

## **EERS Sub-committee meeting of the EESE Board with stakeholders Residential Energy Efficiency Programs**

Held 2-10-2017 at Eversource Energy Park

### **Home Energy Assistance Program (HEA: Low Income Weatherization)**

- Identify and claim participant behavior change savings
- Incorporate other benefits in B/C calculation (e.g., health benefits)
- Convert fossil fuel savings to kWh and count toward kWh savings goals
- Master-metered multi-family opportunities for natural gas heating buildings. Work with mortgage lenders to assist moving jobs forward (loans for roof repairs, mold remediation, etc.)
- Additional marketing to qualified customers who may not be voluntarily participating (e.g., registering with CAAs); “too proud to apply”.
- Drive deeper engagement for each job
- Supplement funding through sources other than SBC (e.g., Charitable organizations), and track \$’s
- Provide a Home Energy Score as part of the auditing process
- Follow-up w/ customers for feedback (to help with process improvements, etc.)
- Expand collaboration & training opportunities
- Identify and claim Savings opportunities outside of funded measures; Convene a “Best Practices” working group

### **Home Performance with Energy Star (HPWES: non-Low Income / High Energy Use Weatherization)**

- Review rebates @ measure level - % covered for each measure; re-evaluate measures being covered @ 100% and potentially scale down.
- Focus audit attention on equipment failures (i.e., failed well pumps) to capture additional savings
- Offer an Energy Audit “light” option; consider customers who don’t qualify through HHI tool, such as customers who live in only parts of home or keep thermostats down to save energy (identify savings opportunities for them)
- HHI Tool:
  - Consider thermostat settings for tool (e.g., adjustment for customers who keep their thermostats lows)
  - Change qualifications to be based on property profile/assets vs. customer behavior
- Consider Home Energy Scores as a program qualifier to capture more opportunities
- Allow multi-family projects for fuel neutral customers into the program
- Streamline multi-family process (i.e., Determine the qualifiers Meter situation: Residential vs Commercial)
- Marketing outreach to condo associations for weatherization opportunities
- Residential online audit tool for greater customer engagement across the EE portfolio. (Identifies specific savings opportunities for each customer based on data collected through online assessment.)
- Consider lower rebate levels w/ in each measure
- Program Measure Pricing impacts contractors – consider adjustments
- Ensure contractor stability within the program
- Pricing increases within the program – Keep viable for smaller as well as larger contractors – pricing model
- Unify programs through all utilities – additional coordination
- Broader financing options to encourage deeper participation
- Emerging technologies for connected devices (e.g., Time-of-Use Rates, Communicating Thermostats, Grid Modernization, appliances and identify ways to make part of grid modernization & data collection)
- Incorporate “good electrification” of grid
- Connected (“smart”) devices – could allow deeper insight into energy savings opportunities, savings claimed, etc.
- Whole systems view/approach)
- Incentive award for contractors/service providers who bring qualified leads

- Support/Educate/Encourage service providers to promote the program
- Consider Net Zero concepts (Solar PV) – within HPwES and HEA as well as ESHomes. Define a “Net Zero Home”
- Develop system for customers to rate Contractors (Feedback from customers on their past project)
- Capture spillover in program measurements
- Work more closely with realtors to promote program

### **Energy Star Homes (New Home Construction)**

- Require Auditing Standards (BPI, etc.)
- Marketing to promote Energy Star builders
  - Publicly recognize builders who are building to the 2015 IECC
- Illustrate / promote the pros/cons of Energy Star certified homes
- Incorporate a tiered incentive approach (e.g., Code plus, etc.)
- Consider including a Net Zero Mobile/Modular home program package, consider including financing
  - Explore the VT Net Zero Manufacturing Program; offering for locally manufactured homes
- Outreach/Training to smaller town code/building officials on energy code compliance
- Technical guidance to towns without dedicated building inspectors
- Adopt a stretch code at community level
- Work with builders at design level to incorporate smart automation / intelligent building technologies (e.g., Home Automation systems)
- Collaborate with realtors to promote program awareness (incorporate Home Energy Scores w/ property listings/MLS)
- Savings for builders not building code
- Publically recognize / Highlight / Promote Energy Star Homebuilders at a local level (NH)
- Education
- Consider a more integrated/comprehensive tracking tool to collect more data

### **Energy Star Products**

- Consider smart appliances: how do we certify/qualify and identify interactive energy savings for products that work with the grid (e.g., pre-cooling, cycling, interrupting hot water heaters, etc.)
- Incorporate energy storage into program
- Capture full range of savings with ASHP/DHPMS technologies (heat pump systems)
- Incorporate “phantom load” saving products
- Increased online presence/advertising
  - Incorporate targeted marketing to educate consumers about associated rebates for products as they are researching or buying online (e.g., pop-up ads)
- Add a whole house monitoring system incentive, and to help educate customers on how appliances use energy
- Educate State legislators on the importance of energy efficiency funding – legislative level
- Identify upstream opportunities with all levels of service providers (i.e., contractors, distributors, manufacturers)