

Summary Notes
Residential Advisory Committee Meeting
Tuesday, April 30, 2019
Lighting Design Lab, Seattle, WA



Attendees:

In Person:

Josh Mitchell – Chelan PUD
Patrick Weaver – Puget Sound Energy (PSE)
Lis Saunders – Tacoma Power
Jess Kincaid – Bonneville Power Admin
Scott Cooper – Seattle City Light

Matt Babbitts – Clark PUD
Tina Jayaweera – NW Power & Conservation Council
Thomas Elzinga – Consumers Power
Thad Roth – Energy Trust of Oregon
Marshall Johnson – Energy Trust of Oregon
Deb Martin Young – NorthWestern Energy
Colleen Neel – Cowlitz PUD
Chris Boroughs - Puget Sound Energy
Don Jones - PacificCorp

By Phone:

Becky Arte-Howell – Idaho Power

NEEA Staff: Jeff Mitchell, Beth Littlehales, Alisyn Maggiora, Eugene Rosolie, Stephanie Baker (phone), Jon Clark (phone), Tamara Anderson (phone), Dulane Moran, Suzi Asmus, Amy Webb (phone), Jill Reynolds (phone), Jeff Harris (phone), Nick Leritz (phone)

Resources

- Agenda packet on NEEA.org: <https://neea.org/advisory-committee-documents/q2-2019-rac-agenda-packet>
- Master slide deck on NEEA.org: <https://neea.org/img/documents/Q2-2019-RAC-Slides.pdf>
- Meeting Recording: <http://neea.adobeconnect.com/pqt6c42poevs/>

Welcome & Introduction / Housekeeping Items (p. 9-16 in [packet](#) | [slides](#) 1-7)

If you have questions regarding general content in this meeting please contact Eugene (ERosolie@neea.org).

A. Agenda Review

B. Packet Review – Housekeeping Items

- 1) RAC 2019 Workplan
 - a. Anticipating Scale-Up votes in Q3 and Q4 for Next Step Homes, Retail Product Portfolio and Manufactured Homes respectively
- 2) Packet/Informational Updates
 - a. Residential Initiative Memos
 - b. Advisory Committee Update:
 - Streamlining discussion underway at RPAC level, expect to see the sector committee and workgroup activities move toward a product focus and away from general sector meetings; please talk to your RPAC member if you have ideas, questions, concerns.
 - This will be discussed at the next RPAC meeting May 21, 2019.
- 3) Consumer Products Steering Committee Update

- a. Smart Thermostat research project underway; acquired most of the funding needed to proceed with an RFP. Next committee meeting will be Wednesday, May 8. An updated will be provided at the RPAC meeting May 21. Thus far, BPA, Energy Trust, PSE, Clark PUD and Snohomish PUD have contributed.
- 4) Announcements
 - a. Efficiency Exchange (EFX) conference this year in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho May 14-15
 - b. Home Depot and Lowes will have folks at EFX; NEEA's Jon Clark is coordinating meetings with the retailers if you're interested: JClark@neea.org. They are interested in understanding utilities' perspectives. Art Christiansen from Home Depot is also planning to play golf Monday, May 13; if you're also interested in golf let Jon know.
 - **ACTION ITEM: Jeff M to get names/titles of the retailer reps attending EFX and share with committee**
- 5) Refresher: NEEA Initiative Lifecycle

Ductless Heat Pumps – Program Progress Report (p.5-7 in [packet](#) | [slides 8-26](#))

Suzi Asmus (NEEA) provided the program progress update. *The desired outcome is for Committee members to be updated on activities and consulted, and have an opportunity to offer feedback. If you have questions about this presentation please contact Suzi (SAsmus@neea.org).*

Overview Topics w/ Key Discussion Points, Action Items & Decisions: *Review packet and slides for greater detail*

