates the need for the ccASHP specification to



provide better assurance that units are performing during the coldest parts of the winter season, which will strengthen the reputation of ASHPs and drive accelerated adoption of the technology.

- **Hosted a regional ASHP working group meeting:** NEEP leads an ASHP Working Group, whose goal is to effectively implement the strategies included in the [2014 ASHP Market Strategies Report](#). Thirty-two participants convened for a quarterly Working Group meeting on June 10. Meetings were held for the policy sub-committee on April 14 and the cold-climate sub-committee on April 16.
- **Efficiency programs adopt NEEP's cold-climate ASHP specification:** NEEP collaborates with efficiency programs that promote ASHPs. These programs would require manufacturers to meet the ccASHP specification and list their products on the NEEP website in order to receive incentive rebates. NEEP has been in discussion with additional programs to join the Massachusetts Clean Energy Center in leveraging the ccASHP specification.
- **Presented on the ccASHP specification to a national audience:** One of the recommended strategies from the ASHP report is to educate a wide range of industry stakeholders on ASHPs and the cold-climate specification. NEEP's David Lis presented at ACEEE's MT Symposium on April 21 on how to support the successful market introduction and long-term success of super-efficient products.
- **Cold-Climate ASHP specification draws increased market interest:** NEEP's webpage devoted to the [ccASHP specification](#) garnered 1,181 page views, compared to last quarter's 738. The specification document was downloaded 177 times—the number-one download on the NEEP website.
- **Maintained online ASHP and HPWH resource centers and contributed to social media:** The Emerging Technologies landing page was removed and, in-turn, the distinct [Air-Source Heat Pump \(ASHP\)](#) and [Heat Pump Water Heaters \(HPWH\)](#) pages were elevated in prominence. The ASHP page houses NEEPs cold-climate ASHP page with the listing and specification, while the HPWH page is educational. The recent blog, [Looking for Winter Proof Heat Pumps](#), was viewed 149 times—the number-one ranked blog.

### **Commercial Advanced Lighting Controls**

- **CALC project received 'Green' project health indicator from US DOE:** NEEP continued to make significant progress on DOE-funded activities of the [Commercial Advanced Lighting Controls \(CALC\)](#) project including the Demonstration Projects, Training Resources, and a nationally-adopted incentive strategy to support the technology. As part of a quarterly project assessment, DOE assigned a 'Green' overall project health indicator, meaning that DOE believes the project is generally on track, there are no major concerns, and the project continues to hold strong promise.
- **Selected three of five sites for 2015 demonstration projects:** Working with energy efficiency program partners Burlington Electric Department, National Grid, Eversource - Connecticut, and United Illuminating, NEEP selected three of the five Advanced Lighting Control Demonstration Project sites. Cree's SmartCast control system will be demonstrated at the downtown Hartford YMCA in Hartford, CT; Philips' SpaceWise control system will be demonstrated at the Rhode Island Public Utilities Commission office in Warwick, RI; and Digital Lumens' Intelligent Lighting System will be demonstrated at Two Roads Brewing Company in Stratford, CT. Selection of the final two demonstration projects for 2015 is ongoing.



- **Developed first draft of Advanced Lighting Control Specification:** Working with partner organization the Northwest Energy Efficiency Alliance, NEEP developed a first draft of the Advanced Lighting Control Specification. This specification will be used by the DesignLights Consortium to qualify ALC systems for energy efficiency programs across the US and Canada. NEEP held a webinar on June 25 to introduce the specification and obtain feedback from a newly formed Technical Advisory Group that will guide its development.
- **Completed BETA version of ALCS Energy Estimator Tool and began testing:** Working with technical contractor TRC Energy Services, NEEP completed the BETA version of the new Advanced Lighting Control System (ALCS) Energy Estimator Tool. NEEP issued the tool to project sponsors for initial BETA testing on June 18, and the test period will run through September 15.
- **Continued stakeholder engagement:** NEEP held project Advisory Committee meetings in April and June with project sponsors and advisors to review project deliverables and advise future direction. NEEP also presented the project at the DOE Peer Review Conference on April 14, the ACEEE Market Transformation Symposium on April 21, the National Electrical Manufacturers Association Spring Meeting on April 22, Lightfair on May 5, the DOE Better Buildings Summit on May 29, and the New England Energy Efficiency Expo on June 23. Additionally, NEEP hosted a full-day workshop on developing the Advanced Lighting Control specification at Lightfair in New York City on May 4 that was attended by 25 subject-matter experts from across the country.

