

---

## MASSACHUSETTS TECHNOLOGY ASSESSMENT COMMITTEE

---

### MTAC's Charter (11/25/13):

#### **Purpose**

The Massachusetts Technology Assessment Committee (MTAC) provides a mechanism to support a coordinated effort across statewide electric and gas utilities and energy efficiency service providers (commonly known as Massachusetts Program Administrators or PAs) to incorporate new commercially available technology into individual and statewide energy efficiency programming efforts.

#### **Authority, Duties and Responsibilities**

- The committee assesses the energy efficiency merits of new technology and makes recommendations to PAs on its eligibility to support the energy efficiency goals of the PAs' three year energy efficiency plan.
- Technologies that support energy efficiency opportunities for the residential and commercial/industrial market sector are eligible for committee review.
- The chairperson, vice chairperson or administrative assistant shall author all official communication from the committee and the administrative assistant is the central point of contact for all committee documentation and workflow.
- Committee members support the leadership team with technical expertise including: proactively identifying new technology candidates, assessing technology merits, contributing to committee documentation and reviewing official committee communications.
- Equipment and/or service providers shall submit applications via the Mass Save® website for consideration by the committee.
- Applications submitted by the last Monday of the month will be put on the agenda for discussion at the next scheduled committee meeting. When deemed necessary, applicant presentations are facilitated by the leadership team via formal invitation.
- Committee members may submit initial comments regarding a new technology by the second Monday following each committee meeting.
- Official communication will be sent to the applicant within three weeks of the initial committee meeting when the application was reviewed, acknowledging that the application was reviewed and that a final correspondence will be reported back to the applicant within 90 days. This initial communication may request the equipment and/or service provider to provide additional clarification for questions that arise as part of the original application review.
- The application will be placed in a "pending/hold" status for up to one year awaiting vendor responses to any committee questions. When all required information is received and subsequently reviewed by the committee, the final disposition will be established based upon energy saving merits and suitability for PA program(s).
- Technologies that are determined by the MTAC committee to save energy will be forwarded to the appropriate management committee(s) (Residential, Evaluation Management Committee,

and/or C&I) to determine eligibility for inclusion into the Mass Save® energy efficiency programs.

### **Exclusions – Public Document:**

MTAC recommends electric and gas energy efficiency or demand savings measures that reflect verifiable and persistent energy efficiency improvement, i.e., they provide the same output with reduced input without the need for user intervention. MTAC is focused on evaluating new technologies, and Massachusetts program administrators may consider technologies referred technologies by MTAC for inclusion in energy efficiency programs. There are some circumstances under which a product not referred by MTAC may still be eligible for custom commercial applications, and there are some circumstances under which a program administrator may choose not to support a referred technology with incentives. However products with any of the following criteria are **ineligible** for MTAC review.

**Energy Reduction Devices** - Proposed measures that provide energy savings by manually reducing both input and output, i.e., adjustment of heating / cooling thermostats; adjusting process set-points; duty-cycling; reduction in lighting lumen output; adjustment / operation of window blinds, window covers, drapes, window insulators, window shutters, window security devices; etc.;

**Retrofit Energy Conservation Devices** - Proposed products / devices that provide power factor correction, surge protection, power quality & conditioning, voltage controllers, voltage distortion reduction, power harmonics reduction, harmonics mitigation, mitigation of harmonics distortion, harmonic mitigating transformers, harmonic current reduction, harmonic filtering, etc.

**Performance Enhancer Products** – Similar to maintenance procedures, addition of refrigerant additives, cleaners, lubricants, friction reducers, catalysts, metal treatment, etc., to refrigerant cooling equipment; and/or combustion heating equipment.

**Maintenance Procedures** - Required procedures such as annual coil cleaning, regular filter changes, routine belt replacements, HVAC tune-ups, etc., are considered normal periodic maintenance.

**Other Applications** – Products or measures that require user activity such as associated with or are targeted towards non-electric energy efficiency savings, i.e., ground/aviation/boating transportation applications; weapons applications; chain saw applications; lawn mower/leaf blower/snow blower applications; etc.

**Safety Issues** - Products or measures that may result in personal injury and/or exhibit potential safety /liability issues.

**Incremental Improvements** - Products or measures that improve an existing MassSave supported technology incrementally, such as more efficient LED bulbs.

MTAC strongly encourages proposers with proposed energy efficiency products to obtain a UL listing (as applicable) and seek 3rd party testing certification to thoroughly evaluate the technology, validate savings assertions and product compatibility with customer's OEM equipment, including impacts on customer's facility, equipment specifications, warranties, service contracts, regulatory/code requirements, insurance/liability, safety, etc. It is also very important to understand the particular product application limitations and commissioning requirements.