Cape Light Compact JPE
Governing Board
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, October 14, 2026

The Cape Light Compact JPE Board of Directors met on Wednesday, October 14, 2026, at 2:00 p.m. The meeting was held as a hybrid meeting (in-person at the Compact's offices, 261 Whites Path, Unit 4, South Yarmouth, MA and through remote participation) through a Zoom videoconference for members of the Board with audio call-in available for members of the public, pursuant to St. 2025, c. 2, which, among other things, extends the temporary provisions pertaining to remote meetings of public bodies under the Open Meeting Law to June 30, 2027.

PARTICIPATING IN-PERSON WERE:

1. David Anthony, Chair, Executive Committee, Barnstable
2. Tom McNellis, Secretary, Executive Committee, Eastham
3. Robert Schofield, Executive Committee, Bourne
4. Colin Odell, Vice Chair, Executive Committee, Brewster
5. Joyce Flynn, Executive Committee, Yarmouth
6. David Jacobson, Executive Committee, Orleans
7. Michael Ahern, Alternate, Yarmouth
8. Chris Palmer, Truro

PARTICIPATING REMOTELY WERE:

1. Nicola Blake, Executive Committee, West Tisbury
2. Valerie Bell, Executive Committee, Harwich
3. Alan Strahler, Edgartown
4. Scott Mueller, Falmouth
5. Julia Gillis, Alternate, Sandwich
6. Bill Doherty, Alternate, Bourne
7. Brian Miner, Chatham
8. Brad Crowell, Dennis
9. Nate Mayo, Provincetown
10. Carol Magenau, Wellfleet

ABSENT WERE:

1. Forrest Filler, Aquinnah
2. Timothy Carroll, Chilmark
3. Wayne Taylor, Mashpee
4. Peter Meleney, Oak Bluffs
5. Russ Hartenstine, Tisbury
6. Tristan Israel, Dukes County
7. Leanne Drake, Sandwich

LEGAL COUNSEL PARTICIPATING REMOTELY:

1. Audrey Eidelman Kiernan, Esq., KO Law, P.C.

STAFF PARTICIPATING IN-PERSON:

1. Margaret Song, Chief Administrative Officer

2. Stephen McCloskey, Residential Programs Manager
3. Miranda Skinner, Senior Regulatory Analyst
4. Lindsay Henderson, C&I Programs Manager
5. Emily Webb, Executive Assistant

STAFF PARTICIPATING REMOTELY:

1. Phil Moffitt, Chief Financial Officer
2. Mariel Marchand, Power Supply Planner
3. Rebecca Martin, Outreach Coordinator
4. Jason Bertrand, Marketing & Communications Coordinator
5. Kim Grant, Town Energy Manager & Outreach
6. Steph Spadoni, Energy Efficiency Analyst
7. Laura Selmer, Senior Analyst
8. Angela Hurwitz, Senior IT Services & Data Management Analyst
9. Dan Schell, Technical Services Manager

PUBLIC PARTICIPANTS: None

David Anthony called the meeting to order 2:01PM.

PUBLIC COMMENT:
No written comments were received in advance of the meeting, and no public comments were made.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The Board considered the September 9, 2026, Open Session Meeting Minutes. A correction to remote attendees leaving and re-entering the meeting was noted. Additionally, a correction to the spelling of Michael Ahern's name was made.

Bob Schofield moved the Board to accept the minutes, as corrected, and release them, seconded by Joyce Flynn

David	Anthony	Barnstable	Yes
Robert	Schofield	Bourne	Yes
Colin	Odell	Brewster	Yes
Brian	Miner	Chatham	Yes
Brad	Crowell	Dennis	Abstain
Tom	McNellis	Eastham	Yes
Alan	Strahler	Edgartown	Yes
Scott	Mueller	Falmouth	Yes
David	Jacobson	Orleans	Yes
Julia	Gillis	Sandwich	Yes
Chris	Palmer	Truro	Yes
Carol	Magenau	Wellfleet	Abstain
Nicola	Blake	West Tisbury	Yes
Joyce	Flynn	Yarmouth	Yes

Motion carried in the affirmative (12-0-2)

CHAIR'S REPORT:

a. Yarmouth and Sandwich Alternate Governing Board Member Introductions

David Anthony welcomed two new Board Alternates, Micheal Ahern for Yarmouth and Julia Gillis for Sandwich. Michael Ahern introduced himself indicating he is on the Yarmouth Climate Mitigation and Energy Committee. Michael shared that he has extensive professional experience at Northeast Utilities, now Eversource, serving in many roles. In retirement, Michael teaches courses at Worcester Polytechnic Institute, State University of New York Polytechnic Institute, and Connecticut Community College.

