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# **Gas Demand Response Pilot Implementation Plan, 2018-2021**

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Consolidated Edison Company of New York, Inc.  
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# 1 Executive Summary

Consolidated Edison Company of New York, Inc. (“Con Edison” or “the Company”) proposed the Smart Solutions for Natural Gas Customers Program to address increased demand for natural gas in its service territory and limited pipeline capacity. This innovative, integrated, multi-solution proposal seeks to decrease gas usage and procure alternative resources to meet customer heating and other thermal needs. As part of the Smart Solutions portfolio, Con Edison will establish a Gas Demand Response (“DR”) Pilot that aims to reduce net customer gas demand during the entirety of a peak gas demand day during the coldest days of the year.

Gas DR will be piloted for three years (winter 2018/19 through winter 2020/21) in certain zones in Con Edison’s service territory, and with a prescribed limit for the number of customers who can participate. The designation of this effort as a pilot and the limit on the number of participating customers are necessary due to the limited experience with gas DR in Con Edison’s service territory, as well as New York State and nationally. It is Con Edison’s intention to use this Pilot to gather insight into optimal gas DR operational parameters and achievable customer response that will potentially inform a tariffed program it will propose at the end of the pilot if appropriate.

This Implementation Plan outlines the key parameters of the Gas DR Pilot, which consists of a Performance-Based Gas DR Pilot primarily targeting Con Edison’s commercial and industrial (“C&I”) gas customers and multi-family buildings with centralized heating systems, and a Direct Load Control (“DLC”) Gas DR Pilot targeting Con Edison’s residential gas customers.

The Company developed the Gas DR Pilot parameters by leveraging interviews and discussions with Con Edison’s largest gas customers, as well as aggregators and solution providers that are active in the electric DR space in New York State. The Pilot has been designed to account for customer capabilities, while providing sufficient economic incentive to customers for participation. Where possible, Con Edison has leveraged many of the existing capabilities and procedures from its electric DR programs in the design of the Gas DR Pilot, with the ultimate goal of making Gas DR Pilot participation attractive for existing electric DR customers (who are often also gas customers) and aggregators.

The Company is also requesting funding of \$5 million to support the costs of administering the Gas DR Pilot over a three-year period, as well as providing an estimate of the costs of incentives over that same period. The Company seeks the flexibility to reallocate financial resources within the various components of the Gas DR Pilot as needed. If incentive costs are higher than anticipated, the Company requests the ability to defer additional incentive costs and recover these costs in the next Con Edison gas rate filing.

Following the submission of this Implementation Plan and pending Public Service Commission (“Commission”) action on the Gas DR Pilot, Con Edison will continue preparing the administrative functions that will enable the launch of the program in time for the winter 2018/19 season. During this period, Con Edison will continue engaging customers and the market, and will provide regular updates to Department of Public Service Staff (“Staff”) and respond to any Staff concerns and recommendations.

## 2 Introduction

### 2.1 Background to the Gas DR Pilot

Con Edison delivers natural gas to 1.1 million customers in Manhattan, the Bronx, the First and Third Wards of Queens, and most of Westchester County. Natural gas is delivered by interstate pipelines to Con Edison at various points in or near its service territory, and is distributed to customers through approximately 4,300 miles of mains and 370,000 service lines. Con Edison must have sufficient pipeline capacity available to meet its customers' demand on a peak design day. The design day customer demand only reflects gas used by firm gas customers, and does not include, for example, the gas supply needs of customers taking interruptible delivery service or electric generating stations; to the extent interruptible customers require fuel on the coldest days of the year, they are required to use an alternate fuel.

Natural gas use in Con Edison's service territory has grown substantially in recent years, and this upward trend is expected to continue for the foreseeable future. Over the six-year period starting in 2011, weather-adjusted firm natural gas peak day demand in Con Edison's service territory has grown by more than 30 percent, and is projected to grow more than an additional 20 percent over the next 20 years. There are multiple drivers for growth in natural gas load: customers converting to natural gas for its local environmental benefits, community clean heat programs which require customers to switch from residual heating oil to other cleaner heating fuels, and the value proposition of natural gas including reliability of supply, convenience and (depending on the comparative price of alternative fuels) cost savings.

On the supply side, pipeline capacity coming into Con Edison's service territory is fully contracted, and proposals for new pipeline projects have recently encountered increased difficulty in securing necessary preconstruction permits.

To address the increased customer demand and limited pipeline capacity, Con Edison has proposed the Smart Solutions for Natural Gas Customers Program.<sup>1</sup> This innovative, integrated, multi-solution strategy seeks to decrease gas usage and procure alternative resources to meet customer heating and other thermal needs. The Smart Solutions Program is designed to meet customers' heating and other thermal needs cost-effectively, seek to defer the Company's requirement for incremental upstream pipeline capacity, reduce the use of pipeline delivered services, mitigate the need for a moratorium on new gas customer interconnections, and contribute to the achievement of State and local environmental goals.

The Smart Solutions proposal includes four non-traditional solutions to address customer gas needs:

- Developing the Gas DR Pilot to reduce net customer demand during the entirety of a peak gas demand day,
- Doubling of the Company's existing gas energy efficiency program,

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<sup>1</sup> For additional information, see *Petition of Consolidated Edison Company of New York, Inc. for Approval of the Smart Solutions for Natural Gas Customers Program*, filed September 29, 2017, New York State Public Service Commission Case No. 17-G-0606.

