



## 2016 Roundtable Energy Task Force

### Goal Statement

The Massachusetts Business Roundtable supports public policy that provides reliable, sustainable, affordable energy resources for consumers and businesses enabling the state to meet the needs of a growing economy and the goals of the Global Warming Solutions Act in the most cost-effective way possible. To achieve this goal, the Roundtable supports a balanced, competitive, regional approach that includes renewable energy sources, natural gas, efficiency programs, and innovative on-site distributed generation solutions.

### Principles

1. **Pursue a Balanced Approach.** A balanced public policy approach to meet the Global Warming Solutions Act targets in 2020 and 2050 and promote long term economic development must include: growth in renewable energy sources; increased supply of natural gas; continued focus on energy efficiency; and promoting new technologies that deliver innovative on-site distributed generation and storage solutions.
2. **Increase Capacity & Reliability.** The region must have adequate capacity to access competitively priced energy resources—including natural gas and clean, cost-effective renewable sources of energy—to control costs and enhance reliability. Businesses across the Commonwealth require reliable, uninterrupted access to energy resources to compete locally and in the global economy.
3. **Support Cost Competitive Solutions.** 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, improve the competitiveness of the region's energy costs, and educate consumers about the major cost drivers impacting their electric and heating bills. The Commonwealth must balance costs to ratepayers and environmental goals to promote economic growth and sustainability while meeting Global Warming Solutions Act targets.
4. **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.
5. **Collaborate Regionally.** Regional problems demand regional solutions. Massachusetts must work effectively with partners in the New England region to strengthen the reliability, diversity and consistent supply of energy, while modernizing aging infrastructure serving the region.
6. **Foster Innovation and Technology.** Technology and innovation will continue to change where and how energy is produced, stored, and delivered. Public policy must consider—and foster an environment conducive to— technological advancement and incorporating innovative solutions now and into the future.