Julia Gillis introduced herself noting that she is the Planning and Zoning Coordinator in Sandwich. Julia studied at Bridgewater State University with a focus on Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and has held several roles focused on planning prior to her current position. Julia noted that, while previously working in Cohasset, she worked with the Clean Energy Committee and supported the Community Solutions program in the town with National Grid. Additionally, Julia has experience working on Massachusetts Green Communities programs.

David Anthony thanked Michael and Julia for their introductions and interest in the Cape Light Compact Board. David noted that the Compact Board members are a passionate group with various backgrounds that support the Organization.

Valerie Bell joined the meeting remotely at 2:17pm

b. Educational Sessions for Board Members

David Anthony highlighted his recent participation in a Cape Cod Technology Council event along with Brian Miner and Mariel Marchand. David noted that the event focused on the regional grid, including the future of the electric grid, electric vehicle infrastructure and heat pump technology. David stated that a key takeaway from the event is that the Council believes that the rush of early adopters of electrification technologies seems to have passed. As a result, a large increase in electric demand over the next several years is not expected by the Council. David noted that, working through Margaret Song, the Board will be notified of similar educational opportunities in the future. David also encouraged the Board to share similar educational experiences with the Board.

Tom McNellis asked if Cape Cod Technology Council indicated what they are expecting for load growth in the next several years. David noted that he requested the slide deck from the event which included these projections.

Brian Miner noted that the event focused primarily on transmission rather than generation. Brian added that regarding the data, it seems that ISO New England is forecasting that the majority of early adopters of electrification technologies have already electrified. Brian suggested that the event speaker be invited to present to the Compact Board at a future date.

REVIEW OF ENERGY EFFICIENCY RESIDENTIAL ENHANCED OFFERINGS – STEPHEN MCCLOSKEY

Stephen McCloskey presented a new Cape Light Compact winter insulation offer. The Compact is increasing the standard incentive from 75% to 100% coverage of the cost of insulation per recommendations made at the Home Energy Assessment for all eligible residential program customers until the end of the heating season on April 30th, 2027. The offer is for customers who have an assessment between October 1st, 2026 and April 30th,

2027. The contract for recommended work must be signed by May 31st, 2027. The lead vendor will also be contacting customers with open recommendations to market this offer.

Nate Mayo joined the meeting remotely at 2:31pm.

Stephen noted that the average weatherization contract typically ranges between $2,000-$4,000 so, this offer could result in significant savings in terms of customer copay.

Colin Odell asked if this offer is for all weatherization measures or just insulation. Stephen noted that the offer is for all weatherization measures, but since air sealing is already 100% incentivized by the program, the focus of the marketing is the increased insulation incentive.

David Jacobson asked if this offer is only for Cape Light Compact customers. Stephen said yes, gas-heated customers are not eligible, but the gas Program Administrator has been notified of the Compact's offer in case they wish to provide a similar offering.

Joyce Flynn asked if the program budget would be able to handle a potentially large increase in participation. Stephen indicated yes, the budget is forecasted to accommodate an increase in participation and incentive level. David Anthony added that the Compact is able to be nimble and adjust offerings to support customers which will be important ahead of the expected high heating costs this upcoming winter.

Joyce Flynn asked if staff would attend events at local libraries to advertise the offering. Stephen indicated yes, staff would be happy to attend events to educate customers on the offer and noted that staff have been actively reaching out to area libraries. David Anthony noted that Barnstable has an active village association network with well attended meetings which may be another way to connect with customers. Stephen noted that the Compact is happy to do presentations, but can also set up a table and be available to answer questions at libraries, community events etc.

Tom McNellis asked if part-time residents are eligible for the insulation offer. Stephen indicated that part-time residents are eligible.

David Jacobson asked if the one-pager can be sent to the Board as a separate file. Margaret Song noted that the flyer will be sent out and hard copies can be printed if needed.

Margaret noted that the Compact is eager to advertise this offer, and staff are happy to get out and present to residents across the Cape and Martha's Vineyard.