- Creating a gas innovation program for renewable alternatives to natural gas heating (request for information to be issued in Q2 2018), and
- Issuing a market solicitation for additional non-pipeline solutions on either the supply or demand side, which will provide a pathway for the advancement of new technologies and facilitate new abilities to engage with and deliver services to customers; examples include beneficial electrification of heating and localized natural gas storage alternatives (a request for proposals was issued on December 15, 2017).

Con Edison seeks to launch a Gas DR Pilot for the winter 2018/19 period that will consist of (1) a Performance-Based Gas DR Pilot targeting Con Edison's C&I customers and multi-family buildings with centralized heating systems, and (2) a DLC Gas DR Pilot targeting Con Edison's residential customers.

This Implementation Plan describes the characteristics of the Gas DR Pilot, as informed by Con Edison's operational requirements, and the capabilities of Con Edison's customers and the market using smart thermostat technology.

## **2.2 Gas DR Pilot Objectives**

The Gas DR Pilot will test the feasibility of incentivizing customers to provide net reductions of natural gas demand during peak gas demand days (from 10:00am to 10:00am the following day) on the coldest days of the winter.

The overall goals of the Gas DR Pilot are to:

- Understand the magnitude of net load reduction that customers are able to provide following notification over a 24-hour window from 10:00am to 10:00am the following day ("event");
- Test customer engagement as measured by number of customers enrolled and participant reaction;
- Assess third-party participation as measured by number of aggregators enrolled and aggregator reaction;
- Streamline event dispatch based on internal and external stakeholder response;
- Test the participants' ability and willingness to participate in multi-day events (i.e., when multiple events occur consecutively) and events on holidays, if such events are called in the duration of the Gas DR Pilot;
- Collect information on successful customer use reduction strategies;
- Inform the process of setting program incentive levels;
- Test baseline methodologies for robustness; and
- Provide data on reliability and repeatability of total reductions during events, as an input to Con Edison's peak day gas demand forecasting process.

The Gas DR Pilot will be offered initially in the 2018/2019 winter season, and will continue being offered through the 2020/2021 winter season. Con Edison will evaluate the results of the Gas DR Pilot during and after this period to determine if it should be established as a full program, as well as the optimal

program parameters.

## **2.3 Stakeholder Engagement**

To support the development of the Gas DR Pilot and this Implementation Plan, Con Edison actively engaged external stakeholders to collect input that informed the design of the Pilot. Specifically, Con Edison:

- **Conducted interviews** in early 2018 with seven of Con Edison’s natural gas customers spanning a range of building types, technology types, and customer segments to discuss the Gas DR Pilot concept, the customers’ technical capabilities, program design attributes, potential barriers to participation, and key insights into how Con Edison could design the Gas DR Pilot.
- **Conducted interviews** with interested third-parties including aggregators as well as building management system and energy management system (“BMS/EMS”) providers to understand their capabilities to contribute to the Gas DR Pilot.
- **Presented in the Demand Response Forum** on February 27, 2018 the initial outline of the Gas DR Pilot to a broad group of stakeholders currently active in Con Edison’s electric DR programs.
- **Collected feedback in a Gas DR Pilot Design Workshop** on April 2, 2018 from customers, aggregators, and other local stakeholders on the preliminary design elements of the Gas DR Pilot, with an open comment period following the workshop for stakeholders to provide additional input.
- **Tested DLC capability** with a limited effort to test the ability and willingness of customers who have already installed a specific brand of smart thermostat to participate in a DLC-type Gas DR Pilot.

Con Edison will continue to engage with stakeholders throughout the duration of the Gas DR Pilot to collect further feedback as both customers and aggregators learn and gain experience from their participation in the Gas DR Pilot.

## 3 Performance-Based Gas DR Pilot Description

### 3.1 Eligibility

For the Performance-Based Gas DR Pilot, Con Edison will enroll customers that express interest in the Pilot and meet the following eligibility criteria:

- **Firm service:** Customers must take firm gas delivery service. If a customer switched to firm gas delivery service from interruptible delivery service, or if the customer moved to firm delivery service as a result of failure to meet interruptible delivery service requirements, the customer must take firm delivery service for a full calendar year before being eligible to enroll in the Gas DR Pilot.
- **Minimum enrollment value:** Both aggregators and direct participants will be required to provide a minimum enrollment value of five dekatherms of Net Load Relief per gas day. Customers may enroll through a qualified aggregator or as a direct participant, provided that customers enrolled as a direct participant provide the minimum enrollment value.
- **Customer segments:** While all customer segments will be eligible to participate, the primary focus is on C&I gas customers and multi-family buildings with centralized gas heating systems. Dual enrollment in the Performance-Based Gas DR Pilot and the DLC Gas DR Pilot will not be allowed.
- **Building end uses:** The Performance-Based Gas DR Pilot will primarily target natural gas consumption from space heating, water heating, combined heat and power (“CHP”) systems, and process loads.
- **Reduction strategies:** Customers will have the option to participate through either curtailing gas consumption or reducing gas usage by fuel-switching to electric during the event days. Fuel-switching to liquid fuels will not be permitted.
- **Metering requirements:** Customers will be required to have at least one of the four metering options outlined in Section 3.3.1 for the collection of interval data.
- **Locations:** The Performance-Based Gas DR Pilot will be offered to customers in portions of the Con Edison gas service territory where reducing peak day gas usage would mitigate pipeline needs and reduce the Company’s use of pipeline delivered services. The Pilot incentives are based on two value zones that are identified by zip code: Zone A (higher tier) and Zone B (lower tier). Section 3.3.4 provides details on customer incentives by zone, and Appendix A includes a table of the zip codes within each zone, as well as the zip codes that are ineligible to participate in the Gas DR Pilot.
- **Enrollment limit:** Enrollment in the Performance-Based Gas DR Pilot will be limited to 500 customers in the first year (winter 2018/19), 750 customers in the second year (2019/20), and 1,000 customers in the third year (2020/21).

