

State of Delaware
Sustainable Energy Utility Task Force

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Sustainable Energy Utility Task Force Briefing Booklet

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Glossary of Terms

Aggregation: Combining the loads of multiple end-use customers in negotiating the purchase of electricity and other related services for these customers

Biomass: Non-fossil material of biological origin constituting a renewable energy resource.

CCF: One hundred cubic feet. Standard unit of measurement for natural gas.

CHP: Combined Heat and Power plant: A plant designed to produce both heat and electricity from a single heat source.

EM&V: Evaluation, Measurement, and Verification:

ESCO: Energy Service Company:: develops, installs, and finances projects to improve facility energy efficiency and maintenance costs.

IOU: Investor Owned Utility: A privately-owned electric utility whose stock is publicly traded. It is rate regulated and authorized to achieve an allowed rate of return.

kW: Kilowatt: One thousand watts.

kWh: Kilowatt-hour: A measure of electrical energy measured as 1 kilowatt (1,000 watts) of power expended for 1 hour. One kWh is equivalent to 3,412 Btu.

Mill: One-tenth of one cent.

MW: Megawatt: One million watts of electricity.

MWh: Megawatt-hour: One thousand kilowatt-hours or 1 million watt-hours.

Therm: One hundred thousand (100,000) Btu. Equivalent to one CCF.

Levelized Costs: The present value of the total cost of building and operating a generating plant over its economic life, converted to equal annual payments. Costs are levelized in real dollars (i.e., adjusted to remove the impact of inflation).

Lifeline: A rate structure applicable for residential customers that includes a specified block of energy priced below the cost of service

LIHEAP: Low Income Household Energy Assistance Program: LIHEAP assists eligible households meet the cost of heating or cooling in residential dwellings. The Federal government provides the funds to the States that administer the program.

Load: The amount of electric power delivered or required at any specific point or points on a system. The requirement originates at the energy-consuming equipment of the consumers

REC: Renewable Energy Credits: Also known as renewable energy certificates, green tags, green energy certificates, or tradable renewable certificates, the credits represent the technology and environmental attributes of electricity generated from renewable sources. Renewable energy credits are usually sold in 1 megawatt-hour (MWh) units. A credit can be sold separately from the megawatt-hour of commodity electricity associated with it.

RPS: Renewable Portfolio Standard: A requirement for electric retail suppliers to source a minimum percentage of their load from eligible renewable resources

SBC: System Benefits Charge/PGC: Public Goods Charge: A non-bypassable surcharge imposed on all retail sales to fund public goods research, development and demonstration, energy efficiency activities, and/or low income assistance programs.