

A Decade of ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Since 2008, NECEC has grown from a staff of two to become the leading voice of the US Northeast clean energy industry. The following timeline illustrates some of our most important contributions to growing this region into a global model for the clean economy, focusing on three core areas: Innovation, Market Development, and Policy.

Innovation

Launched a program to match Executives-in-Residence from NECEC's fellowship program with startup and corporate venture projects.

2009



Innovation

Launched Clean Energy Fellowship Program, an intensive, three-month educational "boot camp" to transition entrepreneurs from other industries into clean energy.

2008

Policy

Drove groundbreaking pieces of clean energy legislation in Massachusetts, including Green Communities Act, Global Warming Solutions Act, and creation of MassCEC.

Market Development
Launched a Workforce Development Committee to support the clean energy workforce of the future.

Market Development

Hosted a series of economic and workforce development summits throughout Massachusetts and published a report to accelerate growth of the clean energy industry.

2010



Innovation

Announced with Fraunhofer, U-Launch, a grant-based award funded by the Department of Energy to accelerate the commercialization of clean energy technologies throughout New England.

Policy

Engaged the private sector in building support for the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI) across New England through a grant from Energy Foundation.

Market Development

Mobilized partners across nearly 30 states to help author Senate additions to the America COMPETES Act, federal legislation establishing the Advanced Research Projects Agency-Energy (ARPA-E).

2011

Market Development

Helped found Advanced Energy Economy, a national clean energy business organization.

Helped launch the MassCEC Internship Opportunity, a workforce development initiative that in its first year supported over 100 paid college interns at 70 different clean energy companies.

Innovation

Partnered with the BU School of Management to offer an Executive Certificate in Leading Clean Energy Ventures.

Awarded \$1.175 million by the Department of Commerce's (DOC) i6 Green Challenge and launched an innovation-focused economic development program.

Policy

Co-coordinated the Green Communities Act Coalition to support legislation expanding Massachusetts policies for clean energy growth.

Policy

Played a prominent role in Connecticut's Comprehensive Energy Strategy, receiving acknowledgement from Governor Dannel Malloy at the signing ceremony.

2013

Market Development

Released a white paper on offshore wind, leading to policies in subsequent years for offshore wind solicitations.

Policy

Participated in the energy policy transition committee for Rhode Island Governor Gina Raimondo, contributing to expansion of support for solar, energy efficiency, and offshore wind, as well as creation of the Power Sector Transformation initiative.

Released a paper examining the benefits of grid modernization and a 21st century electricity system, including the policy and regulatory framework needed to advance them.

2012

Innovation

Launched the Cleantech Innovations New England program with DOC and state funds to support startups and a regional innovation network.

2014

Innovation

Published the first region-wide study of the cleantech innovation cluster, identifying early-stage companies and pieces of the region's innovation infrastructure that support cleantech research and entrepreneurship.

Partnered with the global Cleantech Open organization to become the home for the Cleantech Open Northeast startup accelerator.

Market Development

Announced a new Strategic Partner Network to help large corporations expand partnerships in cleantech across the Northeast. GE Ventures, Schneider Electric, and Eversource joined founding members National Grid and Shell.

Market Development

Led a delegation of clean energy company executives to the United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP21) in Paris, hosting educational panels and discussions on Northeast successes.

Hosted an interactive Grid Modernization Summit with utilities and leading member companies to develop a shared vision for a modernized grid and to enable utilities to file robust innovation strategies with Massachusetts regulators.

Policy

Played a leading role in the Massachusetts Net Metering and Solar Task Force, coordinating a coalition of advocates and business interests for policies advancing solar energy.

2015

Policy

Formed with Acadia Center the Alliance for Clean Energy Solutions (ACES), a coalition of environmental advocates and consumer groups committed to ensuring that Massachusetts enacts long-term policies for clean, affordable, and reliable energy. Heavily involved in the passage of an Act to Promote Energy Diversity. Provisions included large-scale clean energy procurements, offshore wind, and energy storage.

Innovation

Hosted the Northeast Cleantech and Energy Innovation Tour, a two-week series of events in partnership with NYSERDA, MassCEC, PowerBridge-NY, NEXUS-NY, NYC ACRE, Greentown Labs, and Cleantech Open.

Market Development

Released the white paper Partnering for the Clean Energy Economy, examining how the Northeast is leading in clean energy policy, market development, and support for business and innovation growth.

NECEC President Peter Rothstein served on the National Academy of Sciences Committee to publish The Power of Change, a major report focused on "Determinants of Market Adoption of Advanced Energy Efficiency and Clean Energy Technologies."

2016

Innovation

NECEC's Navigate innovation program hosted the first annual Investor Corporate Connect, facilitating hundreds of connections between investors and corporations with early-stage and emerging companies.

Policy

Released a report examining the renewable portfolio standards (RPS) in Massachusetts and Connecticut, launching a significant advocacy campaign for RPS growth.

2017

Market Development

Organized the Clean Transportation Summit, developing a high-level roadmap for growth of this critically important sector.

Policy

Co-lead an ACES effort to pass an Act to Advance Clean Energy, capping a successful two-year push to increase the RPS during which NECEC facilitated state-wide media to support the increase.

Intervened in the Rhode Island National Grid rate and Power Sector Transformation cases, representing the clean energy industry to achieve outcomes that will create markets for clean energy solutions companies.

2018

Market Development

Published with the BU Institute for Sustainable Energy a white paper on multi-user microgrid deployment.

Co-founded Horizon18, a global clean economy solutions conference held in Boston seeking to translate climate goals into actual solutions and partnerships.

Innovation

Organized an expanded Navigate Innovation Summit with more than 30 regional ecosystem partners, cities, strategic partners, investors, and leading customers to advance next generation cleantech solutions.

Policy

Organized a network of transportation members to support the Transportation Climate Initiative (TCI), a regional cap and invest proposal to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from the transportation sector.

Emphasized media outreach to amplify the clean energy business voice, including publication of NECEC's letter "Gov. Cuomo's Energy Policy Is Enlightened" in the Wall Street Journal.

Provided strong support for Governor Janet Mills' legislative package to expand clean energy growth and establish the Maine Climate Council, setting Maine on a path towards one of the most aggressive emissions reductions in the country.

2019

Innovation

Navigate and Cleantech Open Northeast announced a new partnership with the Canadian Consulate in New York, growing cleantech innovation between the US and Canada.

Market Development

Co-lead the Horizon19 conference, positioning a new phase of scale-up based on systems transformations and acceleration of offshore wind, clean transportation, and distributed, smart, community-scale energy systems.

Co-hosted the Rhode Island Offshore Wind Summit, bringing together leading offshore wind developers with supply chain companies to explore partnerships and share opportunities for industry growth.

A Decade of Action

Over the 2020s, NECEC seeks to prove out our clean economy model and reduce greenhouse gas emissions in the Northeast by 40-50%. To reach this goal, NECEC needs to double our capacity and impact with support from strategic, sustaining investment. Together, we can ensure that the next Decade of Action delivers on sharing best approaches for clean energy economy transitions all over the world.