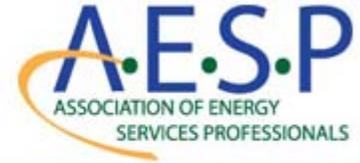


Strategies



Monthly Member Newsletter

[| AESP Home](#) | [Events Calendar](#) | [Contact Us](#) | [Membership Information](#) | [About AESP](#) |

Letter from the AESP Chair

The Ripple Effect?

by John Hargrove

Normally, healthcare, government and energy efficiency are their own worlds and seldom mix. But in the last two weeks, these worlds have collided in Washington, and energy efficiency appears to be coming out as the loser.

Going into the senate floor, the Shaheen-Portman bill, also known as the Energy Savings and Industrial Competitiveness Act 2013, seemed like a sure thing — a win-win for all, especially for us who work in the energy efficiency industry. The first energy legislation to appear in five years, the bill introduced by Senators Jeanne Shaheen (D-NH) and Rob Portman (R-OH) is designed to save energy, create jobs and make America more energy independent. Does it solve all of our energy problems? No, but at least it is a step in the right direction. It has bipartisan support and the endorsements of more than 200 organizations including the ACEEE, ASE, APPA, ASHRAE....and the Sierra Club too. No small feat.

So, where's the downside? The Shaheen-Portman bill proposes to achieve greater energy efficiency through, among other things, improving building codes, creating worker training programs, expanding loan programs to finance upgrades, and boosting efforts such as Supply Star, Electric Motor Rebate and Transformer Rebate. It will also require federal government buildings be more efficient through upgrades to meet codes, adopting advanced metering practices and efficient use of data centers. Hmm, still no fatal flaws as far as I can see.

And then some very big stones were cast into the pond of Washington politics. And the ripples began.

We in the energy efficiency industry felt the first ripple when Senator David Vitter (R-LA) blocked further discussion on the bill until Senate leadership allows language eliminating insurance subsidies under the Affordable Care Act. Then, a second ripple, in the form of the budget took over. The bill was pulled from the floor last week to make way for the fight on the budget. Shaheen-Portman is going nowhere for now, and the future, once bright, now seems uncertain. And you may have noticed that the chess game being played between Speaker Boehner and Majority Leader Reid has been stepped up a bit? At the time of writing, the budget is still at an impasse.

What a shame. According to ACEEE, who does the math on these kinds of things, the



John Hargrove
NV Energy

OCTOBER 2013

Upcoming Events

Chapter Events

Wisconsin Chapter

Oct. 10 — [From Behavior Change Research to Program Design](#)
Oct. 15-16 — [Bioenergy Showcase](#)

Southwest Chapter

Oct. 10 — [Chapter Meeting](#)

Ontario Chapter

Oct. 24 — [Harvesting Ideas](#)

Rocky Mountain Chapter

Oct. 29 — [switch ~ 3](#)

Northeast Chapter

Oct. 31 — [Northeast Chapter-NEEC Conference](#)

Mid Atlantic Chapter

Nov. 5 — [Marketing and Customer Engagement in EE Programs](#)

Brown Bags

October 10

[Categorizing Behavior Change and Lessons Learned from the Business Sector](#)

October 17

[Residential Behavioral Programs and an Overview of Evaluation Results](#)

October 24

[Improving the Usage of Market Intelligence in Energy Efficiency Program Design](#)

November 7

[Energy Efficiency Marketing — Moving past the peanut butter approach](#)

December 5

passage of Shaheen-Portman could cut energy use by 10.7 quads, with most of that (8 quads) coming from improving building codes. It would further support more than 70,000 jobs by 2020 and 143,000 jobs by 2025. So here we are in our industry, waiting once again for Washington DC to take action. I just hope the ripples don't sink the boat.

Additional reading on the subject:

<http://www.ase.org/resources/shaheen-portman-s1000-one-page-summary>

<http://thehill.com/blogs/e2-wire/e2-wire/325777-senators-to-huddle-on-path-forward-for-stalled-energy-efficiency-bill>

Share   

Industry News

"Survey: 43 Percent of Energy Leaders to Invest More in Efficiency Next Year"

"Is Residential Demand Response Being Reinvented?"

