



PUBLIC EDUCATION SESSION: IDEAS

Event Objective: To educate the public (focusing primarily on businesses – both EE vendors and National Grid customers –, legislators, and other public officials) about the benefits of energy efficiency programs. To celebrate recent accomplishments (ACEEE rankings) and to encourage all eligible entities to participate in these programs by getting an energy audit, encouraging others to use the programs, and engaging in the public process (know about EERMC meetings).

Ideas for the event include:

- Serve coffee/tea with hors d'oeuvres
- Start at 3-4pm: 1 hr for whole event
 - Many legislators work full time jobs and then start sessions/committee hearings at about 4/4:30pm, so this time is ideal for maximizing attendance
- Hold the event at the RI Foundation (?)
- Have the event in March or April
- Having a keynote speaker to present on the importance of energy efficiency.
 - Ideas include: Senator Whitehouse, someone from DOE, someone from ACEEE
- Invitees: All EERMC Council members, RI EE Businesses (vendors), the RI General Assembly, academics, chambers of commerce, the general public, PUC, DPUC, OER
 - Actively recruit those who can give the local business perspective
- Have handouts so those that can only join for a few minutes can get information

- Tentative Agenda:
 - (15 min) Keynote Speaker: The benefits of energy efficiency
 - (10 min) OER: How energy efficiency supports larger state goals (GHG emission reductions, economic growth, health)
 - (10 min) RI Commercial Business & RI Resident (or maybe a builder/residential contractor?): Summary of how they have benefitted from the programs
 - (10 min) RI EE Vendor (RISE?): Summary of local job/employment benefits for RI
 - a. Other presenters could be: customers/businesses that have benefited from EE programs (focus on commercial businesses), companies that are doing

the EE work (vendors), the EERMC members, OER Commissioner, DPUC,
PUC

- (10 min) EERMC representative: What More Can We All Do?/Where do we go from here? [Getting Energy audits, participating in EERMC public meetings]
- (Remaining Time) Time for eating & networking: (National Grid and the EERMC to have a table with information throughout the event)

Event Budget Recommendation to the EERMC:

- Approve *up to* \$4,000 on the following approved costs:
 - Food
 - Drinks
 - Venue (including, if necessary, tables, chairs, audio & visual equipment, and/or parking expenses)
 - Keynote Speaker costs
 - Print materials/Invitations