- 1) Overview
 - a. SCOPh (testing and rating procedure) = Season Coefficient of Performance for heating climates (specific to single-zone ductless heat pumps only for now, multi-head and unitary will come later)
 - i. Canadian Standards Association (CSA) published this draft procedure March
 - ii. This testing and rating procedure better represents real-world results
 - iii. This is integral for providing more predictable and reliable savings, as the Seasonal Energy Efficiency Ratio (SEER) and Heating seasonal performance factor (HSPF) ratings are poor proxies.
 - iv. BPA noted they need to get the measure cost-effective by Dec. 2020. BPA will monitor uptake in the market; if the market transitions to the majority, BPA will remove the HSPF requirement and shift to the SCOPh requirement. This will help with cost-effectiveness because current testing procedure only goes to 17 degrees F, the SCOPh goes down to 5 degrees F.
 - 1. **ACTION ITEM: Christopher Dymond to follow up with NorthWestern on how low temperature for DHPs are being tested.**
 - v. First 11 of 12 systems are already tested and rated
- 2) Cold Climate (cc)DHP Recommendations
 - a. [Guidance document available \(on neea.org\)](#) for utility program staff, intended to displace electric resistance homes in colder climates with a focus on east of the Cascades; this is not a program requirement, nor is it PTCS or ASHP guidance.
 - b. ccDHP
 - i. Greater capacity in cold climates
 - ii. May reduce impact to utility peak demand by reducing use of back-up heat
 - iii. Superior defrost capability
 - c. NEEA staff will be available to discuss further at EFX, hold a June webinar, and will create contractor and customer facing educational materials

- i. **ACTION ITEM: Suzi to confirm with Christopher Dymond about whether this is single-head only**
- 3) HVAC Sizing Tool (formerly SpecPro)
 - a. Intention is to make this available to the market after some further testing.
 - b. Will hold a soft launch in the summer, seek additional feedback, and if all goes well will hold a webinar late summer to introduce (will also be posted on the BetterBulitNW.org website).
- 4) Spring Sales Seminars
 - a. Distributor-hosted and targeted to installers
 - b. Sales skills to market and sell to electrically heated homes with baseboard heat – a market segment that may not call an HVAC contractor
 - c. **COMMITTEE ACTION ITEM: If you have not been contacted regarding a training scheduled in your territory and want one, please let Suzi know.**

Ductless Heat Pumps – Market Progress Evaluation Report ([slides 28-41](#))

Dulane Moran & Amy Webb (NEEA) provided the overview of the report. *The desired outcome is for Committee members to be aware of findings and consulted on the Transition Complete process. If you have questions about this presentation please contact Amy (AWebb@neea.org).*

Overview Topics w/ Key Discussion Points, Action Items & Decisions: *Review packet and slides for greater detail*

- 1) Evaluation Process: Inform, Evaluate, Communicate, Adapt (currently in the middle of conducting an evaluation on DHPs).
 - a. Major inputs include literature review, logic model review, NEEA and Funder staff interviews, supply chain interviews
- 2) Emerging Themes
 - a. Success overcoming early barriers: availability, awareness (supply and demand), demonstrate product performance
 - b. Cost still a barrier; [international market characterization](#) from 2014-15 highlights some of the reasons for why cost is higher in U.S. (more supply chain layers; equipment not available at retail; DIY availability minimal, usually requires a contractor).
 - c. Utility buy-in critical; some funders perceive risks with NEEA transition
- 3) Communicating Results
 - a. Two webinars in late May
 - i. Installer mapping and DHP cost analysis (two key MPI evaluation results)
 - ii. Diffusion indicators and LTMT evaluation plan (NEEA staff will also send out the memo in an email)
 - iii. **ACTION ITEM: NEEA Staff to follow up with committee on final webinar dates**
 - b. DHP stakeholder workshop June 5, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. (NEEA office) – see [slide 44](#) for additional detail
 - i. Invitation has already gone out, reach out to Suzi if you did not receive it and are interested.
 - ii. In person attendance is HIGHLY ENCOURAGED.

RAC Monthly Report Updates and Packet Memos

Some duplication between monthly reports and memos included in the packets. Seeking to streamline the reporting process by including monthly reports into the quarterly RAC packets instead of making a separate effort

on nearly the same content. Other NEEA reports are released quarterly and this would align better with that process.

- A. Committee members were in agreement about receiving this information quarterly instead of monthly going forward; there was some desire to have “monthly report” content available separately still.
- B. Energy Trust noted they were willing to provide feedback on any possible gaps they see
- C. **ACTION ITEM: NEEA to establish which content is private and pull that out separately so utilities can share appropriately.**

Round Robin

Committee members shared out current activities and successes within their utilities/organizations, with a focus on updates since the last meeting in January 2019. Key announcements or activities that may have broader regional impact are noted below.