"Proposals on Energy Efficiency Released"

"Energy Efficiency Finding New Approaches"

"Just Add Water to Get More From Energy Efficiency Programs"

"Chicago Moves to Require Building Owners to Disclose Energy Use"

"How to Convince Wall Street to Invest in Energy Efficiency"

"A Market in Transition"

"New Rules Raise the Question of How to Make Energy Efficiency Accessible to All"

Featured Articles

Collaborative Groups: Harnessing the Power of Many

AESP News

News Releases and Announcements

Industry News

The following executive summaries of current news items were written for Strategies after being compiled from various news sources.

Survey: 43 Percent of Energy Leaders to Invest More in Efficiency Next Year *Heating — Piping — Air Conditioning Engineering (09/13) Arnold, Scott*

A survey of 369 business and government energy leaders found that 43 percent of respondents said their investment in energy efficiency will increase in 2014, 22 percent said their investment won't change, and 10 percent said their investment would decrease. Sixty-four percent of respondents said energy-cost savings was the biggest driver of energy-management investment decisions. Most respondents (63 percent) revealed they had invested in energy efficiency programs during the previous 12 months, the most common programs are data tracking, analysis, and energy audits. Respondents also predicted building automation, efficient lighting, and data-center efficiency will be popular energy-management approaches in five years. "Energy efficiency is the first and best fuel source we have to meet our nation's growing energy demands and use our energy more effectively. It's good for job creation and the environment and allows companies to cut costs along with their consumption. With the majority of respondents reporting energy efficiency investments to be the same or more than last year, it's clear that the benefits of energy efficiency are speaking for themselves," said Chris Curtis, president and chief executive officer, North America operations, Schneider Electric.

Share    | [Return to Headlines](#)

Is Residential Demand Response Being Reinvented?

Greentech Media (09/11/13) Lacey, Stephen

Demand response programs have historically suffered from a chronic lack of participation. Even though homes can represent a majority of electricity use in some

Energy Efficiency Trade Associations: An Executive Director Roundtable

If you would like to organize a Brown Bag, please contact Kisha Gresham at kisha@aesp.org.

AESP Training Courses

If you would like to schedule an onsite training please contact Suzanne Jones at (480) 704-5900 or suzanne@aesp.org. For more information about the AESP Institute, [click here](#).

Conferences

*December 4, 2013
Online Conference*

*January 27-30, 2014
24th National Conference
San Diego*

*May 12-14, 2014
Spring Conference
Baltimore*

*August 4-6, 2014
Summer Conference
San Francisco*

WELCOME & THANK YOU to our New and Renewing Members!

New Members

Abu Alam, PowerStream
Amelia Marquis Anderson, Runyon Saltzman & Einhorn
Amy Saxe, Orcas Power and Light Coop
Aniruddha Deodhar, Autodesk, Inc
Anne Bertino, Orcas Power and Light Coop
Ben Fowler, NEEA
Benjamin Messer, Research Into Action
Beth Robinsweiler, Snohomish County PUD
Bill Harris, Snohomish County PUD
Bill O'Riordan, Nexant
Bob Painter, Missouri Gas Energy
Brian Driscoll, WECC
Brian Loughran, Applied Proactive Technologies
Chelsey Erway, EMI
Christina Donegan, Puget Sound Energy
Clint Stewart, Puget Sound Energy
Colleen Langevin, CLEARresult
Collin Elliot, Itron
Corey Corbett, Puget Sound Energy
Crystal Thomas, Runyon Saltzman & Einhorn
David Jackson, Lockheed Martin
Dore Mangan, Research Into Action
Emily Bailard, Opower
Glenn Schatz, US DOE
Hans Herrmann, Puget Sound Energy
James Wells, SAIC
Jennifer Finnigan, Snohomish County PUD
Jennifer Hockett, Cadmus

