Puget Sound Energy's Comprehensive Multifamily Retrofit Program

Simplified Program Design to Maximize Results

John Forde

Residential B2B Market Manager

Puget Sound Energy

Tuesday September 24, 2013



Presentation Overview

- Program History
- Challenges
- Solutions
- Program Design
- Contractor Relationships
- Marketing
- Results





Puget Sound Energy





About Puget Sound Energy

- HQ in Bellevue, WA
- Washington States oldest utility company providing electricity & natural gas to 10 counties
- 6,000 square mile service area
- 1 million electric and 750,000 gas customers Approximately 250,000 multifamily units
- Annual energy sales (2010): 23.4 million megawatt hours/1 billion therms





Multi Family Program History

- PSE had a multifamily program in the late 90's Windows & lighting
- Comprehensive program started July 1, 2006
- 2 year program cycles
- RFP process/vendor selection/implementation





The Challenges

- No formal "multifamily program" in place
- Property owners participated in several programs

Residential: In-unit measures/appliances Commercial: HVAC/Shell Small Business Lighting: common area lighting

- Lost opportunity: no audit or comprehensive site analysis
- This created confusion for both owners and contractors
- Bring internal & external stakeholders together





Integrated Program Design

- Understand your housing market Low/mid/high rise/campuses/master vs. unit metered
- Created a "one stop" shop for customers & contractors
- Bridged the gap between residential & commercial teams
- Worked with program team to

Develop comprehensive measures list (residential & commercial)

Used existing processes, forms, calculations etc. Developed comprehensive audit

Hired a ESCO to help design & manage program

Contractors are your allies, treat them well!





Integrated Program Design

- No cost site assessment with summary of eligibility
 - Existing building condition Measure eligibility/prioritization Incentives Contractor referrals
 - Technical support/multifamily hotline
- Customer benefits

Single point of contact
Identify where customer should invest capital
Measures in one application & payment
Avoids program confusion
Provide project verification
Assignment of funds (less out of pocket expense)





Program Measures

• Directly installed

CFL & LED lamps, efficient showerheads, water heater pipe wrap, advanced power strips Energy Star refrigerators (pre 1993) & Energy Star clothes washers (pre 2004)

Contractor installed

Attic, wall & floor insulation, air sealing Window replacements

Common area/in unit lighting upgrades Commercial & in-unit HVAC upgrades Appliances





Comprehensive Approach

DI provides unit information

Access to every unit Identify appliance efficiencies & existing ventilation

Tenant education leave behind

Bundle measures

Windows with insulation Air sealing with insulation Insulation with HVAC





Program Implementation

- Program resides in the Residential Energy Management group.
- Partnerships included:

 PSE Commercial team
 Vendor: program management
 Contractor Alliance Network
 Water purveyors
 Appliance Recyclers
 Other utilities: shared program & project information





Contractor Relationships

 Contractors are our sales team! We maintain contractor relationships by:

> Providing comprehensive installation & product training Maintain program measures and specifications Ongoing 2 way communication (email/training /web updates) Initiated a contractor recognition program Co-branding available through our CAN program Members of trade associations





Contractor Alliance Network

- Activated summer of 2012
- Marketing benefits:

 Ability to partner with PSE
 PSE contractor badges
 Streamlined process to connect contractors with customers
 enhanced the customer experience
- Currently 11 contractors participating
- Performance matrix in place to manage productivity and accountability





Program Marketing

- Program collateral
- Joined multifamily organizations
 Attend association meetings
 Purchased booth space at events
 Submit articles in their publications (typically no cost)
- Develop case studies

Provided to property owners at events

Multifamily open houses

Engage residents!

Direct installation leave behind (lamp recycling, energy saving tips in 2 languages)





Program Results

- Program Savings 2006-2012
 KWh: 97,000,000
 Therms: 350,000
- Total units served

120,000 units served or 50% of total units 86,000 units served with DI

2014-15 goals

kWh: 43,000,000 Therms: 210,000

760 total sites visited

All received some DI measures 260 installed additional measures





Program Results

- Acquisition costs \$0.45
- 1.9 TRC (2013)
- High participant & contractor satisfaction
- Now have residential/commercial team coordination
- Engaged contractors



PSE-Wide DI Penetration



The Energy To Do Great Things

Thank you!

Questions and Comments?