- A. **Chelan PUD** building 13 new substations in the next 10 years to manage load growth.
- B. **Seattle City Light** rolling out a new “electrification” division; also launching an EV level 2 charging program (lease-to-own).
- C. **NWPCC** working on next Power Plan; climate change workshop May 1 (all day). The May RTF meeting will touch on unit energy savings for Level II ENERGY STAR chargers. WA appliance standards bill (HB1444) getting signed this week, which includes the CTA2045 requirement for all water heaters (goes into effect 2021).
- D. **BPA** implementation manual will be updated again this fall; early draft coming out soon for review/input. DHP payment and energy savings reductions coming due to RTF adjustments. Starting to change incentives and programs to better align with BPA resourcing needs (residential windows and insulation); these incentives will increase significantly. Hosting a brown bag Thursday, May 2 and soliciting customer feedback over next two weeks to see how to best achieve these energy savings potential.
- E. **PacificCorp** working through modeling to reflect impending Coalstrip plant closure.

Retail Product Platform – Market Development Evaluation (p.8 in [packet](#) | [slides 46-81](#))

Beth Littlehales and Dulane Moran (NEEA) provided the program update and evaluation progress, detailing the current status of the program and preparing the committee for the next phase in the Initiative Lifecycle: Market Development. *The desired outcome is for Committee members to offer input and share concerns and/or aspirations. If you have questions about this presentation please contact Beth (BLittlehales@neea.org).*

Overview Topics w/ Key Discussion Points, Action Items & Decisions: *Review packet and slides for greater detail*

- 1) Overview
 - a. RPP Goal and Market Transformation Theory
 - b. Lost 2 program sponsors due to internal budget constraints and evaluation concerns (internal cost-effectiveness issues), but gained 2 statewide programs; in total, the program represents about 15.6% of US households, which is the tipping point for market diffusion.
 - c. 2019 Retailers and Products
- 2) Product Strategies
 - a. Midstream incentives

- b. Emerging technology
 - c. Measurement and compliance
 - d. Specification advancement
 - e. Standards
- 3) Portfolio level outcomes are on track and indicate market transformation strategies across products are working
- 4) Evaluation of Progress
- a. Research process and objectives
 - i. Review customized product strategies
 - ii. Ensure tracking is stable and adaptable
 - iii. Review baseline approach & savings calculations
 - b. Preliminary conclusions
 - i. Targeted strategies for each of the eight products in the portfolio
 - ii. Due to large data volume, working to improve documentation organization
 - iii. NEEA well positioned to provide leadership for national collaboration
 - c. Product specific learnings
 - i. Refrigerators/freezers – configuration and federal standards drive different strategies for different model types
 - ii. Clothes Washers – larger strides in efficiencies, including top-loads; agitator top loads continue to sell at high volumes
 - iii. Dryers (heat pump) – few models can meet current ENERGYSTAR Most Efficient requirement (only dryer NEEA is incenting), resulting sales very low
 - iv. Air Cleaners and Soundbars – both have high market share at ENERGYSTAR and other tiers, no standard; specs for both are underway.
- 5) Next steps
- a. Review draft report
 - b. Final market progress report will be made available in June on neea.org
 - c. Refine product strategies as indicated
 - d. Move into Market Development phase in Q3 2019 (9/4/2019 RPAC)
 - i. Market Development would really entail higher confidence in activity, further testing of strategy, and more robust evaluation. This program has been in the market in a testing phase for the past 4 years.
- 6) Questions / Requests
- a. Clarity on the process for products to be added
 - b. If a technology is not a good fit for RPP, what is NEEA's next step for that product?
 - c. How can we be sure that retailers are changing behavior when they say they are?
 - d. What are the data driven points that demonstrate the portfolio's progress?

Feedback & Wrap-Up, Adjourn

A. Comments:

- 1) Public: None
- 2) Committee:
 - a. Learned a lot about RPP, very helpful, in particular the evaluation info
 - b. Stage gate name doesn't matter, keep perspective!
 - c. Good first RAC meeting
 - d. Appreciated recap of how the NEEA lifecycle initiative works
 - e. Good engagement and agenda
 - f. Good balance of strategy and tactical; appreciate the thoughtfulness around being informative and efficient.

- B. Next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, August 1, 2019, at the NEEA office in Portland, OR.
- C. Meeting adjourned at 3:20pm