utility service territories during peak times, it's hard to get people to care enough about reducing their loads to help the grid. A 2009 report from the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission concluded that under a business-as-usual scenario in the sector, utilities would only be able to leverage five percent of their residential customers for demand response by 2019. Now, however, business-as-usual in residential demand response is looking much different as numerous companies attempt to reinvent or reinvigorate the market. Cable companies like Comcast, home security firms like Vivint, tech startups like Nest Labs, and traditional energy firms like Comverge, Honeywell and Schneider Electric are all building out smart thermostats and forming partnerships with utilities to build new services for consumers. This hardware-based strategy appears to be yielding results. For example, during one of its first major demand response events in Austin Energy's service territory this summer, Nest Labs reported an 89 percent participation rate — resulting in a 56 percent reduction in air conditioning use. Utilities are responding by creating new thermostat-centric programs. Opower is adding behavioral demand response to its offerings. By crunching vast streams of smart meter data, Opower can send customized signals to consumers through email, text and phone to alert them about peak demand. Opower on Sept. 11 announced a partnership with Baltimore Gas and Electric (BGE) to deploy behavioral demand response. This summer, Opower engaged BGE customers in three demand response events. Roderick Morris, Opower's senior vice president of marketing, would not reveal the exact results, but he said it was "successful," and led the company to believe that if scaled to a national level, it could expand residential demand response twenty-fold and reduce the per-kilowatt cost by 40 percent.

Share    | [Return to Headlines](#)

Proposals on Energy Efficiency Released

Washington Post (08/30/13) Eilperin, Juliet

The U.S. Energy Department on Aug. 29 proposed two major energy efficiency rules for new commercial refrigeration equipment and walk-in coolers and freezers. The rules represent one of the Obama administration's first steps to address climate change through executive authority since the president announced a climate action plan in June. The proposals have a significant environmental effect because of the size of the appliances involved. The first rule applies to equipment such as restaurant-size fridges or deli cases at convenience stores, while the second applies to milk display cases used in supermarkets. Neither will apply to existing equipment, and businesses will have three years to comply with the rules once they are final. Heather Zichal, deputy assistant to the president for energy and climate change, said recently that energy efficiency is "one of the clearest and most cost-effective opportunities to save families money, make our businesses more competitive, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions." Over the next 30 years, Zichal estimated, the two rules could cut Americans' energy costs by up to \$28 billion and reduce the nation's carbon dioxide emissions by more than 350 million metric tons. Commercial refrigeration equipment will become roughly 15 percent more efficient under the proposed standard, according to the Energy Department. Sen. Sheldon Whitehouse (D-R.I.), who had criticized the delays, praised the issuing of the rules. "With Congress still paralyzed by the influence of the big carbon polluters, these are exactly the kind of actions the administration should take to fight back against climate change," he said. The proposals will be subject to public comment for 60 days before they can be finalized.

Share    | [Return to Headlines](#)

Energy Efficiency Finding New Approaches

EnergyBiz (08/28/13) Schlesinger, Richard

As the economy rebounds and demand rises, the power industry will need to curb emissions, update the grid, and expand capacity. Among other things, this will require energy efficiency. Some smart meter programs, for instance, enable utilities to control central heating and cooling systems, cycle them, or adjust thermostats in exchange for pricing incentives. Appliances are also able to communicate with the grid, but these are unlikely to be deployed in large numbers for years. Some utilities are turning to outside firms to deploy energy efficiency programs for industrial customers, such as AEP Texas' experimental load management program directed at agricultural customers, specifically targeting large-scale agricultural irrigation. A comparable efficiency program targets small commercial facilities such as convenience stores and retail facilities. The program, called Open, invokes outside specialists and contractors that identify areas such as lighting, insulation, and refrigeration that would be appropriate for energy efficiency. Utilities and distribution companies are also launching Volt-VAR

