Glossary of Terms[1]

Administrator	The qualified entity selected by the Massachusetts Distribution Companies at the direction of the Department of Public Utilities (DPU) to oversee the process for assurance of Net Metering Services, ***The Cadmus Group, Inc.***
Applicant(s)	A ***Host Customer Entity*** and associated ***representatives*** who submit an Application for Cap Allocation for review by the Administrator.
Application for Cap Allocation (ACA)	The prescribed form containing the information and supporting documentation and certifications necessary to determine eligibility for a ***Cap Allocation*** or a position on the ***Waiting List***.
Application Fee	A fee of $150 paid to the Administrator by an applicant on ***submission*** of an Application for Cap Allocation for review by the Administrator.
Agricultural Net Metering Facility	A Renewable Energy generating facility that is operated as part of an agricultural business, generates electricity, does not have a generation capacity of more than two megawatts, is located on land owned or controlled by the agricultural business, and is used to provide energy to metered accounts of the business. "Agriculture" has the same meaning as provided in M.G.L. c. 128, § 1A; provided that, when necessary, the Commissioner of the Department of Agricultural Resources shall determine if a business is an agricultural business and whether the facility is operated as part of that business.
Anaerobic Digestion Net Metering Facility	Anaerobic Digestion Net Metering Facility means a facility that a) generates electricity from a biogas produced by the accelerated biodegradation of organic materials under controlled anaerobic conditions; b) has been determined by the Department of Energy Resources, in coordination with the Department of Environmental Protection, to qualify under the Department of Energy Resources' regulations as a Class I Renewable Energy generating source under 225 CMR 14.00: Renewable Energy Portfolio Standard – Class I and M.G.L. c. 25A, § 11F; and c) is interconnected to a Distribution Company.

[1] Definitions referenced in the guidance reference draw from current Department of Public Utilities and Department of Energy Resources regulation and guidance, as well as Massachusetts General Law and Code of Massachusetts Regulation. Sources include, but are not limited to G.L. c. 164 § 138; 220 C.M.R. 18.02; 220 C.M.R. 18.09(2); G.L. c. 164 § 139(f); and D.P.U. 23-20-C, Attachment C.

Avoided Cost Rate	The Avoided Cost Rate is based on data used by ISO-NE to set prices for energy purchases and sales. A Distribution Company's annual payout amount for Net Metering Credits shall be derived by applying an adjustment factor to the value of the Net Metering Credits that accrued during the preceding 12-month period beginning from April of the preceding year and are remaining on the Host Customer's billing account as of March 31 of the current year. The adjustment factor ratio shall be the average monthly Locational Marginal Price (LMP) rate that was realized by the settlement of the output of Net Metering facilities with ISO-NE, divided by the average monthly Net Metering Credit rate that the Net Metering facility received from the Distribution Company, weighted by the monthly net excess electricity generated by the Net Metering Facility.
Business Day	A day that is not a Saturday, a Sunday, or a public holiday as observed by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Massachusetts legal holidays are listed at https://www.sec.state.ma.us/divisions/cis/holiday-info.htm Public holidays do not include Suffolk County holidays for the purposes of the System of Assurance.
Cap Allocation	An assurance that a Host Customer will receive Net Metering Services upon a Host Customer's receipt of notice of authorization to interconnect.
Cap Exempt Facility	A Nameplate Cap Exempt Facility or a Cap Exempt Facility Serving On-site Load.
Cap Exempt Facility Serving On-site Load	A Class I Net Metering Facility with a nameplate capacity greater than 25 kilowatts, Class II Net Metering Facility, or Class III Net Metering Facility with an executed interconnection service agreement with a Distribution Company dated on or after January 1, 2021, provided that it is an eligible Renewable Energy Generating Facility pursuant to M.G.L. c. 164, § 138 and serves On-site Load, and provided further that it is not a Net Metering Facility of a Municipality or Other Governmental Entity.
Class I Net Metering Facility	A plant or equipment that is used to produce, manufacture, or otherwise generate electricity, that has a nameplate capacity of 60 kilowatts or less, and that is not a Small Hydroelectric Net Metering Facility participating in the Small Hydroelectric Net Metering Program; provided, however, that a Class I Net Metering Facility of a Municipality or Other Governmental Entity may have a nameplate capacity of less than or equal to 60 kilowatts per unit. Each Municipality or Other Governmental Entity may have an aggregate nameplate capacity of not more than ten megawatts.