### *Advanced Commercial HVAC Roof-Top Units*

- **Hosted a regional Advanced Roof-Top Unit (ARTU) workshop:** [NEEP held a workshop](#) on [June 15](#) to engage stakeholders concerned with the ARTU market and barriers. Participants included energy efficiency program administrators, efficiency advocates, industry representatives, and state agency staff. A presentation by NEEP staff and a panel on new ARTU program strategies were followed by two break-out sessions. Stakeholders ranked common barriers, listed new ideas/solutions for overcoming them, and ranked strategic activities. These scores were tallied and the suggestions were incorporated into the ARTU Market Assessment & Strategy in development.
- **Development of a regional ARTU Market Assessment & Strategy:** NEEP launched the regional ARTU project in the first quarter of 2015 to advance stakeholder understanding and support for a strategy to accelerate market deployment and adoption of ARTUs in the region. NEEP is undertaking development an ARTU Market Assessment, which will include a survey of the current market, market barriers, and saving opportunities associated with the adoption of high performance RTUs. The Market Assessment will also recommend regional strategies to accelerate the adoption of ARTUs. In an effort to include an industry-wide perspective, NEEP interviewed industry stakeholders to gain further insight into the market. Feedback and brainstorming from the June 15 workshop was also incorporated into the report. The draft assessment was reviewed by the entire working group in early June, and is expected to be finalized in the third quarter.
- **Maintained online ARTU resource center and contributed to social media:** NEEP added an “Advanced Rooftop Unit” page to the website. The [ARTU Landing Page](#) is educational until the research report and additional resources are complete. Additionally, [Advanced Rooftop Units Are Keeping It Cool](#), was posted to the NEEP blog.



- **Contributed regulatory/policy comments and guidance:** To assist in the long-term planning for efficiency programs, NEEP contributes technology-specific comments to relevant planning processes. Senior C & I Advisor Jon Linn provided public comment to the Connecticut Energy Efficiency Board at their May 12 meeting to advise them on commercial and industrial initiatives for their upcoming three-year plan including opportunities associated with ARTUs.

### *Industrial Energy Efficiency*

- **Launched new Industrial Energy Efficiency initiative:** NEEP assembled a Leadership Advisory Committee of regional stakeholder to advise and advance a [new Industrial Energy Efficiency \(IEE\) project](#). Participants were identified, engaged, and committed to advancing the adoption of Strategic Energy Management (SEM) amongst industrial customers throughout the region. The project will develop a market assessment of the region's industrial sector, identify strategies to drive adoption of SEM, host a regional informational sharing exchange, and develop a directory of sector-specific experts that programs can tap into for highly specialized expertise.
- **Presented the initiative to regional stakeholders:** Project manager Jon Linn introduced the new IEE project to working group participants on June 10 at Efficiency Vermont in Burlington, VT. The group reviewed and shared reactions to the project plan and interest was positive and hopes were high as to prospects of working together and advancing IEE throughout the region.
- **Launched a Regional Market Assessment of Industrial Energy Use:** NEEP began to produce a regional IEE market assessment. Intentions are to draw up a high-level sketch of: 1) What does the world of industry in the region look like now? What are the manufacturing customers' businesses, what is their energy use? What are their practices focused on energy management? 2) What would we like tomorrow's world to look like? What is the potential for energy efficient industry in the region? What savings and demand reduction targets can we achieve? and 3) How can we get from our visions of today to tomorrow? What regional activities can we promote to assure that the effect of our collective efforts is greater than the sum of our individual ones? We expect to have a final draft vetted and accepted by the working group early in the third quarter.
- **Participated in the US DOE SEP Accelerator:** Dave Lis attended DOE's Better Buildings Summit in Washington, D.C. on May 28-29. He shared plans and experiences with other participants, and these discussions helped finalize NEEP's project plan and DOE's expectations for the project.
- **Engaged with DOE to develop a training session for November:** NEEP coordinated with DOE to begin preparations for two days of IEE workshops in November. DOE is preparing a scaled training curriculum for testing with industry and program administrators in the region. A day of this training will include a celebration of [NEEP's 2015 Business Leaders](#) and a separate working group meeting to begin planning for 2016.