Jennifer Lawrence, Cree
Joe Forcillo, Consumers Energy
Joel Smith, Puget Sound Energy
John Whinery, Lennox International
Jordana Mah, Pulse Energy
Josh Mitchell, Puget Sound Energy
JP Batmale, Energy Trust of Oregon
Kelly Needles, The Energy Group
Kishan Mistry, Puget Sound Energy
Kristen Atwood, ICF International
Kurt Ruecke, ICF International
Laura McCrae, Snohomish County PUD
Leigh Gordon, energyOrbit
Lisa Kowitt, Duke Energy
Lorin Molander, DNV KEMA
MacKenzie McDowell, Puget Sound Energy
Mari Davenport, Puget Sound Energy
Matthew O'Keefe, Opower
Maureen McQuilkin, Performance Systems Development
Meghan Bean, Research Into Action
Mehwish Pasha, FortisBC
Meilinda Tjokrohadinata, PECO
Michelle McIntosh, Runyon Saltzman & Einhorn
Mike Jacobsen, JACO
Nicole Ballinger, City of Seattle
Patrick McGuckin, Cadmus
Randy Moberg, Werner Electric Supply
Rebekah Anderson, Puget Sound Energy
Rem Husted, Puget Sound Energy
Rennie Peddie, Consulting
Richard Dickinson, Student
Robert Branick, Research Into Action
Robert Schroeder, Corix
Ross Pearson, MaxLite
Ryan Lambert, Puget Sound Energy
Scot Davidson, Clean Energy Works Oregon
Scott Case, EnergySavvy
Scott Kessler, TRC Energy Services
Scott Pinizzotto, Ecova
Shar Kegley, Puget Sound Energy
Sloan Schang, Energy Trust of Oregon
Stu Weiner, Columbia Gas of Massachusetts
Terence Conaty, Lockheed Martin
Terry Jacobsen, JACO
Theresa Schmidt, Consumers Energy
Walker Dodson, Puget Sound Energy
Warren Fish, NEEA
Wendy Koelfgen, Clean Energy Works Oregon
Will Chin, Puget Sound Energy

New Group Members

ADM Associates
BC Hydro
Clean Energy Works Oregon
Energy Insights
Missouri River Energy Services
Seattle City Light

Renewing Group Members

Energy Market Innovations
Energy Trust of Oregon
Enbridge Gas Distribution
ERS
Lockheed Martin
Populus
Research into Action

Follow:



demonstration projects to enhance the control of voltage levels and reactive power. "One of the neat things that differentiates this from some of the other energy efficiency programs is this doesn't require a decision by the customer," observes Tom Weaver, AEP's manager of distribution system planning. Providing slightly lower voltage within the regulatory standard of 114 volts to 126 volts reduces power consumption without affecting the performance of electrical devices. Motors, in fact, actually perform more efficiently at 115 volts than they do at 120 volts. EPRI is focusing on a variety of new technologies says Revis James, director of EPRI's Generation R&D Sector, including materials for pipes and pumps that can function at higher temperatures and pressures as well as ways to cool steam more effectively in coal and nuclear plants.

Share    | [Return to Headlines](#)

Just Add Water to Get More From Energy Efficiency Programs

The Energy Collective (09/15/13) Lacey, Stephen

A study by the California Energy Commission found that water efficiency improvements could save as much energy as some of the existing energy efficiency programs in California. Another study from the Pacific Institute found that water conservation measures that saved 320,000 acre-feet annually could also save 2.3 billion kilowatt-hours of electricity and 87 million therms of natural gas. The Pacific Institute also discovered that inconsistent funding for the water sector is a major obstacle to coordinated efficiency programs in California. Furthermore, water utilities do not invest as much as energy utilities for efficiency efforts. Regulation also creates certain barriers. The Pacific Institute makes several recommendations utilities can consider to achieve water efficiency. Some of them are: designating a staff member as the lead for pursuing water-energy program opportunities; discussing how current programs and offerings can be coordinated; and finding ways to simplify offerings to customers through better coordination, especially for audits.