### 3.2 Operational Parameters

Table 1 summarizes the key parameters for the Performance-Based Gas DR Pilot, based on the operational requirements presented in Section 3.1, as well as customer and market capabilities.

**Table 1. Summary of Performance-Based Gas DR Pilot Parameters**

| Parameter                         | Definition   |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| <b>Event Trigger</b>              | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The event trigger will be based on a forecasted average daily temperature at the Central Park weather station as forecasted by Con Edison 24 hours in advance of the event day (which, as noted below, begins at 10:00am).</li> <li>For the 2018/19 season, the trigger will be 18°F. The event trigger may be reassessed prior to each season.</li> <li>Con Edison will have the right to call events based on the forecasted Event Trigger, but is not obligated to call an event.</li> </ul> |
| <b>Frequency of Events</b>        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Based on previous 10 years of weather data, Con Edison projects an average of 3-4 events per season for the 2018/19 event trigger of 18°F.</li> <li>Participants will be required to respond to at least one Test Event per season.</li> </ul>  |
| <b>Capability Period</b>          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>November 1 through March 31.</li> </ul>   |
| <b>Contracted Hours</b>           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>24-hour period (10:00am to 10:00am the following day), 7 days a week (weekdays, weekends, and holidays), during the Capability Period. *</li> </ul>   |
| <b>Notification Time</b>          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Notification will be provided to participants at least 21 hours in advance of the event.</li> </ul>   |
| <b>Net Load Relief</b>            | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The key benefit to Con Edison’s gas system is the load relief achieved during a 24 hour event period, compared to the customer’s forecasted usage (“Net Load Relief”).</li> </ul>   |
| <b>Event Participation</b>        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Customers and/or aggregators are responsible for their participation strategy on gas DR event days.</li> <li>Con Edison will not have direct control of customer appliances, controls, or other equipment. **</li> </ul>  |
| <b>Prohibited Reduction Modes</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Demand reduction via switching to fuel oil or other liquid fuels that result in an increase in customer emissions during a gas DR event is not allowed. ***</li> </ul>  |

\* 10 out of the 20 top send-out days over the last 4 years occurred during holiday and/or weekend days. Events occurring on Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day, and New Year’s Day holidays will receive higher incentive payments (see Section 3.3.4).

\*\* Customers who own or manage multi-family residential buildings in New York City must meet New York City code requirements for space heating and water heating temperature settings for tenant spaces, where applicable, regardless of their participation in a gas DR event.<sup>2</sup>

\*\*\* Participation in the Performance-Based Gas DR Pilot does not limit or modify customer requirements to abide by all environmental laws or regulations limiting emissions of various pollutants, including during participation in a DR event. Con Edison reserves the right to confirm after a DR event that a participating customer did not engage in a Prohibited Reduction Mode.

<sup>2</sup> Current New York City code requires 68°F from 6:00am to 10:00pm, and 62°F 10:00pm to 6:00am, and 120°F water at the tap. NYC Housing Prevention and Development. “Heat and Hot Water.” Accessed January 2018. Available at: <http://www1.nyc.gov/site/hpd/renters/important-safety-issues-heat-hot-water.page>

## **3.3 Delivery Parameters and Procedures**

### **3.3.1 Customer Enrollment and Metering Enablement**

Customers enrolled by October 1 will be able to participate in the Performance-Based Gas DR Pilot beginning November 1. Customers who miss the October 1 enrollment deadline can enroll by November 1 for participation in the Pilot beginning December 1.

Con Edison must be able to collect and record hourly gas usage interval data on a daily basis for all Performance-Based Gas DR Pilot participants. Because the rollout of gas AMI meters will be limited during the initial years of the Performance-Based Gas DR Pilot, Con Edison will utilize one of four different metering options for the collection of interval data:

1. Con Edison will use AMI meters for data collection where the customer has already had an AMI gas meter installed and the AMI communications network is actively collecting data from the customer's AMI gas meter.
2. Con Edison will allow customers using a BMS/EMS capable of collecting hourly interval data from their existing gas meter to use such systems for data collection and submit the data directly to Con Edison in a pre-established format.
3. Con Edison will retrieve data from customers without AMI meters or BMS/EMS, but whose meters have volume correctors that record and store data, via a physical meter read either on a monthly basis or at the end of the winter season (depending on the volume corrector data capacity).
4. For customers without AMI meters, BMS/EMS systems, or volume correctors, customers can request to have their gas meters upgraded with an AMI IMU that will be provided by Con Edison, and agree to enroll in the Performance-Based Gas DR Pilot. Con Edison will collect the data via a physical meter read on a monthly basis.

Hourly interval data collected or provided to the Company under Options 2, 3, and 4 will not be used for normal bill calculations, but will only be utilized by the Company for the purposes of establishing a participating customer's DR baseline and the customer's performance during a Planned Event or Test Event.

