



## **2015 Roundtable Energy Task Force Principles**

1. Reduce and Stabilize Costs. The high cost of energy in Massachusetts places the state at a competitive disadvantage, with electricity costs that are among the highest in the country. Public policy solutions must prioritize steps that reduce the cost of energy and educate consumers about the major cost drivers impacting their electric and heating bills.
2. Promote Competition. Ensure a transparent, competitive marketplace across all sources of energy being generated, transmitted and distributed throughout the region and maximize the impact of competitive forces to ensure the most cost effective outcomes for businesses and consumers.
3. Ensure Balance & Encourage Efficiency. The state has adopted policies and made significant investments to harness clean energy resources and expand energy efficiency measures. It is important for the Commonwealth to balance costs to ratepayers and environmental goals to support a diverse portfolio of energy resources while continuing to encourage efficiency.
4. Pursue Regional Solutions. Regional problems demand regional solutions. Working effectively with partners in the New England region is critical to strengthen the reliability, diversity and consistent supply of energy, while modernizing aging infrastructure serving the region.
5. Increase Capacity & Reliability. Energy costs and reliability are heavily dependent on the region having adequate capacity to access competitively priced energy resources, including natural gas, clean hydroelectric power, and cost-effective renewables. Massachusetts businesses require reliable, uninterrupted access to energy resources to compete effectively in the global economy.