

Current EEU & DU FLM coordination: Roles and Responsibilities

Procedural History

The basis of this document is the amended and restated Flexible Load Management (FLM) [Operating Protocol](#)s developed in collaboration with VPPSA, filed with the PUC on May 30, 2023, and approved by the Commission on September 26, 2023. The protocols are also the basis for Efficiency Vermont's FLM Guiding Principles, shared with all utilities through the informal Utility Working Group, and are the basis for EVT roles and responsibilities in the support of FLM.

Definitions

Enablement – Efficiency Vermont (EVT) supports Distribution Utilities (DUs) in getting a customer's device FLM enabled for activation. This support could include any of the items outlined below in Efficiency Vermont Roles & Responsibilities.

Activation – DUs activate the enabled FLM device, and enroll them in FLM programs (calling events, ongoing participation incentives, rates, etc.) according to their FLM strategy.

Roles and Responsibilities of Efficiency Vermont Related to FLM

Efficiency Vermont capabilities support installation of load control measures to assist DUs to manage their system and circuit loads and for other DU and customer benefits. Efficiency Vermont shall engage in these FLM efforts only with the assent of and in collaboration with the affected DU. The following roles shall apply to Efficiency Vermont's FLM activities:

- Develop supply-chain partnerships with manufacturers, vendors, and contractors to deploy FLM-enabled devices.
- Promote FLM as an incremental addition to our existing EEU work (i.e. customer relationships, lead generation, project development, supply chain partnerships, workforce development, etc.)
- Promote interoperability standards and open-source technologies that enable individual measures to be controllable by the individual DUs through a variety of load control platforms.
- Reduce the barriers currently identified by the DUs in bringing FLM to scale. i.e. rebates for equipment purchase, installation, or enrollment incentive.
- Enablement support will include a combination of efforts offered statewide as well as DU-specific programs.
- Support DU's FLM program design and implementation through direct market engagement, exchange of subject matter expertise, and coordinated customer assistance including long term customer engagement and asset enablement.
- Convene DUs to share best practices and establish shared program/technology interests, as contractually allowed.
- Evaluate if commonalities exist to pursue a statewide pilot or program in partnership with interested DUs and leverage commonalities where appropriate.
- Provide technical assistance to DUs and their customers including, but not limited to, flexible product identification, data analyses, and enablement of product controls or scheduling.
- Advance specific pilots and technology demonstrations that DUs and Efficiency Vermont have agreed are mutually beneficial.
- Efficiency Vermont and DUs shall work jointly to identify any other revenue streams, societal benefits, and cost shift implications from FLM

Roles and Responsibilities of Distribution Utilities Related to FLM

FLM protocols do not address DU responsibilities, nonetheless we have observed these roles over the last few years.

- Coordinate with Efficiency Vermont to identify FLM standards that allow Vermont to capture economies of scale and help to reduce utility and EEC revenue requirements for customers.
- Reserve the right to advance their own positions on the scope of Efficiency Vermont's role in FLM in any future proceedings
- Design and implement Flexible Load Management rates, or provide ongoing participation incentives (i.e., bill credits).
- Forecast and call events, active demand management.
- Manage DERMS platform.
- Coordinated customer enrollment.