### *Appliance Efficiency Standards*

- **Developed a draft comment letter for the federal [residential gas furnace appliance standards rulemaking](#) process:** NEEP conducted research and analysis to inform these comments and sought perspectives and data from regional stakeholders. The comments, which will be circulated for sign-on by supporting organizations, largely support the US DOE's proposed levels of 92% annual fuel utilization efficiency (AFUE), but urge the incorporation of different assumptions into the analysis



that would likely make the economics of a 95% AFUE standard preferable. Either of these levels will achieve significant energy savings in the Northeast - Mid-Atlantic region. NEEP also engaged with stakeholders outside of the region through participation in the Appliance Standards Awareness Project's Technical Assistance Groups (TAG) of national and regional efficiency advocates. The TAG held regular teleconferences to discuss development of the comment letter and engagement with industry groups exploring the potential for a negotiated agreement.

- **Convened Appliance Standards Working Group:** To facilitate regional stakeholder input and share best practices, NEEP convened a quarterly meeting via webinar on June 30. Stakeholders from across the region discussed the ongoing furnace and boiler standard rulemakings and prepared for other upcoming opportunities. This engagement promotes understanding and awareness of appliance standards as a valuable policy mechanism to achieve cost-effective energy savings.
- **Engaged with US DOE to improve the boiler standard proposal:** NEEP developed a summary of DOE's proposal for updated efficiency standards for residential boilers to help inform partner advocates, and developed [joint comments](#) in response to the proposal. We urged DOE to consider new technology options to drive costs of higher efficiency levels down and improve the analytical results for condensing level standards.
- **Set the stage for improved clothes dryer standards:**
  - **Support for the Super-Efficient Dryer Initiative (SEDI):** NEEP provided financial support and strategic direction to SEDI, which brings together energy efficiency program providers, manufacturers, government agencies, and appliance retailers in support of a North American market for new, energy efficient, advanced clothes dryers. Advancements in dryer technology today will enable strong standards to be set during the next rulemaking.
  - **Engagement with DOE:** NEEP submitted [comments](#) in response to the DOE's Request for Information regarding clothes dryers. The comments included NEEP's research report, the [Residential Electric Clothes Dryers Baseline Study](#), which provides real-world performance information to support assessment of the opportunities for revising minimum efficiency standards for clothes dryers. The study metered 23 existing residential electric clothes dryers in single-household homes in Vermont, New Hampshire, Maine, and Massachusetts. In addition, targeted secondary research of other studies that focused on the energy consumption and usage patterns of electric clothes dryers was performed.
- **Supported state-level appliance standards activities:**
  - **Rhode Island:** NEEP engaged with National Grid on their codes and standards initiative to provide guidance on the mechanics of the administration of state standards to support discussions with the RI Office of Energy Resources. Rhode Island is a regional leader in allowing energy efficiency program administrators to conduct activities related to appliance standards and the mechanisms to achieve savings from those activities. NEEP also provided guidance to Rep. Arthur Handy in the promotion of Bill [H 5670](#).
  - **California:** NEEP [submitted comments](#) on California's standards for computers, monitors, and displays, pushing for a strong standard that states in the Northeast – Mid-Atlantic region can leverage, and which may serve as a model for future federal standards.



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## Advance Knowledge & Best Practices

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

### *Regional Evaluation, Measurement & Verification Forum*

- **Advanced knowledge through timely release of new EM&V research:** NEEP released two new products of the Evaluation, Measurement and Verification (EM&V) Forum, and hosted two webinars in time for sponsors to include study results in their 2016 planning and evaluation activities. These resources included the [Mid-Atlantic Technical Reference Manual Version 5.0](#), the [Incremental Cost Study Phase 4 Final Report](#), the [June 5 Incremental Cost Study Phase 4 Public Webinar](#), and the [June 18 Loadshape Study Commercial Refrigeration Public Webinar](#).
- **Kicked off pilot to test Standardized EM&V Methods Reporting Forms in Massachusetts:** NEEP met with Massachusetts program administrators in June to review plans, logistics, and a schedule for piloting the Forum's [EM&V methods reporting forms](#). The pilot will take place July - September, with a report on results and recommendations to be issued in early October.
- **Brought states together to share evaluation activities:** EM&V Forum participants from seven jurisdictions across the region presented recently completed and upcoming evaluation studies at the [May 28 State Evaluation Activities Webinar](#) (view a [video recording here](#)). Highlights of activities included: LED market effects study, home energy report pilot, energy efficiency jobs study, behavior retention study, draft EM&V regulations, market baseline assessments for existing buildings and new construction, and other state-wide evaluation practice updates.
- **Facilitated a summer workshop on Home Energy Management Systems (HEMS):** NEEP hosted a [day-long workshop](#) on June 15 at Schneider Electric in Andover, MA to discuss the hidden potential of HEMS with a focus on [NEEP's HEMS research report](#) to be released this year. NEEP and project contractor CLEAResult presented early findings and gathered additional insights from approximately 20 key stakeholders. The discussion centered on efficiency program opportunities for HEMS and key metrics and requirements to legitimize and uncover the potential of the technology.
- **Facilitated a Net Savings webinar:** NEEP staff and technical advisors hosted [Net Savings Part 1: Fundamentals, current practice, issues, and challenges](#) on June 25, the first of a two-part webinar series on net savings. Nearly 30 attendees, including representatives from across nine regional jurisdictions, tuned in for a discussion on different net savings views and insights.
- **Engaged with stakeholders at quarterly meeting:** Representatives from across all nine Regional EM&V Forum jurisdictions participated in the April 16 Quarterly Project Committee meeting. Stakeholders provided feedback on education and information access, including NEEP's [Repository of State and Topical EM&V Studies](#), and informed strategic planning efforts.
- **Maintained our Repository of EM&V Studies:** NEEP maintained and updated the [Repository of State and Topical EM&V Studies](#) with 99 new evaluation studies from across the region, the largest quarterly update to date. Additionally, NEEP uploaded this resource as a spreadsheet directly accessible from a webpage; previously, it could only be accessed by download.