Chris Palmer noted that he recently provided public comment to the Truro Select Board on this offer to spread the word with particular focus on air sealing and used the power outages during last winter's blizzard as an example of when weatherization can help with resiliency. Chris also highlighted average energy cost savings and the general timeline for customers to have an assessment and weatherization work completed.

David Jacobson suggested that Wellfleet Oyster Fest could be a good event for the Compact to have a table since it is well attended. Margaret noted that the Compact has considered Oyster Fest in the past but has found that it is heavily attended by off-Cape visitors. Margaret indicated that participating in the event can be explored for future years as tables sell out far in advance.

Chris Palmer noted that the Truro Health Fair is on October 15th and asked if the Compact will be present. Justin Bertrand responded that the Compact will have a table at the event, and Briana Kane will be present.

2027 Energy Efficiency Surcharge Presentation – Miranda Skinner

Miranda Skinner began the presentation by explaining that the Energy Efficiency Surcharge (EES) is the surcharge customers pay on their electric bill to fund the Massachusetts energy efficiency programs. Cape Light Compact is required to annually file its expected EES by November 1st with the Department of Public Utilities (D.P.U.) The filing includes expected revenues and expenditures for the remainder of 2026.

Miranda presented the 2025 and 2026 approved surcharges noting that there were two approvals in 2025 due to compliance filings. Miranda noted that the January 2027 proposed draft EES in the packet has been updated for the commercial sector.

Miranda continued by presenting illustrative bill impacts of the proposed draft 2027 EES for Residential (R1), Residential Heat Pump (R1-HP), Residential Assistance (R2), Residential Assistance Heat Pump (R-HP) and Small Commercial and Industrial customers.

Chris Palmer asked if the percent change is from the 2026 EES charge. Miranda noted that yes, the illustrative bill impacts show the percentage change from the 2026 EES to the proposed draft 2027 EES. David Anthony noted that this is on the delivery side of the bill and that the Compact continues to put forth efforts to educate customers on reading electricity bills.

The Board generally discussed how the EES works and how customer participation in the programs affect the program budgets. Margaret Song noted that the Compact's budget remains robust and programs should continue to be marketed, and customers should be encouraged to participate.

Brad Crowell noted that there is a lot of pressure statewide to reduce costs and asked if the 2027 draft proposed EES has been set based on guidance from the state. Margaret noted that the state has not provided guidance on the EES, and there is still pending legislation which could potentially provide guidance on the EES. The Compact will pivot as needed based on legislative updates.

Brad Crowell asked how the Compact's proposed draft 2027 EES compares to the utilities. Miranda noted that utilities are on a different reporting schedule so it is not yet known how the Compact's EES will compare.

Bob Schofield noted that the heat pump rate is expected to be improved this heating season and noted that there is not a C&I heat pump rate which can affect budgets for organizations like churches. David Anthony noted that Barnstable has elementary schools that would like to convert from steam and that a commercial heat pump rate could make that a more realistic conversion.

Cape Light Compact Honorees for the Mass Save® Impact Award – Lindsay Henderson

Lindsay Henderson presented the local honorees for the Mass Save Impact Awards. Lindsay noted that the Impact Awards are statewide with each Program Administrator nominating awardees. The awards recognize organizations and communities for their leadership in energy efficiency and creating lasting environmental, economic and community benefits. The award ceremony will be held on October 27th at the State House.

Lindsay highlighted the Compact's 2026 awardees, Camp Jabberwocky on Martha's Vineyard and Christian Union Church in Truro.

David Jacobson asked if Camp Jabberwocky operates year-round. Lindsay indicated that camp is not in operation year-round but administrative offices do operate all year.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT – MARGARET SONG

a. Electric Supply – Quarterly Industrial Rate Update

Margaret Song noted that the Industrial rate changes every quarter and the upcoming Industrial rate for October 2026 to January 2027 is an increase from 11.548 cents/kWh to 20.464 cents/kWh for the standard rate. The increase is due to the expected high winter energy prices. Margaret stated that about 40 customers are on the industrial rate, noting that many Industrial customers seek pricing from competitive suppliers. Margaret noted that the updated rate remains below Eversource Basic Service.

Tom McNellis asked if the increased Industrial price is an indicator of the upcoming Residential and Commercial pricing in January. Margaret noted that energy prices in the region continue to be challenging.

