

Commercial Advisory Committee (CAC)
Tuesday, August 6, 2019
NEEA Office, Portland, OR



Committee Attendees:

In Person:

Michelle Lichtenfels – Bonneville Power Administration
Mark Lensen – Puget Sound Energy
Joe Fernandi – Seattle City Light
Natasha Houldson – Tacoma Power
Mattias Jarvegren – Clallam County PUD

On Phone:

Nancy Goddard – Pacific Power
Lorri Kirstein – Avista Utilities
Shelley Martin – Idaho Power
Deb Martin Young – Northwestern Energy
Kevin Smit – NW Power & Conservation Council
Katie Pegan – Idaho Office of Energy & Mineral Rsrcs.
Bill Hibbs – Clark PUD

NEEA Staff: Emily Moore, Alisyn Maggiora, Maria Alexandra Ramirez, Natalie Fish, Anne Curran (phone), Elaine Miller (phone), Rachel Zakrasek (phone), Amanda Showers (phone), Amy Webb (phone), Jennifer Stout (phone), Warren Fish (phone), Mark Rehley (phone), Julia Harper (phone), Josh Pelham (phone)

Resources

- **Packet link on neea.org:** <https://neea.org/advisory-committee-documents/q3-2019-cac-meeting-packet>
- **Slides link on neea.org:** <https://neea.org/advisory-committee-documents/q3-2019-cac-meeting-slides>
- **Meeting Recording:** <http://neea.adobeconnect.com/pxjfn1b2t8ng/>

Welcome, Introductions, and Housekeeping Items

Maria Alexandra Ramirez (NEEA) introduced the meeting and provided the overview. Refer to [slides 2-4](#) and [pages 1-2](#) in the [packet](#) for greater detail. If you have questions about the meeting, logistics, or general thoughts, please contact Maria Alexandra (MARamirez@neea.org).

- A. Welcome
- B. Meeting [packet](#) review; see page 2 for links to newsletters and past meeting notes
 - 1) CAC Conference Coordination p.10
 - a) If funders would like to learn more about any conference NEEA staff attends, they can submit a request for an update or report.
 - 2) Integrated Design Lab (IDL) progress report p. 8-9
 - 3) Market Research and Evaluation field activities planned in Q3 & Q4, p. 11

Portfolio Overview Updates

Emily Moore (NEEA) provided the overview, which included brief highlights on the commercial portfolio. *The desired outcome is for committee members to be aware of key updates on commercial programs and planning for NEEA's Cycle 6.* Refer to [slides 5-13](#) and [pages 3-5](#) in the [packet](#) for greater detail. If you have questions about this presentation please contact Emily (EMoore@neea.org).

Overview Topics w/ Key Discussion Points, Action Items & Decisions:

- A. Updates for Cycle 6 (2020-2024)
 - 1) NEEA is implementing organizational changes to align with 2020-24 Business Plan
 - a) New structure around 'product groups' (rather than sectors); this allows NEEA to better align its activities with the market – see slide 7 for diagram.

- b) Two new roles now exist to support this product group structure, Market Transformation Managers and Market Channel Managers.
 - c) Gas products will still be managed in a separate portfolio, but will utilize this structure to better integrate dual-fuel activities, specifically around water heat, HVAC and new construction.
 - d) **ACTION ITEM: NEEA Staff to provide committee with updated org chart**
- 2) RPAC recommendation on improvements to advisory committee roles and structure will go to the Board Sept 10 for review and approval
- a) Questions arose around the workgroup structure and what to expect. NEEA staff noted that advisory committees will shift to “coordinating committee” role and workgroups will *likely* shift from ongoing coordination to being established for specific projects at a “task force” like level – limited in scope and duration.
 - b) Reminder: much of this effort stems from Board agreement to streamline the advisory committee process, and clarify coordination and participation for both NEEA and within funding organizations.
 - c) Feedback on the new recommended structure has been gathered via RPAC members; there is general understanding that we will need to continually check in and adjust the structure as time and lessons learned progress.
 - d) Utilities will need to determine internally how to best approach and manage who attends/represents and when.
 - e) The Cost Effectiveness and Regional Emerging Tech Advisory Committees are not necessarily impacted by this streamlining at this juncture, though their roles may be considered down the road.
- 3) Operations Plan Timeline
- a) All-AC webinar: October 16
- B. Commercial Portfolio Highlights
- 1) Portfolio Highlights:
- a) Reminder that Reduced Wattage Lamp Replacement moved into Long-Term Monitoring and Tracking earlier this year.
 - b) See packet for individual program highlights (p. 3-5)
 - c) There was discussion about TLEDs and the midstream pilot effort with Seattle City Light and Snohomish PUD. There will be a dedicated discussion at the next RPAC meeting on Sept 4.
- 2) Initiative Highlights:
- a) Training participation good in LLC (Lighting Design) and TTTA NXT Level 2
 - b) Pumps distributor engagement – acquiring full category sales data; ferreting out whether they are new construction or retrofit purchases
 - i.) **ACTION ITEM: NEEA staff to share what data points are being collected (PSE requested).**
 - c) Targeted engagement with supply chain on VHE DOAS
 - d) Expanding reach of lighting distributor engagement and full category data
 - e) C&I SEM infrastructure as a ‘Special Funding Project’ in Cycle 6
- 3) Top 5 Areas for Collaboration
- a) Not discussed during meeting due to time constraints
 - b) See slide 12 for detail