The process for establishing metering capabilities and collecting the interval data for participating customers is the following:

- Customer requests to participate in the Gas DR Pilot,
- Con Edison confirms existing meter configuration and determines which of the four metering options the customer can use to participate in the Gas DR Pilot,
- For Option 3, Con Edison arranges data collection from the customer meter, and
- For Option 4, Con Edison arranges for installation of IMU retrofit unit at its own cost, and arranges for data collection from the customer meter.

Customer data collected using BMS/EMS (Option 2) will be subject to measurement and verification spot checks by Con Edison. If feasible, for customers with an existing EMS/BMS system, Con Edison will

attempt to install an IMU, thereby allowing them to participate in the Pilot under Option 4.

A maximum of 150 customers can enroll in Option 3 and a maximum of 150 customers can enroll in Option 4 every year. In order to be eligible for the meter retrofit and additional meter reading associating with either Options 3 or 4, participants must have monthly usage of at least 400 dekatherms in at least one month during the winter 2017/2018 heating season.

If a customer enrolled in Option 4 does not provide Con Edison with access to the customer's site during the visit for the installation of the IMU retrofit unit, the customer will be ineligible to participate in the Pilot for the remainder of the season. If a customer enrolled in any of the four options does not provide Con Edison with access to the customer's site for collection of data during the season at Con Edison's request, the customer will receive a zero Performance Factor (as defined in Section 3.3.4) for each month that access is not available.

### **3.3.2 Event Notification**

As outlined in the Performance-Based Gas DR Pilot operational parameters (see Section 3.2), Con Edison will have the option, but not the obligation, of calling an event when the forecasted average daily temperature is 18°F or below based on the average hourly temperature at the Central Park weather station as forecasted by Con Edison 24 hours in advance of the event day.

Notifications for the Performance-Based Gas DR Pilot events will be sent via phone or email to aggregators and direct participants. Event notifications will be issued 21 or more hours in advance of the event.

Con Edison will also have the option, but not the obligation, of calling one or more Test Events, in which it requests that direct participants and aggregators provide of Net Load Relief over a 24 hour period in order to test participants' response to a request for load relief. Test Event notifications will be issued 21 or more hours in advance of the event. Performance payments for Test Events will be made for the Net Load Relief achieved up to the customer's enrollment value.

### **3.3.3 Measurement and Verification**

To measure the customers' baseline usage for determining gas savings on an event day, Con Edison will apply an adapted version of the Customer Baseline Load ("CBL") procedure that is currently used for Con Edison's electric DR programs. Similar to electric DR, determining the proper baseline will be critical to the value provided by the Pilot, as gas DR event days will be associated with the coldest periods with largest gas use, and would normally see an increase in gas consumption.

Key features of the Performance-Based Gas DR Pilot CBL will include the following:

- CBL Basis and CBL Window<sup>3</sup> defined as:
  - Weekday events: Highest 5 of 10 previous weekdays.

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<sup>3</sup> The CBL Window is the set of days that will serve as representative of participant's typical usage. The CBL Basis is the set of days within the CBL Window to be used to develop CBL values for the event.

- Saturday events: Highest 2 of 3 previous Saturdays.
- Sunday events: Highest 2 of 3 previous Sundays.
- Holiday events: Highest 2 of 3 previous Sundays.
- CBL Window excludes the following:
  - Day before the event,
  - Other event days (for weekday events),
  - Holidays (for weekday events), and
  - Low usage days with average daily event period usage less than 25 percent of the average event period usage level.
- Average Day CBL is the average of the total daily usage for the days that comprise the CBL Basis (e.g., the CBL for a weekday event will be a single daily value representing the average of the daily usage for the highest 5 of 10 previous weekdays).<sup>4</sup>
- A Weather-Sensitive adjustment option will be available, in which day-of usage is adjusted based on the two-hour period beginning four hours prior to the commencement of the event (i.e., from 6:00am - 8:00am for a 10:00am event start).
- For consecutive event days, the CBL Basis and Weather-Sensitive adjustment of the first event day will be used for each of the consecutive event days.
- At the initial enrollment in the Performance-Based Gas DR Pilot, participants may elect either the Average Day CBL or the Weather-Sensitive adjustment CBL formula.

The development of a baseline methodology for a 24-hour DR event period is a novel practice in the industry and is based on limited data for historical customer gas usage. Con Edison intends to test the CBL methodology through the Gas DR Pilot implementation, and will re-analyze and potentially revise the CBL methodology during or immediately after the Gas DR Pilot is complete based on the results of the Gas DR Pilot.

The full procedure for the determination of the customer baseline will be posted on Con Edison's website in a separate document for participant reference.

### **3.3.4 Incentives and Settlement**

Customers will be eligible for a reservation payment and performance payment based on their participation in DR events for the Performance-Based Gas DR Pilot throughout the Capability Period (November 1 through March 31). Incentive payments will be made at the end of the season based on net 24-hour therm reductions below that customer's CBL during event days (therm-day).

Table 2 highlights the proposed incentive levels for participating customers in each value zone.<sup>5</sup>

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<sup>4</sup> The Performance-Based Gas DR Pilot CBL will be based on the net usage over the event day, as opposed to the methodology used for the electric DR CBL, which is based on the average of the hourly usage in each hour of the event window.

<sup>5</sup> Appendix A provides details on the value zones, including ineligible service areas.

