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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY RESOURCES

Take a Load Off Part 1: Load-Flexibility Policies that Harness GERs to Lower Costs and Improve Reliability

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Load flexibility is an increasingly important statewide energy strategy

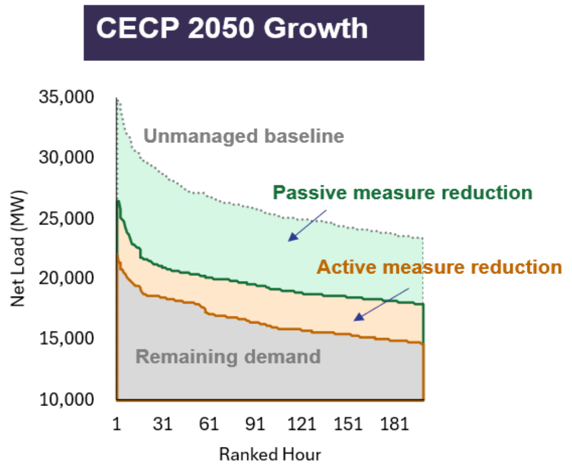
Several policy and planning efforts are converging in Massachusetts

March 2026 Executive Order 654: requires 3.5 GW on new electric demand reduction by 2035

- Electrification and peak growth are driving electric grid costs
- Load flexibility can lower bills by reducing peak demand and the need for new infrastructure

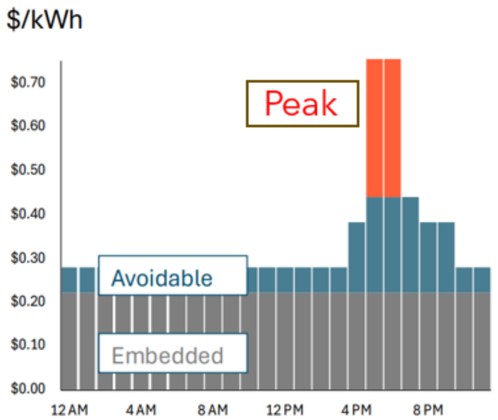
Peak Potential Report

How much flexibility is on the table, and how do we access it?



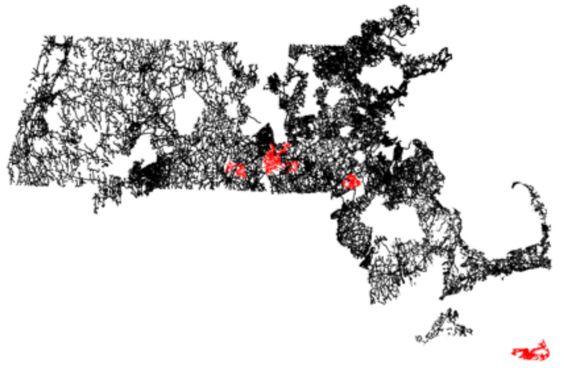
Ratemaking Study & TVR Petition

How should we reward customers for flexibility?



ConnectedSolutions+ & Grid Services Studies

How do we value & implement flexibility at the local level?



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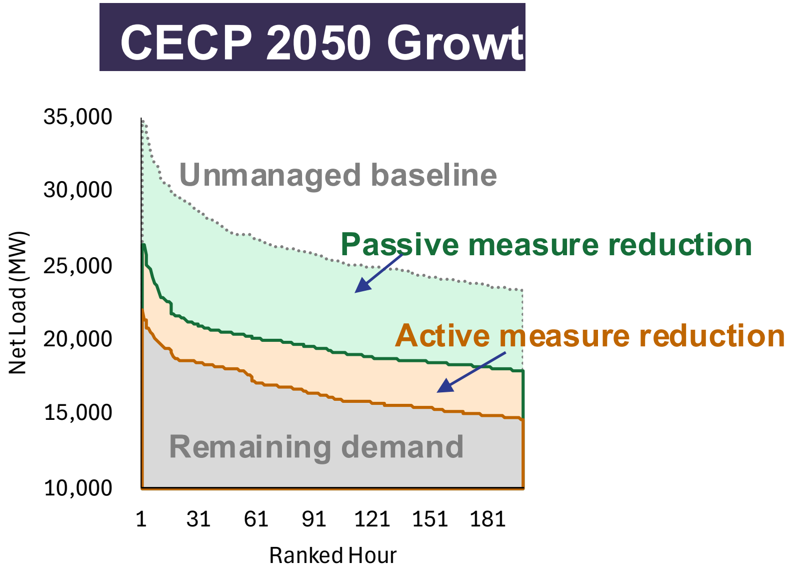
DOER published the Peak Potential Report in April