Share    | [Return to Headlines](#)

Chicago Moves to Require Building Owners to Disclose Energy Use

Chicago Tribune (09/12/13) Wernau, Julie

Owners of large buildings in Chicago will soon need to report how much energy their buildings use and how they compare to peers as part of a city-wide effort to reduce energy usage that was recently passed by the city council. The city has not yet mandated that building owners take steps to improve energy efficiency, but wants to curb energy use among half of the city's buildings by 30 percent by 2020. The law requires yearly reports on buildings' energy efficiency starting in 2014. However, information about individual buildings will not be publicly available until 2015 to provide building owners a year to improve their scores before the information becomes public.

Buildings larger than 50,000 square feet, which are responsible for 22 percent of city buildings' total energy consumption, would be required to disclose information on energy consumption as well as building size, use, and occupancy levels using a software program administered by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. The "benchmarking" tool, called ENERGY STAR® Portfolio Manager, would allow the comparison of the energy efficiency of similar buildings. The EPA says energy use fell by 7 percent in the 35,000 buildings that used the tool to benchmark energy performance from 2008 to 2011. "This ordinance doesn't require residents to invest in a single dime in the buildings. It will provide them with information in a much more transparent format. So they will know whether and how it may make sense for them to invest in their buildings if they choose to do so," says Chicago Alderman Daniel Solis, 25th Ward.

Share    | [Return to Headlines](#)

How to Convince Wall Street to Invest in Energy Efficiency

London Guardian (United Kingdom) (08/26/13) Gerdes, Justin

U.S. policymakers have grappled for years with how to unlock the flow of cheap capital for energy efficiency upgrades. Many of these upgrades make financial sense – saving more money over time, than they cost, at little risk – but they require cash that many are unable or unwilling to pay in one large chunk up front. A diverse coalition of efficiency advocates – including environmental NGOs, policymakers, building owners, contractors, utilities, and lenders – is working together to introduce new financing tools and address investor concerns, hoping to unlock what Deutsche Bank and the

AESP is a member-based association dedicated to improving the delivery and implementation of energy efficiency, energy management and distributed renewable resources. AESP provides professional development programs, a network of energy practitioners, and promotes the transfer of knowledge and experience.

AESP
15215 South 48th Street,
Suite 170
Phoenix, AZ 85044
(480) 704-5900

Submissions are due by the 12th of each month to Adeline Lui at Adeline@aesp.org
(480) 704-5900

Editorial Committee

Adeline Lui, Editor, adeline@aesp.org
Laura Orfanedes, Vice Chair, Publications Committee
Tracy Narel, Board member
Elizabeth Titus, Board member
Katherine Johnson, Board member
Greg Wikler, Board member
Matt Daunis, Board member

Rockefeller Foundation estimate to be a \$279 billion US market for energy efficiency retrofits. Meanwhile, 30 US states have passed legislation authorizing property assessed clean energy (PACE) programs, and utilities in two dozen states offer some form of on-bill repayment (OBR) programs. Those working to promote OBR or PACE programs agree that access to private capital will determine if energy efficiency reaches its potential. Stakeholders led by the Environmental Defense Fund, collaborating under the Investor Confidence Project, have opened a market for "investment quality" building retrofit loans that can be sold to institutional investors. The group is developing protocols to define how to measure the accuracy of the predicted energy and financial project savings and verify the performance of equipment after installation is complete. The Investor Confidence Project released its first protocol, for large commercial buildings, last year. Meanwhile, Deutsche Bank, Goldman Sachs, and Barclays recently approached California with the idea of a warehouse line of credit that could be used to fund energy efficiency loans. The California Assembly is scheduled to consider a bill authorizing such a program this session. "Institutional investors would love to see this class of asset," says Ken Locklin, a managing director at Impax Asset Management. "When investment banks see serious money like that in demand, they will keep working until you can give them even an inch that they can wiggle through."