- **Reservation Payment (\$/th-day per month):** A monthly incentive for customers based on their seasonal commitment to provide Net Load Relief (“enrollment value”). Reservation incentives are based on each customer’s enrollment value, after adjusting for the Performance Factor (discussed below), for each month of the five-month heating season.
- **Performance Payment (\$/th-day per event):** A daily incentive for customers based on their Net Load Relief during each event. Performance incentives are determined by measured net 24-hour therm reduction below that customer’s CBL during each event day.
- **Higher Performance Payment (\$/th-day per event):** An additional daily incentive for customers based on their Net Load Relief during events that occur on three specified holidays (Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day, or New Year’s Day) or events over three or more consecutive event days (with the higher performance payment starting on the third consecutive event day).
- **Voluntary Performance Payment (\$/th-day per event):** A daily incentive for customers to provide Net Load Relief during non-normal events:
  - Events called with shorter notice than the 21-hour standard event notice,
  - Events called at temperatures higher than 18°F trigger, or
  - Responses to event notifications by customers who enroll after the enrollment deadline and are therefore not eligible for reservation payments.
- **Event Performance Factor:** The Event Performance Factor is the ratio of (i) the dekatherms of Net Load Relief provided during a Planned Event or Test Event up to the dekatherms of contracted Net Load Relief to (ii) the dekatherms of contracted Net Load Relief.
- **Seasonal Performance Factor:** A Performance Factor will be applied to the reservation payment for the entire season and will be based on the average Event Performance Factor from all Planned Events or Test Events called during the season.

Customer incentive payments are directly related to customer performance over the heating season. Customers will receive partial reservation payments for performance below that customer’s enrollment value, with no reservation payment for performance below 25 percent of the customer’s enrollment value. This strategy is similar to Con Edison’s electric DR programs.

**Table 2. Proposed Performance-Based Gas DR Pilot Incentive Levels**

| Payment Structure  | Zone A<br>(Rye/White Plains, North Bronx, North Manhattan) | Zone B<br>(Southern Bronx, Queens, Southern Manhattan) |
|--|--|--|
| <b>Monthly Reservation Payment</b><br>(\$/Th-day of Net Load Relief per DR month)  | \$9  | \$5  |
| <b>Performance Payment during DR event</b><br>(\$/Th-day of Net Load Relief per DR event)                                | \$1  | \$1  |
| <b>Holiday / 3 Consecutive Event Days / Voluntary Performance Payment</b><br>(\$/Th-day of Net Load Relief per DR event) | \$2  | \$2  |

|   |      |      |
|---|------|------|
| <b>Estimated Total Payment</b><br>(\$/Th-day per DR season) for Net Load Relief during a ‘typical winter season’ based on historical weather data | \$50 | \$30 |
|---|------|------|

Section 3.1 and Appendix A provide details on eligible and ineligible zones.

Con Edison designed the Performance-Based Gas DR Pilot’s incentives to offer sufficient compensation to participating customers, while achieving a BCA value of greater than 1.0 (see section 5.2).

The proposed incentive levels were developed using a number of reference points:

- Program BCA thresholds for the Smart Solutions portfolio,
- Electric DR incentive expectations from the 2015 Willingness-to-Accept study<sup>6</sup>,
- Published incentive levels in National Grid (KED-NY and KED-LI) Gas DR Pilot,
- The relative value to a customer of current electric DR program incentives as compared to a customer’s annual bill, and
- Other commercial information on the value of gas DR available to Con Edison.

Customers will be paid for the entirety of the Gas DR Pilot season in a single payment at the end of the season.

### **3.3.5 Marketing, Outreach, and Customer Engagement**

Given the nascence of gas DR in Con Edison’s service territory, customer education will be a critical part of the initial marketing efforts to help customers understand the objectives of the Pilot and the mechanisms for participating. Overall, the marketing strategy for the Gas DR Pilot will be similar to that of the electric DR program, with additional emphasis on education in the first two years of the Pilot. Con Edison expects to cross-market the Gas DR Pilot with its electric DR programs, particularly in the initial pilot years, to reach customers who have already expressed interest in electric DR participation.

Marketing for the Gas DR Pilot will be delivered primarily through aggregators, with limited targeted marketing delivered directly by Con Edison to larger C&I customers. The targeted marketing delivered directly by Con Edison will include informational webinars that will be open to the general public and email campaigns.

To support the marketing and outreach efforts more broadly, Con Edison will prepare marketing collateral that can be used to educate customers on the Gas DR Pilot, Pilot Guidelines to help participants better understand the pilot rules and processes, and a web page on Con Edison’s website with information on the Gas DR Pilot with a link to Con Edison’s DR email address for further questions and direct engagement.

## **3.4 Additional Guidelines and Procedures**

<sup>6</sup> Navigant Consulting, Inc. 2015. “Demand Response Survey Research Study – Commercial Demand Response Willingness-to-Accept and Performance Window Customer Research.” Prepared for CECONY. January 30, 2015.

In order to facilitate access to resources relating to the Performance-Based Gas DR Pilot, Con Edison will develop a webpage that will provide additional details on the CBL procedure and the Gas DR Pilot rules and guidelines.

## 4 DLC Gas DR Pilot Description

The DLC program is the current residential and small commercial component of Con Edison's electric DR offerings. The DLC program supports electric system reliability primarily by using Wi-Fi enabled thermostats to control participants' central air conditioning units and reduce energy demand at times of critical system need. Customers have the ability to remotely control their central air conditioning units online through a personal computer or mobile device at all times, and thus can override events called by Con Edison regardless of the customers' location. The DLC program has been offered in Con Edison's service territory since 2002. To implement the principles in the Reforming the Energy Vision ("REV") proceeding, since 2014 the Company offers a Bring Your Own Thermostat ("BYOT") option that allows customers to enroll a thermostat through certain service providers or thermostat manufacturers.