Class II Net Metering Facility	An Agricultural Net Metering Facility, Anaerobic Digestion Net Metering Facility, Solar Net Metering Facility, or Wind Net Metering Facility with a nameplate capacity of more than 60 kilowatts but less than or equal to one megawatt; provided, however, that a Class II Net Metering Facility of a Municipality or Other Governmental Entity may have a nameplate capacity of more than 60 kilowatts but less than or equal to one megawatt per unit. Each Municipality or Other Governmental Entity may have an aggregate nameplate capacity of not more than ten megawatts.
Class III Net Metering Facility	An Agricultural Net Metering Facility, Anaerobic Digestion Net Metering Facility, Solar Net Metering Facility, or Wind Net Metering Facility with a nameplate capacity of more than one megawatt but less than or equal to two megawatts; provided, however, that a Class III Net Metering Facility of a Municipality or Other Governmental Entity may have a nameplate capacity of more than one megawatt but less than or equal to two megawatts per unit. Each Municipality or Other Governmental Entity may have an aggregate nameplate capacity of not more than ten megawatts.
Certification	A written statement based on knowledge, information, and belief that the relevant claims are true.
Customer	Any person, partnership, corporation, or any other entity, whether public or private, who obtains distribution service at a customer delivery point and who is a customer of record of the Distribution Company for its own electricity consumption.
Distribution Company	Eversource, National Grid, and Unitil.
Effective Date	The date on which this system of assurance for Net Metering shall first apply as determined by the Massachusetts Department of Public Utilities. The Effective Date is **January 24, 2013 at 12:00 PM**.
Extended Reservation Period Extension	An additional period of time which a Host Customer may apply for, which prolongs the reservation period for which a Host Customer is entitled to an assurance of Net Metering Services prior to a Facility's receipt of notice of authorization to interconnect.
Facility	A plant or equipment eligible to become a Class I, II, or III Net Metering Facility.
Host Customer Entity	A Customer with a Class I, II, or III Net Metering Facility that generates electricity on the Customer's side of the meter. Host Customer includes a prospective Host Customer. Also known as a ***Host Customer***.

Host Customer Administrator	Individual in lead role for Host Customer Entity. This person is authorized to start and revise ACAs, add users, and submit ACAs for review.
Host Customer Assistant	Individual acting on behalf of Host Customer Entity in supportive role. This person can revise and report on existing ACAs, but cannot submit ACAs for review.
Interconnection Service Agreement Identification Number	The unique identification number assigned by the Distribution Company to a Facility's Interconnection Service Agreement (ISA).
Interconnection Service Agreement (ISA)	The agreement for interconnection service entered into between the interconnecting Customer and a Distribution Company, as defined and provided in each Distribution Company's standards for interconnection of distributed generation.
Locational Marginal Price (LMP)	The price of electric energy set by ISO-NE at each load zone, external interface with neighboring regions, and the hub that reflects: (a) the operating characteristics of, and the major constraints on, the New England transmission system at each area; and (b) the losses resulting from physical limits of the transmission system.
Maximum Operating Conditions	Maximum Operating Conditions means the highest operational limits under which the Net Metering facility can function without experiencing damage, degradation, or failure.
Ministerial Permit	A ministerial permit is a permit that is granted based upon a determination that the request complies with established standards. Such determinations are arrived at objectively, involve little or no discretionary judgment, and are usually issued by a single official or his/her designee. Non-ministerial permits are permits in which one or more officials consider(s) various factors and exercise(s) some discretion in deciding whether to issue (typically with conditions) or deny permits. Examples of ministerial permits include, but are not limited to building permits and electrical permits. Examples of non-ministerial permits include, but are not limited to wetlands Order of Conditions, Special Permit, Zoning Variance, Endangered Species, and MEPA Certificate.
Municipality	A city or town.