Share    | [Return to Headlines](#)

A Market in Transition

EcoBuilding Pulse (08/08/13) Goodman, Jennifer

In an interview, Cliff Majersik, executive director of the Institute for Market Transformation and chair of the Vision 2020 Market Transformation, reflects on how well the building environment is meeting the challenge of transforming the market and making energy efficiency a baseline over the past year. Majersik points to signs that energy transparency is becoming mainstream throughout the United States. A North Carolina study showing that energy efficient homeowners are 32 percent less likely to default on mortgages has led to discussions about incorporating a home's energy profile into financing and appraisals. Meanwhile, the SAVE Act is gaining bipartisan approval in Congress, and the White House organized the Green Mortgage Roundtable. Although progress on energy efficiency appraisals has been slow, there are efforts to change systems, such as underwriting, repeat sales indices, and the Multiple Listing Service, to include home efficiency features. Energy benchmarking also is becoming widespread. In addition, there are ongoing efforts to advertise, chronicle, and reward the best practices in energy code compliance. Cities such as New York, Washington, San Francisco, Seattle, Austin, Boston, and Minneapolis now require energy disclosures for government and commercial buildings, with Chicago soon to follow. Majersik says the challenge going forward is for the entire country to mainstream energy efficiency in homes, and create disclosure laws and energy efficiency benchmarks.

Share    | [Return to Headlines](#)

New Rules Raise the Question of How to Make Energy Efficiency Accessible to All

Think Progress (08/13/13) Foster, Joanna M.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's ENERGY STAR program recently released ENERGY STAR Version 6.0, which sets forth criteria that may make ENERGY STAR products too expensive for the average homeowner. For example, in Version 6.0, windows, skylights, and doors have to have a lower U-factor. The standards have dropped the U-factor from 0.30 to 0.27, which manufacturers in northern areas claim will require triple-paned windows, different frames, and increased costs. Studies show that replacing single-pane windows with ENERGY STAR windows can save the average homeowner \$146 to \$501 annually. However, window and door industry representatives are concerned that the higher up-front costs of the new standards may make the products inaccessible. This year, a group of citizens, manufacturers, and retailers formed the Coalition for Home Energy Efficiency to enlist the public in a campaign to "save ENERGY STAR" by preventing the EPA from making new overly restrictive standards. EPA says the ENERGY STAR program is aimed at saving money and giving the industry the market flexibility to make more efficient products, and ENERGY STAR standards are adjusted to reflect the increased efficiency of the industry. Home energy use accounts for more than 25 percent of most consumers' carbon footprints, while a recent study shows that owners of ENERGY STAR homes are less likely to default on their mortgages. Utility and electric company

rebates and state and federal tax credits also help mitigate the up-front costs of purchasing ENERGY STAR products.

Share [in](#) [f](#) [t](#) | [Return to Headlines](#)

Abstract News © Copyright 2013 INFORMATION, INC.



Featured Articles

Collaborative Groups: Harnessing the Power of Many

by Lynn Westerlind and Laura Schauer

While preparing this article, the authors discussed personality tests. We found that whenever we completed personality tests, the results are the same for the both of us. We are both high “E”s (extroverts). Whether at work or in our personal lives, we have both learned to partner with others with diverse strengths to achieve success. When individuals work as a team to collaborate, they are pooling their knowledge, as well as their resources and skills, to reach an overall goal. The same is true for energy efficiency collaborative groups.



Laura Schauer



Lynn Westerlind

Collaborative groups may consist of utility program administrators, evaluators, regulators, consumer groups and other stakeholders that support the long-term success of energy efficiency programs. Collaborative groups are a tool to optimize program design, delivery and regulatory review, and assist in the development of program processes that have the transparency and accountability in place to meet the needs of the environment in which programs operate.

Although some states still do not have collaborative groups; their frequency is increasing nationally as energy efficiency funding increases and energy efficiency programs gain visibility. Collaborative groups come in all shapes and sizes — and while the formation of each group, its number of stakeholders, frequency of meetings and mission may vary by region — what they have in common is that each of the five collaborative groups we examined have improved energy efficiency programs, achieved support of stakeholders and triggered less controversy in the end.