Con Edison proposes a similar BYOT DR option for natural gas customers to reduce gas usage at peak times in the period starting November 1 and ending March 31). Customers will participate in the DLC Gas DR Pilot through the BYOT option by providing their own control device and enrolling in the DLC Gas DR Pilot through a service provider (i.e., smart thermostat manufacturers and/or aggregators). Through the DLC Gas DR Pilot, Con Edison will target customers who have previously enrolled in the electric DLC program, as well as new customers who have eligible Wi-Fi thermostats. Service providers that currently participate in the electric DLC program will be eligible, and encouraged, to participate in the DLC Gas DR Pilot as well.

The current DLC BYOT option allows customers to enroll a thermostat through service providers and to receive a one-time sign-up bonus. Customers who currently participate in the DLC program during the summer months and have a gas heating system will receive an additional incentive to enroll in the DLC Gas DR Pilot. New customers who have a gas heating system but have not previously registered for the DLC program will receive a sign-up payment at the time of enrollment.

Under the DLC program, there is a sign-up bonus of \$85 per thermostat and an additional \$25 payment for participation in DR events after Con Edison can verify participation in at least 50 percent of events in the first three summers. The DLC Gas DR Pilot may choose to apply a similar incentive structure to the pilot year, or opt to test multiple incentive methods to increase pilot participation.

The DLC Gas DR Pilot seeks to enroll up to 1,000 participating customers by 2021. The proposed budget (see section 5.1) includes incentive payments for customers and service providers, marketing for DLC Gas DR Pilot enrollment, set up fees and administrative costs.

## 5 Gas DR Pilot Budget

### 5.1 Budget Breakdown

#### 5.1.1 Overview

This section outlines the budget for the delivery and administration of the Gas DR Pilot for three years (November 2018 to March 2021), including both the Performance-Based Gas DR Pilot and the DLC Gas DR Pilot.

Budget amounts are based on estimates of adoption within Con Edison's customer base. Con Edison will inform Staff of any material revisions to the Gas DR Pilot that are the result of customer participation that is different to what is expected, and to comply with all requirements set forth in any relevant Commission Order(s) issued under Smart Solutions. Similar to its approach for the entire Smart Solutions effort, the Company requests the flexibility to reallocate funds within the overall budget estimate for the Gas DR Pilot without approval from the Commission.

Table 3 below provides a summary of the estimated budget for the delivery of the Gas DR Pilot for the first three years of operation. Con Edison has estimated the budget on an annual basis; however, the Company will optimize expenditures based on the requirements of the Gas DR Pilot and may ultimately choose to alter the annual expenditure profile.

**Table 3 Gas DR Pilot Budget, 2018-2021**

| Category                     | 2018-19            | 2019-20            | 2020-21            | Total              |
|------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| <b>Meter Data Collection</b> | \$269,000          | \$155,000          | \$155,000          | <b>\$579,000</b>   |
| <b>Customer Incentives</b>   | \$648,000          | \$968,000          | \$1,286,000        | <b>\$2,902,000</b> |
| <b>Pilot Administration</b>  | \$490,000          | \$540,000          | \$540,000          | <b>\$1,570,000</b> |
| <b>Gas Pilots Budget</b>     | <b>\$1,407,000</b> | <b>\$1,663,000</b> | <b>\$1,981,000</b> | <b>\$5,051,000</b> |

The estimates for Customer Incentives costs in the Gas DR Pilot Budget of approximately \$2.9 million for the three-year Pilot period are premised on a number of factors which are outside of the Company's control. For example, while the Gas DR Pilot proposes to limit the total number of customers that can participate in the Performance-Based Gas DR Pilot, the Company has not placed any limit on the amount of reduction each customer or aggregator can enroll in the Pilot. If peak day gas reductions by customers are greater than what the Company has anticipated, Customer Incentives costs will be greater than estimated.

As a result of this uncertainty, the Company seeks permission to defer costs related to Customer Incentives that are above the total \$2.9 million estimate, for recovery in a subsequent Con Edison gas rate filing.

### **5.1.2 Meter Data Collection**

Section 3.3.1 describes metering options for customers participating in the Performance-Based Gas DR Pilot, including two options that involve data collection by Con Edison at the premises of customers that are not equipped with gas AMI meters or BMS/EMS.

The level of expenditure that will be required for data collection by Con Edison will ultimately be determined by the level of participation in the Performance-Based Gas DR Pilot. Based on expected levels of participation, Con Edison estimates that over the course of the first three years the Performance-Based Gas DR Pilot will require **\$0.58 million** for meter readings and incremental hardware such as Field Service Units (“FSU”). Incremental costs for IMUs that are installed under metering Option 4 will be funded by Con Edison through its existing budget for gas AMI meter installation.

### **5.1.3 Customer Incentives**

Section 3.3.4 describes the incentive strategy for the Performance-Based Gas DR Pilot, and Section 0 outlines the incentive strategy for the DLC Gas DR Pilot. The level of expenditure for customer incentives will ultimately be determined by the level of participation in the Gas DR Pilot, as well as the number of events being called each year. Based on expected levels of participation in the Gas DR Pilot, and an average number of events per year based on historical weather data, Con Edison estimates that customer incentives over the course of the first three years will amount to **\$2.90 million**.

