

Green Mountain Power

New Initiatives Department Capital Planning Framework

GMP's Innovative Pilots and New Initiative capital investments are focused on providing GMP customers with access to the latest energy innovations that help us transform the grid and provide value to all GMP customers. New programs are borne out of strategic partnerships and opportunities to stay on the leading edge of advances within the energy industry. By remaining nimble and flexible, we aim to ensure that we are taking advantage of all potential opportunities. We seek to use capital investments that will continue the transformation of our energy system with, and for, our customers. Climate change requires us to respond in two important ways: We must do everything we can to mitigate our carbon footprint and slow the impact we are all having on a warming climate, while at the same time, we need to manage the impacts that are caused by a changing climate such as major weather events, through continued focus on resiliency and reliability.

In order to meet these goals, the New Initiatives department employs experimental Innovative Pilot programs, tariffed offerings, and other capital projects, with an overarching focus on programs, products and services that reduce costs, improve resiliency/reliability, and/or reduce carbon. Some programs may begin as innovative pilots, and some may be developed outside of the pilot framework, but in both cases such programs will be developed with the following goals and criteria in mind:

- Helping to proliferate the use of more efficient heating and cooling that reduces the carbon impact or traditional systems;
- Supporting a more resilient electric grid through targeted generation and storage applications (i.e. microgrids);
- Expanding customer access to clean home and business backup power systems such as battery storage and leverages those resources to reduce costs and carbon
- Generating new revenue streams, reducing costs for all customers by leveraging our platforms with new DERs and DER management systems;
- Increasing adoption of electric vehicles, including large vehicles such as buses and trucks, and improving the convenience, cost and flexible demand management of charging for these vehicles;
- Making Level 2 and Level 3 DCFC charging infrastructure accessible at workplace and public locations;
- Developing creative solutions to increase load control/demand response capability and avoid reliance on carbon-fueled peaking assets; and
- Coordinating with the State, communities, first responders, and other stakeholders to identify critical areas where robust energy and communication systems can help Vermont communities withstand extreme events and deploying Resiliency Zone solutions in these areas.