Nameplate Cap Exempt Facility	A Class I Net Metering Facility that is an eligible Renewable Energy Generating Facility pursuant to M.G.L. c. 164, § 138 and has a nameplate capacity rating equal to or less than 25 kilowatts.
Nameplate Rating	Nameplate Rating means the rating of a Facility, in alternating current, that reflects Maximum Operating Conditions, and not Normal Operating Conditions.
Neighborhood	A geographic area within a Municipality, subject to the right of the Department to grant exceptions pursuant to 220 CMR 18.09(6), that: a) is recognized by the residents as including a unique community of interests; b) falls within the service territory of a single Distribution Company and within a single ISO New England (ISO-NE) load zone; and c) (c) may encompass residential, commercial, and undeveloped properties.
Neighborhood Net Metering Facility	A Class I, II, or III Net Metering Facility that: a) is owned by, or serves the energy needs of, a group of ten or more residential Customers that reside in a single Neighborhood and are served by a single Distribution Company; b) may also be owned by, or serve the energy needs of, other Customers who reside in the same Neighborhood and are served by the same Distribution Company as the residential Customers that own or are served by the facility; and c) is located within the same Neighborhood as the Customers that own or are served by the facility.
Net Metering	The process of measuring the difference between electricity delivered by a Distribution Company and electricity generated by a Class I, Class II, Class III or Neighborhood Net Metering Facility and fed back to the Distribution Company.
Net Metering Services	Services provided by a Distribution Company to Customers and Host Customers necessary to permit Net Metering, including those related to interconnection, metering, and calculation and billing of Net Metering credits, as specified in the Distribution Company's tariff pursuant to 220 C.M.R. §§ 18.09(2) and (3).
Net Metering Facility of a Municipality or Other Governmental Entity	A Class I Net Metering Facility, Class II Net Metering Facility, or Class III Net Metering Facility: (a) that is owned or operated by a Municipality or Other Governmental Entity; or (b) of which the Municipality or Other Governmental Entity is the Host Customer and is assigned 100% of the output.

New Solar Net Metering Facility	a) A Solar Net Metering Facility that submits an application for a Cap Allocation to the System of Assurance after September 26, 2016 for the entire capacity of the Solar Net Metering Facility; or b) A Solar Net Metering Facility that submits an application for a Cap Allocation to the System of Assurance before September 26, 2016, but which is subsequently deemed complete by the Administrator and does not receive a Cap Allocation from the Administrator until after January 8, 2017; or c) A Solar Net Metering Facility that submits an application for a Cap Allocation to the System of Assurance before September 26, 2016, is subsequently deemed complete by the Administrator and receives a Cap Allocation before or on January 8, 2017, but that seeks to expand the nameplate capacity date subsequent to September 26, 2016, such that the entire facility, including the expanded nameplate capacity, is a Class II Net Metering Facility or Class III Net Metering Facility.
Nominal Rating	Nominal Rating means the stated or rated capacity of a Facility, device, or piece of equipment, in alternating current, usually under Normal Operating Conditions.
Normal Operating Conditions	Normal Operating Conditions refers to when all of the following conditions are satisfied: (a) the equipment is properly installed; (b) the equipment is properly maintained; (c) the equipment is used in accordance with instructions included in the listing and labeling and in accordance with manufacturer's instructions; and (d) there is no evidence of impending failure.
On-site Load	Any new or existing electric load located at the site of a Net Metering facility, other than parasitic load that may result from the installation and operation of the Net Metering facility, and that is wired to be served by a portion of the electrical energy output from the Net Metering facility before the balance of such output passes through the Net Metering facility's metered interconnection onto the electric grid. An energy storage system, as defined in M.G.L. c. 164, § 1, does not constitute On-site Load.
Other Governmental Entity	A department or agency of the Federal government or of the Commonwealth, and any other entity as approved by the Department.
Private Cap	The limit on Net Metering capacity of Facilities that are not covered by the Public Cap, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 139(f).