As noted above, actual customer incentive amounts paid are influenced by factors outside the Company’s control, and the Company seeks the ability to defer any customer incentive costs above the budget estimate for recovery at the next gas rate filing.

### **5.1.4 Gas DR Pilot Administration**

Gas DR Pilot administration costs include expenditures that relate to the establishment and day-to-day delivery of the Gas DR Pilot, and are beyond the costs of meter data collection and customer incentives. This budget includes costs for the incremental staff that will be responsible for the management of the Gas DR Pilot, incremental marketing, outreach, and other customer engagement activities, market research efforts, settlement processes, and demand response management system (“DRMS”) integration.

Pilot administration costs for the first three years of the Gas DR Pilot are estimated at **\$1.57 million**.

## **5.2 Benefit-Cost Analysis**

Con Edison has developed a BCA Handbook to provide a common methodology for calculating benefits and costs of projects and investments related to gas demand reductions and/or supply-side additions, as an alternative to the development of incremental pipeline capacity. A program is considered to be cost-effective when the BCA result is 1.0 or greater, i.e., providing more benefits than costs to society.

Con Edison has calculated the cost-effectiveness for the Performance-Based Gas DR Pilot using the BCA Handbook, and under the participation assumed in this Implementation Plan, the Societal Cost Test

value exceeds 1.0.

## Appendix A. Gas DR Pilot Value Zones

Table 4 presents the zip codes by zone for determining customer incentives and eligibility for the Gas DR Pilot, as discussed in Section 3.1.

**Table 4. Gas DR Pilot Value Zones for Customer Incentives and Eligibility**

| Gas Reduction Value | ZIP   | Location           |
|---------------------|-------|--------------------|
| Zone A. Higher      | 10528 | Westchester County |
|                     | 10538 | Westchester County |
|                     | 10543 | Westchester County |
|                     | 10573 | Westchester County |
|                     | 10577 | Westchester County |
|                     | 10580 | Westchester County |
|                     | 10601 | Westchester County |
|                     | 10604 | Westchester County |
|                     | 10605 | Westchester County |
|                     | 10606 | Westchester County |
|                     | 10801 | Westchester County |
|                     | 10803 | Westchester County |
|                     | 10804 | Westchester County |
|                     | 10805 | Westchester County |
|                     | 10033 | Manhattan          |
|                     | 10034 | Manhattan          |
|                     | 10040 | Manhattan          |
|                     | 10451 | Bronx              |
|                     | 10452 | Bronx              |
|                     | 10453 | Bronx              |
|                     | 10454 | Bronx              |
|                     | 10455 | Bronx              |
|                     | 10456 | Bronx              |
|                     | 10457 | Bronx              |
|                     | 10458 | Bronx              |
|                     | 10459 | Bronx              |
|                     | 10460 | Bronx              |
|                     | 10461 | Bronx              |
|                     | 10462 | Bronx              |
|                     | 10463 | Bronx              |
|                     | 10464 | Bronx              |
|                     | 10465 | Bronx              |
|                     | 10466 | Bronx              |
|                     | 10467 | Bronx              |
|                     | 10468 | Bronx              |
|                     | 10469 | Bronx              |
|                     | 10470 | Bronx              |
|                     | 10471 | Bronx              |
|                     | 10472 | Bronx              |
|                     | 10473 | Bronx              |
|                     | 10474 | Bronx              |

| Gas Reduction Value  | ZIP   | Location           |
|----------------------|-------|--------------------|
|                      | 10475 | Bronx              |
|                      | 10502 | Westchester County |
|                      | 10503 | Westchester County |
|                      | 10504 | Westchester County |
|                      | 10506 | Westchester County |
|                      | 10507 | Westchester County |
|                      | 10510 | Westchester County |
|                      | 10514 | Westchester County |
|                      | 10522 | Westchester County |
|                      | 10523 | Westchester County |
|                      | 10530 | Westchester County |
|                      | 10532 | Westchester County |
|                      | 10533 | Westchester County |
|                      | 10549 | Westchester County |
|                      | 10550 | Westchester County |
|                      | 10552 | Westchester County |
|                      | 10553 | Westchester County |
|                      | 10562 | Westchester County |
|                      | 10570 | Westchester County |
|                      | 10583 | Westchester County |
|                      | 10591 | Westchester County |
|                      | 10594 | Westchester County |
|                      | 10595 | Westchester County |
|                      | 10603 | Westchester County |
|                      | 10607 | Westchester County |
|                      | 10701 | Westchester County |
|                      | 10703 | Westchester County |
|                      | 10704 | Westchester County |
|                      | 10705 | Westchester County |
|                      | 10706 | Westchester County |
|                      | 10707 | Westchester County |
|                      | 10708 | Westchester County |
|                      | 10709 | Westchester County |
|                      | 10710 | Westchester County |
| <b>Zone B. Lower</b> | 10001 | Manhattan          |
|                      | 10002 | Manhattan          |
|                      | 10003 | Manhattan          |
|                      | 10004 | Manhattan          |
|                      | 10005 | Manhattan          |
|                      | 10006 | Manhattan          |
|                      | 10007 | Manhattan          |
|                      | 10009 | Manhattan          |
|                      | 10010 | Manhattan          |
|                      | 10011 | Manhattan          |
|                      | 10012 | Manhattan          |
|                      | 10013 | Manhattan          |
|                      | 10014 | Manhattan          |
|                      | 10016 | Manhattan          |
|                      | 10017 | Manhattan          |