Window Attachments Program Update

Natalie Fish (NEEA) provided the overview. *The desired outcome is for the Committee to have an understanding of program progress and current activities. Refer to [slides 14-29](#) and page 6 in the [packet](#) for greater detail. If you have questions about this presentation, please contact Natalie (NFish@neea.org).*

Overview Topics w/ Key Discussion Points, Action Items & Decisions:

A. Program Overview

- 1) Market Transformation Goal: High performance window attachments become established as a standard product and practice for addressing low performing windows in commercial, residential and multifamily buildings.
- 2) Currently in the Program Development phase, assessing the product and market in preparation for strategy testing.
- 3) While the program is electric focused, NEEA is working with Energy Trust to investigate gas opportunities as well.
- 4) Primary products
 - a) Secondary glazing systems (SGS)
 - i.) PSE noted that there was a building that did an install of SGS near the Seattle airport, would be interesting to learn more about any efficiencies they've gained.
 - b) Low-e Storm windows
- 5) Review of barriers and opportunities
 - a) Low awareness, industry education of products, and limited proof of performance in the NW region, and the fact that products typically required customization, are key barriers.
 - b) Opportunities include cost (one-third to one-half the cost of replacement windows), manufacturer engagement, AERC certification development, and governing body policies and action plans.

B. Key Program Activities

- 1) Coordination with AERC
 - a) The program supports the Attachments Energy Rating Council (AERC), a residential certification and ENERGY STAR label, which was created through DOE grant funds in 2014.
 - b) Starting this year, the University of Oregon Integrated Design Lab provides technical support for commercial certification development.
 - c) Expect to see the launch of the commercial certification in 2020.
 - d) Working with RTF to establish a retail residential measure.
- 2) Market research
 - a) Found low cost is a key driver
 - b) With SGS, there is no abatement required since it's a secondary window that is applied on top of the old window
- 3) Gathering sales data – working on coordinating two data sources
- 4) Building awareness – expect to get some case studies from projects with little solicitation
- 5) Field tests in 2020
 - a) Expect offices will be the biggest savings opportunity, but need to ensure there are other building types incorporated as well, especially to start
 - b) Will use to build proof points via case studies for buildings in the NW – will be seeking utility support: both providing workgroup members (commercial experience preferred) and field sites, to conduct these field tests starting next year

C. Funder support – Would you be interested in a Windows program/measure?

- 1) Clallam County interested
- 2) Tacoma Power interested in learning more (multifamily, assisted living)
- 3) Seattle City Light interested in having energy management analysts pitch this as a Pay for Performance project until RTF can establish as a UES measure.
- 4) BPA interested; timing will be important

- 5) PSE interested; would like to know more around the pitch to customers
 - a) **ACTION ITEMS: Natalie to provide cost per square foot and share case studies**

Utility Share-outs/Round Robin

Committee members shared out current activities within their organizations since last meeting. Key highlights or announcements that may impact the region included:

- A. **Tacoma Power** Working on conservation plan for next 2 years; bigger changes happening on the residential side, overall, targets are a little lower so working on adjustments. Haven't finalized plan yet for lighting. Recruiting for SEM cohort summer 2020.
- B. **Puget Sound Energy** planning portfolio mix for next two years; may have to revise program and savings plans early next year. Rolling out a pilot next year for targeted DSM (operator efficiency demand response approach – largely residential (thermostats and water heating)). Considering Industrial SEM program (already have Commercial), will likely follow similar model as BPA's and may go partially internal for implementation. Looking to ramp up commercial lighting (LLLC primarily), will increase the incentive in January 2020 (considering a bonus plus savings tiered approach).
- C. **Clallam County PUD** cleared 1937 targets so not pushing/marketing. New CPA target is down by about 20%; relied heavily on Simple Steps previously. Focusing on community solar project this summer. Looking to scale down SEM for medium-sized buildings. Matthias looking to rotate off this committee and see another BPA indirect funder participate.
- D. **Seattle City Light** recently released their request for projects (seeking 15 commercial buildings – existing or new construction, master-metered over 50k sqft.). Starting to see applications come in for Pay for Performance program. Starting planning for commercial lighting programs. Recently launched a standalone smart thermostats program. Transitioning to Power Path (DSM tracking system). Working on existing buildings commissioning program with PSE; exploring midstream HVAC; beginning work on small business offering; thinking about small commercial SEM; redesigning commercial new construction programs; thinking about clean buildings bill.
- E. **BPA** hoping to grow commercial sector staffing. Working with Trade Ally Network NW on improvements and what's next. Prepping for BPA Roundtables. Program planning done, will have new Implementation Manual published late August. Starting to compare models for commercial SEM. Recently completed deep dive on lighting measure data from the last four years. Commercial lighting already achieved savings goal July 1. Michelle will be interested in brainstorming with other utilities on the clean buildings law in the near future once she has Program Managers hired.
- F. **NorthWestern** Kicked off updated programs July 1; avoided cost went up so able to increase incentives on a couple measures. In the process of getting a capacity study completed by the end of the year. Erik Sayer moving over to Energy Trust. Working with NEEA and Stillwater Energy on the DOE 50001 Ready pilot; have some customers signed up. Waiting for final rate review outcomes and new DSM plan is under public comment.
- G. **NWPCC** working on building next Power Plan, efficiency piece due in March, BPA has been a big help. RTF working on set of building models for the region to use to build new HVAC measures, will include windows in that (Charlie Grist focusing on Windows). The tool will be made available to anyone who wants them; the RTF will continuously test the models as time goes on. This can also be customized for your region.
- H. **Pacific Power** starting to work on California and Washington plans; filing deadlines in September for both. Being asked to do more what the large utilities are doing.
- I. **Idaho Power** still working to get small business direct install program (primarily lighting measures) running. Reached goals already and still have projects coming in. Projection for existing programs is not quite as high, but program change last year produced a high volume, some of which are still coming through. Evaluating program portfolio for this fall even though it's an off year for their planning cycle.

Commercial Real Estate Infrastructure Program: Transition to BetterBricks

Natalie Fish (NEEA) provided the overview. *The desired outcome is for Committee members to be aware of the program transition at the end of 2019 and to gain a better understanding of the BetterBricks Platform going forward. Refer to [slides](#) 33-46 and page 7 in the [packet](#) for greater detail. If you have questions about this presentation please contact Natalie (NFish@neea.org).*

Overview Topics w/ Key Discussion Points, Action Items & Decisions:

- A. Overview of Commercial Real Estate (CRE) Program
 - 1) Started in 2010 with a focus on Strategic Energy Management (SEM), became an infrastructure program in 2015 and will transition to the BetterBricks Platform at the end of this year.
 - 2) Program Accomplishments: Relationships with 2030 Districts and Building Operators & Managers Association (BOMA), Seattle building tune-ups, CRE Hub (tool on BetterBricks website that provides resources/case studies), Spark deep energy retrofit assessment tool.
 - 3) Transition to BetterBricks Platform
 - a) Most of the CRE resources have migrated over to the Platform
 - b) Now have eight partners engaging with the platform
 - c) Spark tool is final piece to transition; currently evaluating whether it will have a role in the market.
- B. Review of BetterBricks Platform
 - 1) Relationships with trade and member orgs
 - 2) Brand and marketing channels used to build and maintain awareness: LinkedIn, YouTube, website (www.betterbricks.com), and e-newsletter.
 - a) A couple of utilities acknowledged that this platform is likely underutilized and some expressed their intent to have their teams pay closer attention and see how it can be better leveraged.
 - b) NEEA Staff noted that there's also opportunity for co-branded campaigns if there's desire.
 - c) This video was shown during the meeting:
 - 3) Data collection: digital surveys and web analytics
 - 4) Tools and resources: case studies, calculators, CRE Hub (building assessment tool)
- C. Status of Spark Tool
 - 1) The Tool utilizes EnergyPlus, building models, and Open Studio as sources for evaluating energy savings opportunities. Its unique value is combining technical and financial analysis to support decision-making on deep energy retrofits.
 - 2) Found that Spark users appreciated the Spark tool reports, but they weren't drivers for determining or implementing projects, and there needs to be a support structure around it for people to understand how to implement activities.
- D. Path forward and next steps
 - 1) Plan is to maintain the Spark Tool as-is and at a low level in 2020; will continue to evaluate if there is a role for Spark in supporting future policies and programs aimed at deep energy retrofits.
- E. Discussion
 - 1) Funders in the meeting agreed it was a good regional resource to hang on to and noted curiosity around whether Spark could be part of the toolbox for the Clean Buildings bill law and/or other things.
 - 2) Feel barriers for deep retrofits are likely more around cost and project management than the technical aspects. Would be neat to see this be part of a tool "bundle" to help customers achieve required efficiencies.

Wrap up/Feedback on Meeting

- A. Public Comments: None
- B. Committee Feedback:
 - 1) Good meeting, nothing substantial
- C. Next meeting: Q4 2019 CAC scheduled for Tuesday, November 5, 2019; it will be at NEEA's office in Portland unless a local funder would be interested in hosting.