

Triennial Plan II: Straw Proposal

**Stakeholder Input Meetings
Cross-Cutting
July 26, 2012**



Cross-Cutting: Evaluation

■ Description & Purpose

- Evaluation refers to systematic research and analysis to:
 - Assess program outcomes, operations and opportunities,
 - Verify energy savings, and
 - Identify recommendations to improve:
 - Program design and delivery, and
 - Program savings calculations

Cross-Cutting: Evaluation

■ Description & Purpose

— Types of Evaluation include:

- Impact evaluation (verify energy savings / other outcomes)
 - Measurement & verification (project specific)
 - Cost-effectiveness analysis (B/C ratio)
- Process evaluation (design and delivery)
- Market effects (how program affects market functioning)
- Market research, including baseline studies



Cross-Cutting: Evaluation

■ Statutory & Regulatory Requirements

- Independent evaluation of each “major” program (> \$500,000) at least once every 5 years (35-A MRSA sec. 10104)
- Measurement and verification requirements for ISO-NE Demand Resources, including program evaluations

■ Overall Strategy

- EMT issues RFPs to contract for independent 3rd party program evaluations & other significant research studies
- Staff conduct ongoing research & analysis activities



Cross-Cutting: Evaluation

■ FY12 Studies Completed

- ISO-NE M&V Plan Annual Compliance Study (July 2011)
- Home Energy Savings Program Evaluation (Nov 2011)
- Business Incentive Program Evaluation (Nov 2011)
- Commercial Project Grants Evaluation (Jan 2012)
- Large Project Grants Evaluation (Mar 2012)
- ISO-NE M&V Plan Annual Compliance Study (May 2012)

Cross-Cutting: Evaluation

■ FY13 Studies

- Baseline and Opportunities Study (July 2012)
- Residential Lighting Program Evaluation (Sept 2012)
- PACE Loan Program (June 2013)
 - Interim reports (Aug 2012, Dec 2012)
- Retro-commissioning Pilot Program (Dec 2012)
- ISO-NE M&V Plan Annual Compliance Study (April 2013)



Cross-Cutting: Evaluation

■ Ongoing

- Northeast Energy Efficiency Partnerships (NEEP)

Evaluation, Measurement & Verification Forum projects:

- Loadshape Research Project
- Incremental Cost Research Project
- Consortium for Energy Efficiency (CEE) Evaluation Committee



Cross-Cutting: Evaluation

- **FY14-16 Tentative Research Agenda**
 - **Residential Portfolio**
 - Low-Income Weatherization
 - Appliance Programs
 - Lighting (by 2017)
 - **Business Portfolio**
 - Commercial Multi-family Retrofit (ARRA)
 - Business Incentive Program (by 2016)
 - Large Customer Program (by 2017)
 - **Annual ISO-NE Compliance Review** (May)
 - Add Technical Reference Manual review



Cross-Cutting: Evaluation

■ Budgets

- First Tri Plan period research and evaluation budget set on project-by-project basis
- Per project budget range: \$150,000 to \$350,000
 - Depending on scope and complexity
- Ongoing annual commitments
 - NEEP EMV Forum: \$30,000-\$75,000
 - ISO-NE Certification w/TRM review: \$50,000



Cross-Cutting: Evaluation

■ Staff Recommendations

- **Umbrella approach:** Transition to “umbrella” contract by sector, e.g. Residential Portfolio Programs Evaluation
 - Multi-year, multi-program evaluation contract
 - Flexibility to adjust to changes in programs, research needs
 - Attract evaluation contractors (larger chunk of work)
- **Base budget:** Set in advance as % of program funding
 - Facilitate planning / reduce uncertainty
 - Provide framework for umbrella contract amounts



Cross-Cutting: Evaluation

■ Staff Requests for Specific Input

- **Frequency:** How often should independent evaluation occur?
 - Statute requires “at least once every 5 years”
 - To ensure continuous program improvement and verification, may need more frequent – every 3 years?
- **Budget:** How much to allocate to program evaluation?
 - National average ~3.5% of program budgets (CEE, 2011)
 - Most states between 2-5% (U.S. DOE, 2010)
- **Topics:** Is there other research we should pursue?



Cross-Cutting: Database System

■ Description & Purpose

- **IT solution** for entering, storing and analyzing program and participant information
- **Critical role in key EMT processes:**
 - Program Delivery
 - Program Management & Oversight
 - Analysis and Reporting
 - Independent Evaluation
- **History:** separate databases by program, varying sophistication
 - effRT for Business Program



Cross-Cutting: Database System

■ **FY12-13 Major Initiative - effRT 2.0**

- Consolidate all EMT programs into unified tracking system
- Standardize internal database processes, features and quality
- **Comprehensive Reporting Solution**
 - A set of standard “one-click” reports
 - Quarterly, monthly, and weekly manager level reports
 - Ad-hoc reporting module
 - Online benefit/cost modeling tool
- **Standardized Program Management Features**
 - Financial management and forecasting
 - Universal dashboard with real time statistics
 - Configuration module for program incentives, energy saving calculations rules, and other features



Cross-Cutting: Database System

■ effRT 2.0 Benefits

- Allows EMT to manage all programs across organization
- Easy access to accurate and up-to-date data by all users
- Security around who can access what data
- Enhanced benchmarking, reporting, analyses, management
- Cost/benefit model becomes easily produced report
- Configurability: lower delivery \$, enhance customer service
- Reporting: both standard and ad-hoc reporting tools
- Enforces business rules as defined by EMT
- Cross-references Technical Reference Manual (TRM) for energy savings calculations
 - Increase quality and accuracy



Please Share Your Ideas:

Send Written Comments to:

Email – efficiencymaine@efficiencymaine.com

Post – **Triennial Plan Comments**
151 Capitol Street, Suite 1
Augusta, ME 04330



Latest that comments will be considered is August 15.