

**Efficiency Maine**  
**RFP: Residential Heat Pump Impact Evaluation**  
**Questions Due: February 9, 2021, 3:00 PM EST**

1. Would an individual's prior work in support of a Technical Reference Manual be considered a conflict of interest for the purposes of this solicitation?

**Answer:** Prior or current support of the Efficiency Maine Technical Reference Manuals does not fall under any of the conditions listed in the Conflict of Interest section of the RFP.

2. "Portfolio"

- a. Section 3.2.1.B. states "Relative precision shall be  $\pm 10\%$  or better at 80% confidence interval at the portfolio level for savings estimates (energy and peak demand)." What is meant by "portfolio"? Is the portfolio HESP and AHI as a whole, all residential programs, EMT's entire portfolio or something else? Or is the intention to aim for 80/10 for the heat pump component of HESP and AHI?

- b. Please confirm that "at the portfolio level" in bullet point B (on page 14) refers to the HESP and AHI, combined.

**Answer:** For the purposes of this evaluation, "portfolio" should be considered the combination of HESP and AHI heat pump measures.

3. Does EMT have an established position on whether program HPs should be evaluated against an existing conditions baseline or standard practice?

**Answer:** Per the RFP, the appropriate baseline should be assessed through customer surveys/interviews, desk reviews and on-site observations or other methods.

4. Can EMT estimate what share of program heat pumps are in areas where AMI data will be available?

**Answer:** With sufficient lead time the Trust has access to interval data from both investor-owned utilities covering roughly 90% of the state.

5. Can EMT estimate how many homes received other measures (weatherization, etc.?)

**Answer:** See Project Detail.xlsx. There is a table on the Summary tab (starting at cell A9) that shows the number of HESP and AHI heat pump customers that have completed projects in other measure groups, such as air sealing and insulation.

6. Does EMT have any non-participant (for a possible comparison group)?

**Answer:** No, but utility data for non-participants could be requested from the electric utilities.

7. The SOW spells out a requirement for statistically representative results across several characteristics. Detailed program data would help us develop the most cost-effective approach to do this. Can EMT provide this data (for example, the program database with type of home, location fields, etc.)?

**Answer:** See Project Detail.xlsx for relevant data from the effRT database. The Details tab lists every HESP and AHI heat pump project paid between 7/1/2019 and 2/10/2021 with City, ZIP, Date Paid, Structure Type and Measure. The Summary tab summarizes counts by home type and ZIP. The Measures by Month tab includes a time series chart. Note that home type is self-reported and prone to mis-categorization. Care should be taken when recruiting to confirm home type.

8. What impacts are included in “non-electric energy impacts” (on page 13)?

**Answer:** Non-electric energy impacts include impacts to consumption of oil, natural gas, propane, kerosene and wood.

9. Please confirm that the last Measure table row (on page 6) is correct (e.g., AHI does not allow for the 2<sup>nd</sup> unit to be a mini-split heat pump).

**Answer:** All tables in the RFP were kept consistent with how the measures are labeled in effRT. There is no significance to the difference in labels between Heat Pump and MiniSplit HP. Equipment qualification is dependent on the number of indoor units served by a single outdoor unit (single zone or multi-zone) and the rated HSPF. And in the case of Tier 2 and AHI HPs, the indoor unit must be wall mounted. The distinction with the second unit for AHI is that the AHI program only incentivizes one unit per home. Homes that decide to install a second unit actually do so under the HESP program.

10. Please confirm that footnote 4 (on page 7) should read “Between July 1, 2019 and December 31, 2019” rather than “Between July 1, 2019 and December 31, 2020.”

**Answer:** The footnote should have read “Between July 1, 2019 and December 31, 2019, 40 MiniSplit HP Property Assessed and 9 MiniSplit HP LIHEAP measures were rebated.”

11. Please estimate how many residential heat pumps that the Efficiency Maine Trust anticipates incentivizing from December 1, 2020, to June 30, 2021.

**Answer:** Efficiency Maine is not anticipating any new program changes that would influence the pace of heat pump installs through June 30, 2021. See Project Details.xlsx, Measures by Month tab for a time series chart of heat pump installs. The most recent program change was made in January 2020 when Tier 2 rebates were added to the HESP measure offers. The HESP team is projecting a total of 17,115 outdoor HP units resulting in 20,580 rebates on indoor units for FY2021. The LI team is projecting 1,202 total HP rebates for FY2021.

12. When will the HESP and AHI program data that is relevant to the proposed evaluation (data for July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2021) become available for analysis?

**Answer:** Data will be entered in the effRT database within a week of June 30, 2021 for all projects that have a paid date prior to June 30, 2021. FY2021 data is subject to correction through September 30, 2021 as data is finalized for annual reporting.