- **Developed draft 2016-18 Forum Strategic Plan:** The Forum’s scope, revenue structure, and processes are expected to change in 2016, based on feedback from stakeholders obtained through NEEP’s strategic review of its range of work. Forum staff met with commissioners at NECPUC and MACRUC annual meetings in June to discuss key areas of work where the Forum can provide value to the states, which then informed a July meeting with the Steering Committee to review and discuss the proposed 2016-18 Strategic Plan and 2016 projects.

### *Public Policy Outreach and Analysis*

- **Provided thought leadership, technical expertise, and coordination to advance energy efficiency as a resource:** With unprecedented energy policy proceedings underway in a number of key states, NEEP collaborated with other advocacy groups, program administrators, and government agencies to deliver [public comments](#) in Massachusetts, New York, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Connecticut, and Vermont. We also released an edition of our [Highlights](#) newsletter to share developments with our stakeholders, and contributed the following entries to the NEEP blog:
  - [Utility mergers: Where does energy efficiency fit in?](#)
  - [Can New York fulfill its promise to reform the energy vision?](#)
  - [Two states, two paths: A Regional Roundup case study](#)
  - [A changing landscape: characterizing EE as a resource, not a cost](#) – this piece was picked up by the nationally-known sites [EnergyEfficiencyMarkets.org](#) and [EnergyInDemand.com](#)
- **Provided expertise on LED street lighting:** Policy Research and Analysis Associate Brian Buckley brought his expertise on [LED street lighting](#) to regional stakeholders. He was sought out on the topic of tariffs and street lighting from the US DOE, helped place a letter-to-the-editor in the Lawrence, Mass. [Eagle Tribune](#), consulted with utility program administrators in upstate New York, and was referenced in a news article on the subject at [Syracuse.com](#).
- **Supported “emerging” states:** NEEP continued to serve as an expert resource and sounding board for policymakers and in-state advocates in New Hampshire, Delaware, Pennsylvania, and the District of Columbia. Following are highlights:
  - **New Hampshire:** In the first quarter, the New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission (NH PUC) issued a [straw proposal](#) regarding possible implementation of an energy efficiency resource standard (EERS) in the state. NEEP [offered extensive comments](#) on the proposal in the second quarter, recommending that the PUC open a stakeholder-guided proceeding to examine implementation of an EERS. Shortly thereafter, the PUC opened a stakeholder guided [proceeding](#) to examine this issue. NEEP was invited to serve as a non-intervening technical expert in this collaborative process including the PUC, program administrators, and third parties. NEEP is coordinating with environmental groups, the Regulatory Assistance Project, and directly with the Office of Energy and Planning (OEP) and PUC.
  - **Delaware:** NEEP continued to serve as a resource and point of contact for the state as it works to set a framework for its efficiency programs. Our relationships with the Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control (DNREC) as well as members of the stakeholder Energy Efficiency Advisory Council facilitate sharing of regional best practices and resources from the US DOE.