Through interviews with five regional stakeholders, we found that collaborative groups can help address some of the challenges energy efficiency professionals face today. They bring a range of stakeholders together to discuss issues and reach consensus and commonality on how programs are designed, implemented, evaluated and reported. These discussions with stakeholders identified several factors that contributed to successful collaborative groups.

Trust

Like any relationship, collaborative groups function best when members trust each other. Effective collaborative groups facilitate trust among regulators, commission staff, utilities, and other external stakeholders. Trust can be fostered by delivering on promises, being respectful of alternative views, being transparent, and focusing on shared (rather than personal) goals.

Early and ongoing, active involvement

Having open and honest discussions not only builds trust, but may help build consensus. When stakeholders are engaged in developing solutions, they are often more open to supporting them. Achieving stakeholder buy-in early helps consensus building and can avoid lengthy burdensome regulatory review processes. A collaborative group functions best when members are dedicated to the group and are

active participants.

Information dissemination and training

Interviewees described a benefit of collaborative groups as bringing everyone on the same page. However, to do that first requires training on regulatory, DSM, and evaluation issues, as well as historic context. This need for knowledge creates a challenge when collaborative group members change. Although it may be desirable to rotate members to stimulate new ideas, training of new members is essential. Not all members are experts in the field and lack of understanding may lead to distrust. Familiar faces and consistent points of contact may also help build trust. Once members have a foundational understanding of the issues, documentation of meeting results, decisions and outcomes can help to build an institutional record and keep members apprised of the collaborative activities.

Existence of a facilitator

A good facilitator makes sure that the opinion of each member of the collaborative group is fully heard and that the collaborative group is able to achieve its mandate in an open environment. Nearly all individuals interviewed discussed the use of a facilitator, contracted by the collaborative group or consortium of utilities.

Introduction of subcommittees to increase efficiency of collaborative groups

Larger and more mature collaborative groups can become difficult to manage; particularly, it can be almost impossible to make decisions and accomplish objectives in a large group. To help manage this, careful consideration should go into who should formally be part of the collaborative group. Also, assigning members to subcommittees or a steering committee may allow key members to invest time outside of regular meetings to develop streamlined proposals to present to collaborative groups for approval.



Below we highlight the states interviewed and a summary of their collaborative initiatives. There will be an AESP Brown Bag webinar on December 19 that will provide additional insight into best practices and lessons learned from collaborative groups via a panel discussion with representatives from several of these states.

Massachusetts

<http://www.ma-eeac.org/>

In 2008, the Massachusetts Energy Efficiency Advisory Council (EEAC) was created by the Green Communities Act. Its members guide the development of energy efficiency plans by the state's

investor-owned gas and electric utilities and energy providers, and monitor the implementation of these plans. The EEAC is comprised of members representing the Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources, residential consumers, the environmental community, businesses, the manufacturing industry, energy efficiency experts, the attorney general, nonprofits, the heating oil industry, ISO-NE, and the program administrators. The Massachusetts utilities rely on an external legal representative (Rich May, P.C.) to facilitate the collaborative process.

Texas

<http://www.texasefficiency.com/index.php/about/eummot>

The Electric Utility Marketing Managers of Texas (EUMMOT) is the primary collaborative group in Texas. It is a voluntary organization of electric investor-owned utilities that has been around for more than 40 years. Although the members are not really marketing managers any longer, the name is an indication of what the utilities did when the organization began — marketing their utility services. Through the years EUMMOT has redesigned itself to provide input to, and to comply with, on-going regulatory and legislative initiatives regarding energy efficiency issues. Texas utilities contract with an organization (Frontier Associates) to facilitate the EUMMOT process. A second collaborative, the Energy Efficiency Implementation Project (EEIP), was a relatively recent initiative (about six years old) established by the Public Utility Commission of Texas, to stimulate broader participation in the development and implementation of energy efficiency across the state. EEIP is a collaborative open to

any interested stakeholder in the state and has a wide variety of participants.

