

# Rhode Island 2025 Climate Action Strategy and CCAP

EC4 Meeting

November 18, 2024



Energy+Environmental Economics

Chelsea Petrenko, Associate Director  
Molly Bertolacini, Senior Consultant

# Agenda

---

## + Project team

- E3, BW, and Lighthouse team

## + Study goals and context

- Study goals
- Context

## + Project overview

- Proposed workplan and timeline
- Project tasks

## + Discussion & Input from EC4

## + Next steps

# Introductions

## E3 Project Team



Tory Clark  
*Partner*  
**Project Partner**



Dan Aas  
*Partner*  
**Project Partner**



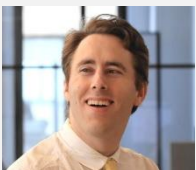
Chelsea Petrenko  
*Associate Director*  
**Project Lead**



Rawley Loken  
*Sr. Managing Consultant*  
**Technical Lead**



Molly Bertolacini  
*Sr. Consultant*  
**Project Manager**



Hayden Dahmm  
*Sr. Consultant*  
**Lead Analyst**



Dan Alberga  
*Consultant*  
**Analyst**

## Project Partners



**BW  
Research  
Partnership**



Philip Jordan, **Vice President**



Cai Steger,  
**Director of Policy Research**



Mitch Schirch,  
**Research Director**



**Lighthouse  
Consulting  
Group**



Mark Amaral,  
*Founder/CEO*  
**Lead Facilitator**



Eric Kretsch,  
**Senior Associate Facilitator**



**University  
of Rhode  
Island**



**Energy  
Fellow**

# Study Goals and Context



Energy+Environmental Economics

# Study Goals

---

The overarching goal of this study is to create the RI Comprehensive Climate Action Plan (CCAP) for the Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) program and the RI 2025 Climate Action Strategy as part of RI's Act on Climate

## + The RI CCAP and RI 2025 Climate Action Strategy will consist of:

- Robust stakeholder engagement
- GHG reduction measures modeling and sector-specific GHG target development
- Policy, technology and cost analyses
- Macroeconomic, workforce, climate resilience, and benefits analysis

## + Key elements of each plan will include:

- A just and equitable transition
- Impact to the Rhode Island workforce
- Energy efficiency in buildings and transportation
- Transition away from fossil fuel
- Transition to renewable electric power
- The removal of carbon from the air through land use and forest conservation

# RI Climate Initiatives that will Influence Analysis

## + Heating sector

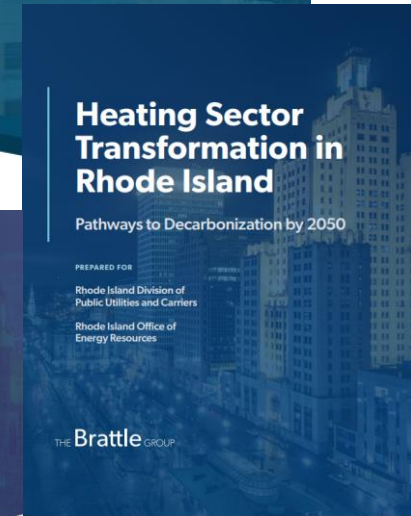
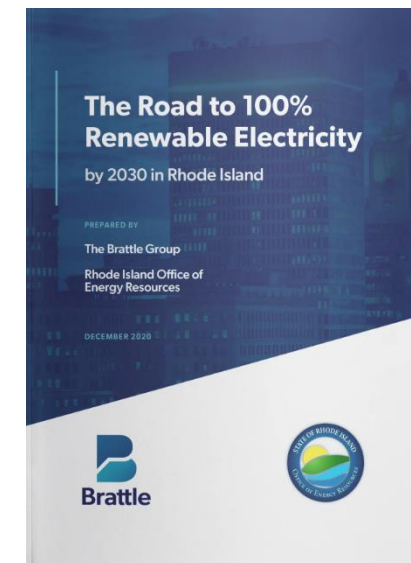
- On June 9, 2022, the Rhode Island Public Utilities Commission (PUC) opened Docket 22-01-NG to investigate the effect of the Act on Climate on the regulated gas distribution business in Rhode Island
  - E3 was hired by RIE to identify and model decarbonization scenarios that comply with the Act and to draft a report summarizing the technical analysis findings; report published in April 2024
- Heating Sector Transformation in Rhode Island report conducted by the Brattle Group