| Gas Reduction Value | ZIP   | Location           |
|---------------------|-------|--------------------|
|                     | 10018 | Manhattan          |
|                     | 10019 | Manhattan          |
|                     | 10020 | Manhattan          |
|                     | 10021 | Manhattan          |
|                     | 10022 | Manhattan          |
|                     | 10023 | Manhattan          |
|                     | 10024 | Manhattan          |
|                     | 10025 | Manhattan          |
|                     | 10026 | Manhattan          |
|                     | 10027 | Manhattan          |
|                     | 10028 | Manhattan          |
|                     | 10029 | Manhattan          |
|                     | 10030 | Manhattan          |
|                     | 10031 | Manhattan          |
|                     | 10032 | Manhattan          |
|                     | 10035 | Manhattan          |
|                     | 10036 | Manhattan          |
|                     | 10037 | Manhattan          |
|                     | 10038 | Manhattan          |
|                     | 10039 | Manhattan          |
|                     | 10041 | Manhattan          |
|                     | 10044 | Manhattan          |
|                     | 10045 | Manhattan          |
|                     | 10065 | Westchester County |
|                     | 10069 | Manhattan          |
|                     | 10075 | Manhattan          |
|                     | 10080 | Manhattan          |
|                     | 10103 | Manhattan          |
|                     | 10104 | Manhattan          |
|                     | 10105 | Manhattan          |
|                     | 10106 | Manhattan          |
|                     | 10110 | Manhattan          |
|                     | 10111 | Manhattan          |
|                     | 10112 | Manhattan          |
|                     | 10115 | Manhattan          |
|                     | 10118 | Manhattan          |
|                     | 10119 | Manhattan          |
|                     | 10121 | Manhattan          |
|                     | 10122 | Manhattan          |
|                     | 10123 | Manhattan          |
|                     | 10128 | Manhattan          |
|                     | 10152 | Manhattan          |
|                     | 10154 | Manhattan          |
|                     | 10162 | Manhattan          |
|                     | 10165 | Manhattan          |
|                     | 10166 | Manhattan          |
|                     | 10167 | Manhattan          |
|                     | 10169 | Manhattan          |
|                     | 10170 | Manhattan          |

| Gas Reduction Value | ZIP   | Location           |
|---------------------|-------|--------------------|
|                     | 10172 | Manhattan          |
|                     | 10173 | Manhattan          |
|                     | 10174 | Manhattan          |
|                     | 10175 | Manhattan          |
|                     | 10176 | Manhattan          |
|                     | 10178 | Manhattan          |
|                     | 10271 | Manhattan          |
|                     | 10278 | Manhattan          |
|                     | 10279 | Manhattan          |
|                     | 10280 | Manhattan          |
|                     | 10281 | Manhattan          |
|                     | 10282 | Manhattan          |
|                     | 10285 | Manhattan          |
|                     | 10505 | Westchester County |
|                     | 10511 | Westchester County |
|                     | 10520 | Westchester County |
|                     | 10535 | Westchester County |
|                     | 10536 | Westchester County |
|                     | 10547 | Westchester County |
|                     | 10548 | Westchester County |
|                     | 10566 | Westchester County |
|                     | 10567 | Westchester County |
|                     | 10588 | Westchester County |
|                     | 10589 | Westchester County |
|                     | 10598 | Westchester County |
|                     | 11004 | Queens             |
|                     | 11101 | Queens             |
|                     | 11102 | Queens             |
|                     | 11103 | Queens             |
|                     | 11104 | Queens             |
|                     | 11105 | Queens             |
|                     | 11106 | Queens             |
|                     | 11354 | Queens             |
|                     | 11355 | Queens             |
|                     | 11356 | Queens             |
|                     | 11357 | Queens             |
|                     | 11358 | Queens             |
|                     | 11360 | Queens             |
|                     | 11361 | Queens             |
|                     | 11362 | Queens             |
|                     | 11363 | Queens             |
|                     | 11364 | Queens             |
|                     | 11365 | Queens             |
|                     | 11366 | Queens             |
|                     | 11367 | Queens             |
|                     | 11370 | Queens             |
|                     | 11426 | Queens             |
|                     | 11427 | Queens             |
|                     | 11428 | Queens             |

| Gas Reduction Value              | ZIP                | Location           |
|----------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
|                                  | 11432              | Queens             |
|                                  | 11435              | Queens             |
|                                  | 11439              | Queens             |
| <b>Ineligible to participate</b> | 10501              | Westchester County |
|                                  | 10505              | Westchester County |
|                                  | 10511              | Westchester County |
|                                  | 10517              | Westchester County |
|                                  | 10520              | Westchester County |
|                                  | 10526              | Westchester County |
|                                  | 10527              | Westchester County |
|                                  | 10535              | Westchester County |
|                                  | 10536              | Westchester County |
|                                  | 10540              | Westchester County |
|                                  | 10547              | Westchester County |
|                                  | 10548              | Westchester County |
|                                  | 10566              | Westchester County |
|                                  | 10567              | Westchester County |
|                                  | 10588              | Westchester County |
|                                  | 10589              | Westchester County |
| 10596                            | Westchester County |                    |
| 10598                            | Westchester County |                    |