Wisconsin

<http://www.focusonenergy.com>

The Wisconsin commission has a long history of working through issues with collaborative groups. The Public Service Commission of Wisconsin oversees the statewide Focus on Energy, which is funded by utilities' public benefits collections. Rather than having one central collaborative group through which all issues are discussed and vetted, various functional collaborative groups voluntarily formed out of necessity. Examples include collaborative groups focused on trade ally outreach and energy impacts work papers and approvals. They also have a collaborative with all the utilities that contribute to Focus on Energy, which is used to determine the needs of utilities regarding reporting requirements and other similar issues. In addition, an Evaluation Work Group (EWG) was ordered as part of the prior quadrennial planning process. The EWG is comprised of five representatives from different perspectives: evaluation, commission staff, program administrator, utility representative, and an evaluation expert specifically identified in the commission order. Unlike other states, the collaborative groups operate more like separate working groups, and the participation in the groups tend to not include interveners or other external stakeholders. The leader of these groups also varies between evaluation, program administration, and commission staff.

Rhode Island

<http://www.riermc.ri.gov/>

A DSM Collaborative group has been meeting in Rhode Island since the early 1990s. It is comprised of signatories to annual utility energy efficiency program plan filings, filed as settlement agreements before the RI Public Utilities Commission. The Collaborative meets throughout the year to discuss various aspects of energy efficiency services, including program planning and implementation. In 2008, the Collaborative became a subcommittee of the RI Energy Efficiency and Resource Management Council (EERMC). The EERMC's mission is to provide an integrated, comprehensive, public, stakeholder-driven organizational structure to secure for Rhode Island and its people the full supply, economic and environmental benefits of energy efficiency, conservation and resource management. Annual and three-year plans are now presented to the EERMC for endorsement before filing with the RI PUC. The EERMC consists of seven voting members representing: energy regulation and law, large commercial, small commercial, residential, low income, environmental and energy design and codes. The EERMC also consists of four nonvoting members representing electric distribution, gas distribution, heating oil distribution and the RI Office of Energy Resources.

British Columbia

British Columbia has the Electricity Conservation & Efficiency Advisory Committee (EC&E) which was formed in 2006. BC Hydro agreed to establish a public committee to provide advice and input into demand-side management (electricity conservation and efficiency) as a result of the 2005 Resource and Expenditures Acquisition Plan Negotiated Settlement Process. BC Hydro is committed to mutually beneficial, respectful, and transparent engagement with First Nations, British Columbia communities and stakeholders including diverse members from academia, the business community, building owners and managers, residential customers, institutions, industrial customers, government, independent power producers, trade allies and gas utility partners.

Lynn Westerlind is a manager of policy and evaluation at National Grid, and Laura Schauer is a director at Tetra Tech.

Share    | [Return to Headlines](#)

AESP News

Next Up: New Adventures in EM&V

Get ready your computers or smart devices for our next conference — which will be delivered entirely online and focused on EM&V. Put December 4 in your Outlook calendar. Registration and the agenda will be coming soon.

Watch Out! Good Things Ahead

Watch your email inbox for a couple of eagerly awaited AESP announcements in the

coming weeks:

- 2014 AESP Awards Call for Entries — Got a winning EE product or program? Submit it for the AESP Awards.
- Spring 2014 Conference Call for Abstracts — Next May 12-14 in Baltimore, we will be focusing on program marketing and implementation. Have something that would make a great session? We want to hear from you.
- Annual Membership Survey — your chance to tell us how we can serve you better.

Share    | [Return to Headlines](#)

News Releases and Announcements

[DNV GL merger approved by competition authorities](#)

[Bay Area Climate Collaborative, Eaton's Cooper Lighting collaborate to advance LED streetlights](#)

[SmartWatt climbs 246 spots on Inc. Magazine's Fastest Growing list](#)

[Versify signs licensing contract with Pacific Gas & Electric Company](#)

Share    | [Return to Headlines](#)