## + Transportation sector

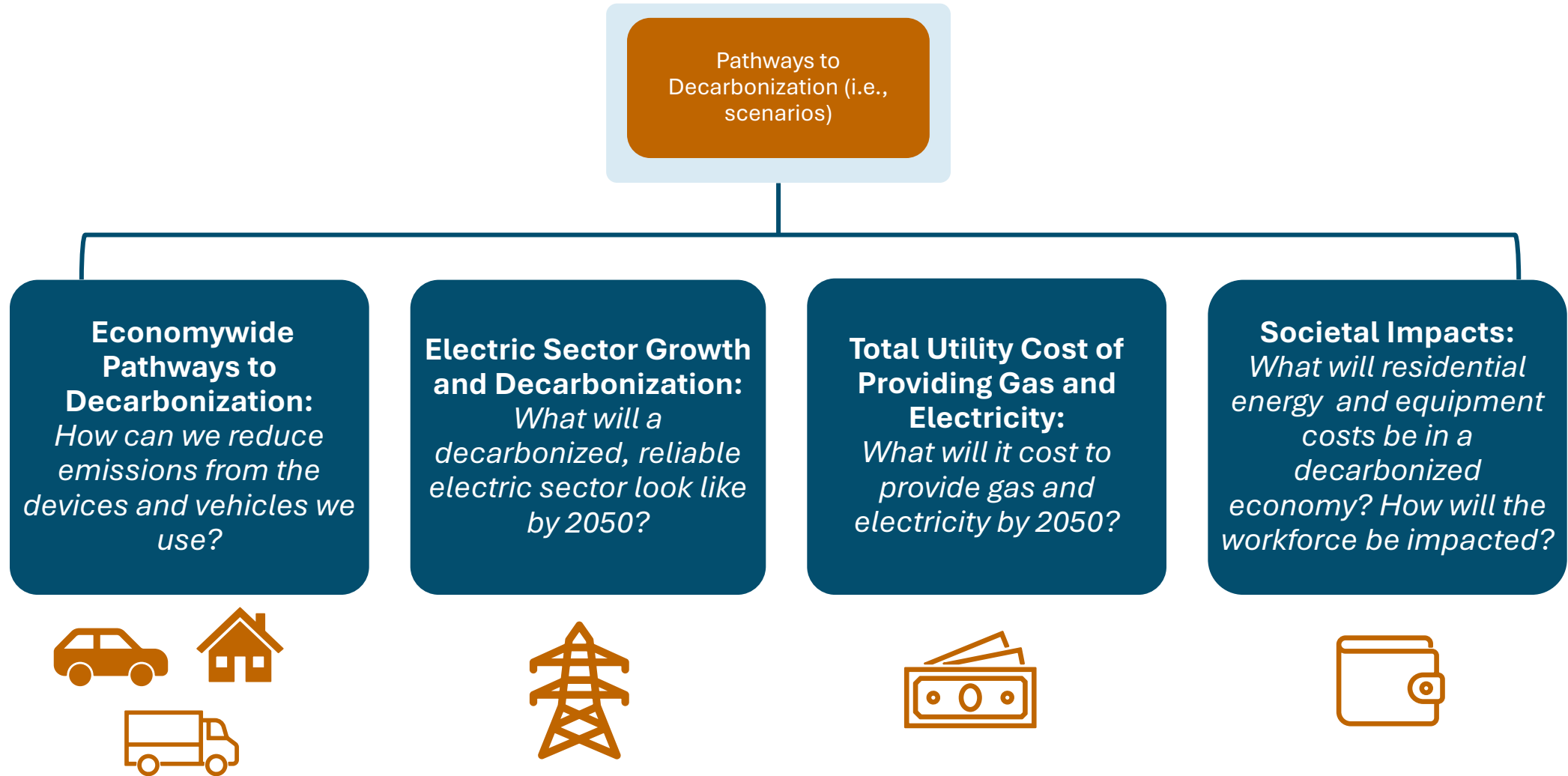
- EC4 set targets for EV adoption in the 2022 Update
- RI has adopted Advanced Clean Cars II (ACCI) and Advanced Clean Trucks

## + Electricity sector

- RI has a Renewable Energy Standard that requires 100% renewable energy by 2033



# The Climate Strategy will Consist of Four Pillars of Research



# Project Overview



Energy+Environmental Economics



# Task 1: Define Model Inputs & Project Kickoff

---

+ **Goal:** Align on objectives and set expectations related to project roles. Discuss proposed plan for technical analysis and stakeholder engagement.

+ **Key Steps/Subtasks:**

- Kick off meeting and project management
- Summary of existing plans & proposed modeling inputs and assumptions
- Summary of economy-wide and sectoral emissions reduction targets

+ **Task Lead:** E3

+ **Target Completion:** **March 2025**

+ **Deliverables:**

- Kickoff meeting agenda and slides
- Slide deck summary of existing plans/proposed modeling inputs & economy-wide/sectoral emissions reduction targets
- Draft and final spreadsheets of modeling inputs and assumptions

# Task 2: Public Engagement & Interagency Coordination

---

+ **Goal: Facilitate meaningful discussions across a diverse group of stakeholders on the RI Climate Strategy.**

+ **Key Steps/Subtasks:**

- Kickoff and pre-plan development
- Action plan development stage
- Plan refinement stage

+ **Task Lead: Lighthouse** (*E3 support*)