Valerie Bell asked if the Industrial supply is contracted with NextEra. Margaret responded yes. Valerie also asked about the current municipal rate and how that gets negotiated. Mariel Marchand noted that the municipal rate is 12.758 cents/kWh which began with July 2026 meter reads and will continue until July 2028 meter reads. Mariel reminded the Board to flag any new municipal accounts for the Compact so they can be enrolled in the municipal rate.

David Anthony noted that municipalities are on a different contract timeline because the 6-month timelines are difficult for town budget cycles. The municipalities go out for an RFP together which is currently at a favorable rate. The Compact will decide if another municipal supply RFP will happen as the contract timeframe progresses.

David Anthony reminded the Board that natural gas and electricity pricing are closely tied in New England.

BOARD MEMBER UPDATE (RESERVED FOR UPDATES ON MEMBER ACTIVITIES THE CHAIR DID NOT REASONABLY ANTICIPATE WOULD BE DISCUSSED – NO VOTING)

David Anthony welcomed Carol Magenau who joined the Board representing Wellfleet earlier this week. Carol introduced herself and highlighted her professional background as an academic librarian. Carol has been working with the Wellfleet Energy Committee and has been Secretary of the Committee for the past several years.

Colin Odell indicated that he had asked Compact staff for information on cost comparison of using an air source heat pump versus heating with oil or propane. Colin briefly walked through the analysis he completed to compare heating equipment and fuel types. The result of the analysis showed that cold climate heat pumps are less expensive to operate than oil or propane systems. Members of the Board noted that the analysis is focused on operational costs but does not include the cost of converting to heat pumps from fossil fuel systems.

Nate Mayo asked if this was a break-even analysis. Colin noted it is not, the analysis is of how much it costs to heat with a gallon of oil or propane compared to heating with an air source heat pump. Margaret Song noted that the residential heat pump rate was used for the analysis

Brad Crowell thanked Colin for the analysis. Brad noted that a current challenge with air source heat pumps is repairability which can be difficult and very expensive. Brad suggested the Compact advocate for heat pump repairability standards in Massachusetts.

Tom McNellis thanked Colin and asked if it would be possible for the spreadsheet to be shared with the Board.

Alan Strahler highlighted a recent event on Martha's Vineyard focused on the energy transition on the island hosted by the local energy committee, ACE MV, and Vineyard Power. Mariel Marchand presented at the event and Alan commended Mariel's presentation and thanked the Compact for participating.

Tom McNellis announced that Eastham has received a Green Communities grant for the initial design for Town Hall HVAC upgrades.

Brian Miner highlighted a Massachusetts Facilities Administrator's Association (MFAA) event going on this week in Hyannis. He noted that if there are any takeaways or lessons learned he will share next month. Margaret noted that Tatsiana Nickinello is in attendance from the Compact and a few towns may be represented as well.

Valerie Bell commented that part of the problem with converting existing heating systems in existing homes with hydronic heat is that there is not yet a clear air-to-water heat pump alternative yet. The Board generally commented on various heating system designs and specifications that can affect a transition to heat pumps.

David Anthony and Margaret Song noted that the November meeting will be focused on the annual audit and draft budget for review. Margaret reminded the Board that the November meeting date has changed to November 18th.

Motion to adjourn was made at 3:30pm moved by Colin Odell, seconded by Joyce Flynn.

David	Anthony	Barnstable	Yes
Robert	Schofield	Bourne	Yes
Colin	Odell	Brewster	Yes
Brian	Miner	Chatham	Yes
Brad	Crowell	Dennis	Yes
Tom	McNellis	Eastham	Yes
Alan	Strahler	Edgartown	Yes
Scott	Mueller	Falmouth	Yes
Valerie	Bell	Harwich	Yes
David	Jacobson	Orleans	Yes
Nate	Mayo	Provincetown	Yes
Julia	Gillis	Sandwich	Yes
Chris	Palmer	Truro	Yes
Carol	Magenau	Wellfleet	Yes
Nicola	Blake	West Tisbury	Yes
Joyce	Flynn	Yarmouth	Yes

Motion carried in the affirmative (16-0-0)

Respectfully submitted,

Emily P. Webb

LIST OF DOCUMENTS AND EXHIBITS:

- Meeting Notice/Agenda
- September 9, 2026 Draft Open Session Meeting Minutes
- Residential Special Winter Insulation Offer One Pager
- 2027 Energy Efficiency Surcharge presentation
- Mass Save® Impact Awards presentation
- Electricity Supply Rates October 2026 – January 2027