- **Pennsylvania:** NEEP submitted [comments](#) and [reply comments](#) on the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (PA PUC)'s [tentative order](#) regarding implementation of the third phase of the state's [Act 129 Energy Efficiency and Conservation](#) programs. The PUC's final implementation order references NEEP's comments more than two dozen times. NEEP also facilitated input on the latest iteration of the state's [Technical Reference Manual](#), which references NEEP's recently updated [Mid-Atlantic Technical Reference Manual](#).
- **Engaged with “established” states:** NEEP monitored and was involved with efficiency developments across the region, including New York, Massachusetts, Vermont, Connecticut, Maryland, and Vermont. Following are highlights:
  - **New York:** New York continues to be a hotbed of activity related to energy policy, as the state works on its [Reforming the Energy Vision](#) (REV) proceeding, NYSERDA's [Clean Energy Fund Information Supplement](#), and the [State Energy Plan](#). To help stakeholders better understand the impact of these proceedings, NEEP released a [six-page summary](#) of the 126-page State Energy Plan and an [eight-page summary](#) of the 130-page [Order Adopting Regulatory Policy Framework and Implementation plan](#). NEEP also worked closely with allies through the Clean Energy Organizations Coalition (CEOC), issuing a [letter of concern](#) to the Commission urging them to continue to recognize energy efficiency as a first-order resource within their landmark proceeding. A key “ask” of this letter was for clarity surrounding the funding mechanism for energy efficiency programs moving forward, which the Commission provided shortly thereafter in their [Order Authorizing Utility-Administered Gas Energy Efficiency](#), describing an energy efficiency cost-tracker mechanism.

In June, NEEP and other members of the CEOC met with Public Service Commission Chair Audrey Zibelman on a range of issues concerning the state's overall goals and efficiency program implementation, stressing the importance of continued program savings goals and suggesting the possibility of a stakeholder engagement forum through which goals might be determined. Outcomes related to this meeting remain pending.
  - **Massachusetts:** NEEP provided comments on the state's draft three year efficiency plans, in which we called for program administrators to continue building on their successes, and keep ambitious savings goals across the portfolio. We provided [specific guidance](#) on the savings potential associated with LED lighting, street lighting, and advancing building codes. We also [provided technical assistance](#) to the Joint Committee on Revenue on several efficiency-related titles.
  - **Vermont:** NEEP traveled to Montpelier, Vermont in June to participate in a stakeholder meeting on Vermont's Comprehensive Energy Plan, hosted by the state's Public Service Department (PSD). We directed stakeholders to NEEP's [cold-climate air source heat pump specification](#), and suggested that the PSD review and embrace [established standards](#) for attributing energy savings to utility programs administrators for their support of building energy code education and enforcement.
- **Collaborated with partner advocates:** NEEP collaborated with numerous allies across the region, including the New York Clean Energy Organizations Coalition, Acadia Center, Conservation Law Foundation, Natural Resources Defense Council, the Pace Energy and Climate Center, Conservation Services Group, the National Consumer Law Center, Opower, Delaware Interfaith Power and Light,



Massachusetts Climate Action Network, Massachusetts Interfaith Power and Light, Chesapeake Climate Action Network, Sierra Club, and many others on policy developments in states across the region. NEEP sits on the policy committee of the New England Clean Energy Council, advising the group on a range of efficiency-related legislative and regulatory developments across the New England states. We also continue to be a leading voice on the Massachusetts Global Warming Solutions Project. These partnerships allow us to work effectively in many states to share resources and best practices, understand state dynamics, and move forward a range of policy issues.

- **Facilitated shared learning:** In early April, Public Policy Director Jim O'Reilly facilitated a panel discussion on [regional progress and challenges](#) at the Energy Foundation's annual conference in Chicago, Illinois. The panel shared regional perspectives on strategies to advance energy efficiency programs and policies at the state and federal level, as well as how to overcome recurring points of contention for program implementation.
- **Data tracking and analysis:** A hallmark of NEEP's work is tracking regulatory and legislative proceedings as well as state savings goals and investment levels. We work closely with the EM&V Forum and the Regional Energy Efficiency Database (REED) to make relevant information available across NEEP as well as to external partners and stakeholders. One example is NEEP's [Policy Tracker](#), which identifies current or recently pending legislation within our jurisdiction and is updated on a regular basis.

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### 2015 NEEP SUPPORTERS

NEEP would like to recognize and thank our 2015 funders, including our [Sponsors](#), [Partners](#), [Regional EM&V Forum funders](#), [DesignLights Consortium Members](#), and [federal and foundation funders](#). We are grateful for their support, which makes this work possible.

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