+ **Target Completion: January 2026**

+ **Deliverables:**

- Draft and final community engagement strategy and materials to support initial engagement
- Facilitation of in-person and virtual meetings with key stakeholders (each meeting to include detailed event plan, management of event registrations, meeting agendas, meeting materials, and meeting notes)
- Attendance at relevant meetings like EC4 council meetings, STAB and Advisory Board meetings, and interagency meetings

# Task 3: Deep Decarbonization Planning Analysis

---

+ **Goal: Conduct a comprehensive planning analysis for pathways to decarbonization in Rhode Island.**

+ **Key Steps/Subtasks:**

- Policy, technology pathways, and funding analysis
- List of measures, policies, and actions for GHG reduction scenarios
- GHG reduction measures scenario modeling and sector-specific targets
- Regulatory needs assessment

+ **Task Lead: E3**

+ **Target Completion: August 2025**

+ **Deliverables**

- Completed policy, technology pathways, and funding analysis
- List of measures, policies and actions for GHG reduction scenario and scenario results
- Slides to support stakeholder engagement and meetings to present results
- Analysis of authority to implement

# Task 4: Macro-Economic, Workforce, and Benefits Analysis

---

+ **Goal:** Analyze the macroeconomic, workforce, and benefits of decarbonization in Rhode Island.

+ **Key Steps/Subtasks:**

- Low-income benefits analysis (*BW*)
- Macro-economic analysis (*E3 lead energy cost/energy burden study*)
- Climate risk and resilience analysis (*E3*)
- Workforce planning analysis (*BW*)

+ **Task Lead:** *BW* (*E3 for some subtasks*)

+ **Target Completion:** **July 2025**

+ **Deliverables**

- Memos summarizing low-income benefits, macro-economic, climate risk and resilience, and workforce planning analyses
- Slides for community engagement

# Task 5: Produce Final CCAP Report and Elements of RI 2025 Climate Action Strategy

---

+ **Goal: Document analysis approach, process, and key findings for the final CCAP and 2025 Climate Action Plan.**

+ **Key Steps/Subtasks:**

- Final CCAP
- RI's 2025 Climate Action Plan
- Final Presentation
- Non-Technical Report and Technical Appendix

+ **Task Lead: E3**

+ **Target Completion: December 2025**

+ **Deliverables**

- Draft/final CCAP
- Draft/final RI 2025 Climate Action Plan
- Slide deck summarizing analysis and findings
- Draft/final non-technical summary report (English/Spanish)
- Draft/final technical appendix

# Task 6: Roll-Out of Final Deliverables

---

+ **Goal:** Rollout final deliverables to key decision-makers and stakeholders.

+ **Key Steps/Subtasks:**

- Presentations to General Assembly, general public, state decision makers, and members of media

+ **Task Lead:** E3

+ **Target Completion:** **January 2026**

+ **Deliverables**

- Participation in meetings to communicate results to key stakeholders

# Proposed High-Level Timeline

Tasks	Q4 2024	Q1 2025	Q2 2025	Q3 2025	Q4 2025	Q1 2026
<b>Task 1: Define Model Inputs and Project Kickoff</b>	Kickoff	Proposed inputs	Final inputs			
<b>Task 2: Public Engagement and Interagency Coordination</b>	Engagement plan		Stakeholder meetings	Stakeholder meetings	Stakeholder meetings	Stakeholder meetings
<b>Task 3: Deep Decarbonization Planning Analysis</b>			Policy and tech analysis	Draft Pathways results	Final Pathways results	
<b>Task 4: Macro-Economic, Workforce, and Benefits Analysis</b>				Task 4 memos		
<b>Task 5: Produce Final CCAP Report and Elements of RI 2025 Climate Action Strategy</b>					Draft reports	Final reports
<b>Task 6: Roll-Out of Final Deliverables</b>						Roll-out all results

# Roles and Responsibilities

● Lead    ◐ Support

Organization >>		E3	BW Research	Lighthouse Consulting	Energy Fellow
Task 1	Kickoff meeting and project management	●			
	Summary of existing plans & proposed modeling inputs	●			
	Summary of economy-wide/ sectoral emissions reduction targets	●			
Task 2	Kickoff and pre-plan development	◐		●	
	Action plan development stage	◐	◐	●	◐
	Plan refinement stage	◐		●	◐
Task 3	Policy, technology pathways, and funding analysis	●			◐
	List of measures, policies, and actions for GHG	●			
	GHG reduction measures scenario modeling and sector targets	●			
	Regulatory needs assessment	●			◐
Task 4	Low-income benefits analysis		●		
	Macroeconomic analysis	◐	●		
	Climate risk and resilience analysis	●			◐
	Workforce planning analysis		●	◐	
Task 5 -6	CCAP and RI 2025 Climate Strategy Deliverables	●			◐
	Rollout of deliverables to key stakeholders	●			



# Questions & Discussion



Energy+Environmental Economics

**Thank you!**



Energy+Environmental Economics