

Memo



To: Energy Efficiency & Resource Management Council
From: EERMC Consultant Team
CC: Becca Trietch
Date: June 17, 2021
Subject: EE and SRP Technical Working Group Updates

CONSULTANT TEAM

National Grid's Energy Efficiency (EE) Technical Working Group (TWG) and the Systems Reliability Procurement (SRP) TWG recently convened to discuss and gather feedback on relevant EE and SRP topics. The following intends to provide you with a high-level update regarding issues addressed in each meeting. Additional information about the TWG is on National Grid's website.¹

1. ENERGY EFFICIENCY TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP

a) May Meeting (5/27)

- OER noted that there will be hearing in Senate Commerce on Least Cost Procurement legislation.
- National Grid presented an update on the Energy Efficiency Equity Working Group, reviewing invited groups, timeframe, process/methodology, and intended outcomes. Good stakeholder discussion, particularly around data collection process.
- Tim Wolfe of Synapse (a DPUC consultant) summarized a Brattle Group analysis conducted on the macroeconomic impacts of the Community Remote Net Metering (CRNM) program, which found double counting beyond direct impacts from the respending effect. As a result, the DPUC recommends that monetary macroeconomic benefits not be added to the monetary benefit cost analysis (BCA) results, but that they be kept as two separate data points to consider.

b) April Meeting (4/29)

- Stakeholder presentations on priorities for the 2022 Plan, plus discussion. Presentations made by (entities which did not present in March):
 - EERMC C-Team
 - Division
 - City of Providence
 - Center for Justice/George Wiley Center
- National Grid presented on emergency heating replacements in the income eligible sector
 - Good discussion around how to address heating system replacements before they fail, as well as ways to move these replacements to heat pumps rather than just like-for-like systems (e.g. oil, propane, gas)

¹ <https://www.nationalgridus.com/ri-energy-efficiency-technical-working-group>

2. SYSTEM RELIABILITY PROCUREMENT TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP

a) May Meeting (5/19)

- The May SRP TWG primarily consisted of a joint C-Team / OER presentation on utilizing the concepts of expected value and option value to improve the benefit cost analysis of non-wires (and in future, non-pipes) alternatives
- Lots of good questions from stakeholders
- A general consensus that these are important, valid concepts from economic analysis that merit discussing further with respect to how they could be implemented within SRP

b) April Meeting (4/21)

- The April TWG consisted of introductory presentations from each key stakeholder, including summaries of priorities
 - OER
 - EERMC C-Team
 - Division
 - Acadia
 - NECEC
- C-Team presented priorities for SRP as approved by Council