Public Cap	The limit on Net Metering capacity of Public Facilities, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, § 139(f).
Department of Public Utilities Public Entity Identification	The identification number provided by the Massachusetts Department of Public Utilities (DPU) to a Municipality or Other Governmental Entity that demonstrates its status as a Public Entity for net metering. The application form is available at: http://www.mass.gov/dpu/netmetering
Private Net Metering Facility (Private Facility)	Any facility that does not qualify as a Public Facility or Special Public Facility.
Public Net Metering Facility (Public Facility)	A Class I, II, or III Net Metering Facility: (1) that is owned or operated by a municipality or other governmental entity; or (2) of which the municipality or other governmental entity (a) is assigned 100 percent of the output; (b) is the Host Customer; and (c) if allocating Net Metering Credits, allocates only to municipalities and other governmental entities.
Representative *Project Representative*	An individual not associated with any Host Customer Entity or project when registered with the System of Assurance. This person can be invited to join existing ACAs by Host Customer Administrators. They are able to revise ACAs they are associated with, but not submit ACAs for review.
Reservation Fee	A fee set on a per kW-AC basis paid to the Administrator by the Host Customer for the limited time offer of Net Metering Services held in reserve, up to the capacity requested by the Host Customer prior to the Facility's receipt of notice of authorization to interconnect. The fee is calculated on a $/kW-AC basis pursuant to D.P.U. 23-20-C, Att. C § 5(E)

Effective Date	11/1/2026	11/1/2027	11/1/2028	11/1/2029
Fee ($/kW-AC)	$4.15	$4.31	$4.47	$4.64
Effective Date	**11/1/2030**	**11/1/2031**	**11/1/2032**	**11/1/2033**
Fee ($/kW-AC)	$4.82	$5.00	$5.19	$5.39
Effective Date	**11/1/2034**	**11/1/2035**		
	$5.59	$5.80		

Reservation Period	The period for which a Host Customer is entitled to an assurance of Net Metering Services prior to a Facility's receipt of notice of authorization to interconnect.

Reviewers	Administrator staff members responsible for reviewing ACAs submitted to the System of Assurance.
Solar Net Metering Facility	A facility for the production of electrical energy that uses sunlight to generate electricity and is interconnected to a Distribution Company.
Special Public Facility	A Public Facility for which: (1) the municipality or other governmental entity owns and operates the Facility; and (2) the Facility is located on property that is owned or leased by the municipality or other governmental entity.
Submission Date	Date and Time an Application for Cap Allocation is submitted to the Administrator for review at MassACA.org.
Technology	A renewable energy generating source used at a proposed net metering facility which generates electricity using any of the following: 1) solar photovoltaic or solar thermal electric energy; 2) wind energy; 3) ocean thermal, wave or tidal energy; 4) fuel cells utilizing renewable fuels; 5) landfill gas; 6) waste-to-energy which is a component of conventional municipal solid waste plant technology in commercial use; 7) naturally flowing water and hydroelectric; 8) low emission advanced biomass power conversion technologies using fuels such as wood, by-products or waste from agricultural crops, food or animals, energy crops, biogas, liquid biofuel including but not limited to biodiesel, organic refuse-derived fuel, or algae; or 9) geothermal energy;
Unit	A part or component of a Net Metering Facility. For a Wind Net Metering Facility, a unit is a wind turbine. For agricultural facilities, a unit is a single piece of generating equipment (e.g., an engine or a turbine). For solar facilities, a unit is an inverter, provided that a solar project proponent may self-designate whether a project is a Class II or Class III Net Metering Facility when the project includes the minimum number of inverters required to qualify.
User	Any party registered with the System of Assurance

Utility	Used as a synonym for Distribution Company.
Waiting List	A list of Host Customers that would receive a Cap Allocation if there were capacity under the applicable cap, and that may receive a Cap Allocation if capacity becomes available under the applicable cap.
Wind Net Metering Facility	A facility for the production of electrical energy that uses wind to generate electricity and is interconnected to a Distribution Company.