Quantifies the potential for peak load reduction

2030: **4.5 GW** ($1.4 bn/yr)
2050: **14 GW** ($6.6 bn/yr)
Total peak reduction (MA only)
(CECP scenario w/ aggressive load management)



Develops a load management strategy to save ratepayers money

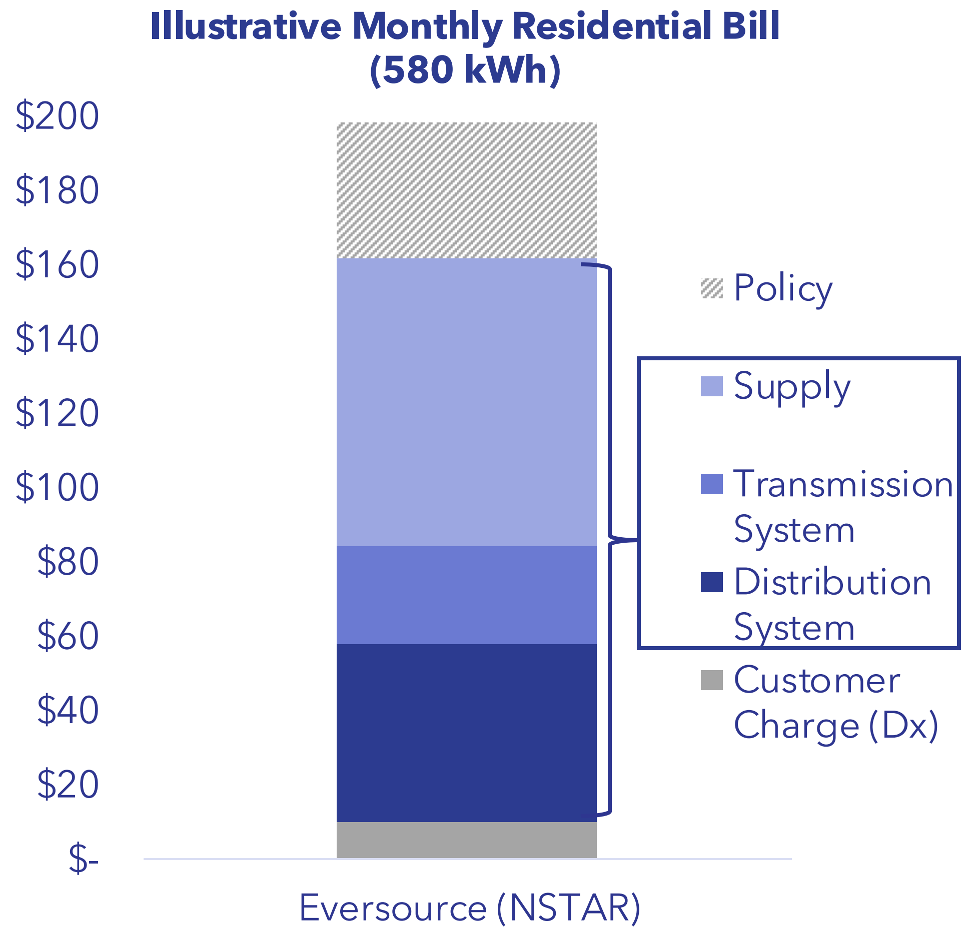
EE	Double-down on both retrofits and stretch codes for new construction.
EVs	Active managed charging & vehicle-to-everything can deliver huge benefits.
Price signals	Give customers tools to manage energy costs through TOU rates and demand response.
Aggregation	Support innovation in new technologies and products through customer-centric aggregations.
Equity	Minimize cost shift & reduce barriers to access for renters and LMI customers.
Utility regulation	Provide incentives for peak load reduction and require load flexibility in utility planning.

19 specific policy recommendations across these categories

DOER's Time-Varying Rate Petition

Asks for consolidated TOU schedules to give customers a simple price signal to maximize load-shifting

- **Default + robust customer protections**
  - All customers are enrolled
  - All customers can opt out + shadow billing
  - Robust marketing, education, and outreach
- **Comprehensive**
  - Include all costs that vary with time (supply, transmission, and distribution)
- **Customer-centric (4 hour peak period)**
  - Peak happens during the same hours all year
  - Long enough to reliably capture high-cost hours; short enough for customers to reasonably manage their use



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Thank You!