#### **Energy Efficiency in Minnesota**

#### Sheldon Strom Center for Energy and Environment

#### ACEEE Conference on Energy Efficiency as a Resource

September 29,2009 Chicago

### **Center for Energy and Environment**

- Energy services to over 70,000 single, multifamily and commercial buildings
- Authored over 100 research projects
- Developed greenhouse gas reduction plans for:
  - 1993 Minneapolis/St. Paul Urban CO2 Project Plan
  - 1995 Minnesota CO2 Action Plan

# **Center for Energy and Environment**

- Currently managing Small Business
  One-Stop Efficiency Shop for Xcel Energy
- Extensive recommissioning experience
- Currently managing the Public Buildings Enhanced Energy Efficiency Program for state and local governments
- CEE Financial Resources \$115 million in loans

# History of Energy Efficiency in Minnesota

- 1980 legislation passed requiring at least one utility pilot program
- 1989 regulated utilities required to spend percent of gross revenue on EE programs (natural gas = .5%; electric = 1.5%)
- 1991 coops and munis must spend .5%
- IRP, financial incentives
- 1994 NSP (now Xcel) required to spend 2%

#### History of Energy Efficiency in Minnesota (cont.)

- 1995 PUC adopts DSM lost revenue recovery as utility incentive
- 1998 PUC suspends lost revenue recovery and adopts incentives based on shared savings
- 2001 Coop/muni required spending moved to 1.5% electric, phased in thru '05

#### Historic Electric CIP Demand Savings (MWs)

■ Xcel Energy ■ OtterTail Power ■ Minnesota Power ■ Alliant Energy



#### **Historic Electric CIP Savings (GWhs)**



#### **Next Generation Act 2007**

- Energy Savings Goal
- Research Funding
- Financial Incentives
- Decoupling

### **Savings Goals**

- Utilities to file 3 year plans describing how they will reach 1.5% goal
- Goal may be modified to minimum of 1% if 1.5% goal can't be met due to:
  - Historical conservation efforts
  - Load growth
  - Customer class make-up
  - Or other factors

# Savings Goals (cont.)

- If goals are modified to less than 1.5%, utilities must work to achieve goal by promoting other efforts:
  - Energy codes
  - Appliance standards
  - Market transformation programs
  - Programs that change customer behavior
  - Green buildings, LEED, Energy Star
  - System efficiency improvements

### **Applied Research**

- Directs the Department of Commerce to oversee development of research plans for all utilities, to include:
  - Identifying new technologies and strategies to maximize energy savings
  - Improving effectiveness of conservation programs
  - Documenting carbon dioxide reductions from the programs
  - Utilities assessed for research projects with statewide significance

#### **Financial Incentives**

- MN PUC review of current DSM financial incentive plans modify those plans to facilitate achievement of 1.5%
- Most current plans will need adjustment to reflect much higher savings goals

## Decoupling

- MN PUC to establish criteria for decoupling pilot projects
- Gas and electric utilities may volunteer to run pilot projects consistent with criteria for up to 3 years
- Pilot projects may be extended beyond 3 years if approved in a general rate case

#### **Energy and Renewable Savings**





### **Meeting the Goals**

- Most utilities are committed to increased savings
  - 2010 is the first year that utilities are expected to plan to achieve the 1.5% savings goals
  - Gas utilities have been given more time to meet the 1.5% goal
  - No utilities have proposed to achieve the 1.5% goal with just utility efficiency programs

#### **Meeting the Goals**

#### Xcel Energy continues to be the leader

	Electric		Gas	
	Actual/Proposed		Actual/Proposed	
Year	MWh	% of Sales	Dth	% of Sales
2005	262,558	0.86%	1,150,968	1.63%
2006	256,386	0.83%	927,028	1.48%
2007	259,207	0.85%	888,460	1.26%
2008	331,025	1.07%	613,134	0.91%
2009	288,147	0.90%	608,485	0.86%
2010	348,187	1.13%	785,778	1.11%
2011	365,951	1.19%	808,916	1.14%
2012	398,062	1.29%	851,387	1.20%

#### **MN Demand Side Management Savings Goals**

2005-2008 – Actual Savings 2009 – Approved Goal 2010-2012 – Proposed in Triennial

#### Additional Strategies and Partnerships are Needed

#### Trillion BTU program

- A new program designed to complement Xcel Energy's existing programs
- Provides additional technical and demonstration assistance to customers
- Most importantly, it provides low cost easy-to-use financing in partnership with the St. Paul Port Authority and other economic development authorities

#### Additional Strategies and Partnerships are Needed

- Public Buildings Enhanced Energy Efficiency Program
  - Application and Screening
  - Investigation and Analysis
  - Utility Rebates
  - Implementation
  - •Financing primarily tax exempt lease purchase
  - Measurement & Verification

#### Additional Strategies and Partnerships are Needed

- One-Stop Community Energy Services
  - Need to serve hundreds of thousands of customers
  - Community engagement
  - Targeted workshops
  - Low cost materials/no cost measures
  - Energy feedback reports
  - Home visit Utility funded
  - Incentives, financing and rebates Utility funded
  - On-going energy feedback reports

# Summary

- 2007 legislation has significantly improved utility commitment to spending on efficiency
- Achieving 1.5% goal will be difficult
- Need much deeper market penetration
- Need to invest in longer payback items
- Support from state and local governments and the entire community is necessary if goals are to be achieved

#### Thank you

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