
INFORMAL SESSIONS

MONDAY 4:00 – 6:00 PM

Putting Building Energy Performance Data to Work

Erin Beddingfield, Institute for Market Transformation

Across the United States, an increasing number of state and local jurisdictions are implementing building performance reporting laws, which generate large quantities of useful data on the characteristics and resource consumption of their building stocks. However, to realize the potential of these policies, the data must not only be disclosed, but put to work to drive energy savings. This informal session will bring together local leaders who have, or are considering, building energy performance policies in a facilitated discussion around how they currently use the data being collected, and what's next for using data to move the built environment toward energy efficiency.

Leveraging Community Engagement for Maximum Energy Efficiency Impact

Lauren Casentini, Resource Innovations

This session will examine two models for utilities to increase their diverse energy efficiency spending, empower underserved communities to participate in the energy efficiency economy and serve their low-to-moderate income customers in a manner that goes beyond traditional energy efficiency weatherization programs. The first is Ameren's Market Development Initiative and the second is Nicor Gas' Community Engagement and Job Creation efforts. These innovative approaches focus on solidifying relationships with key local partners and community-based organizations, as well as offering customized grants to operationalize targeted energy efficiency initiatives.

Lifetime Energy Savings: Chasing the Measure Life Tail

Rachel Gold, American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy

Policy design and utility incentives in states like Illinois are beginning to look beyond first year, annual savings to value the full lifetime value of energy efficiency measures, and some states are beginning to reassess whether the measure life estimates used for cost-effectiveness are sufficient in light of new planning processes and policies. This session will share experiences from across the country, explore pain points and opportunities for better measure life estimates, and brainstorm new ways to better measure, track, and value the full lifetime savings of energy efficiency portfolios.

Minimum Energy Performance Standards (MEPS) Enforcement Differences between the USA and EU

Teemu Hartikainen, Finnish Safety and Chemicals Agency (Tukes)

European Market Surveillance Authorities are facing difficulties verifying compliance of larger industrial products, as the EU lacks compulsory product certification and registration systems that the USA has. EU-funded project INTAS tries to solve some of the issues with power transformers and large fans subject to MEPS. Correct implementation of MEPS in the EU through the Ecodesign Directive would result in 600 TWh annual savings in electricity by 2020. Almost 10% of those savings could be reached if power transformers and large fans can be proven compliant. Information exchange and a discussion between EU and US authorities is pursued here.

Climate-based IRP: The Next Wave of Energy Management

Harvey Michaels, Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)

Thirty years of utility/ratepayer efficiency programs have been wildly successful. Now, coming into focus is a “pivot to climate stabilization” for the next wave of energy management and IRP. Let’s discuss what’s happening now and what’s next:

- How are programs changing to blend EE, solar flexible demand, and strategic electrification?
- How does planning and evaluation change with climate-based IRP?
- How much do we need to accomplish, and by when to stabilize the climate?

Energy Efficient Cannabis: Next Steps for Research, Policy, and Programs

Derek Smith, Resource Innovation Institute

Indoor cannabis cultivation is an energy-intensive enterprise. As the number of states with legal cannabis markets continues to grow, the efficiency industry is stepping up efforts to drive adoption of efficient technologies and cultivation techniques. Initiatives underway include refined assessments of facility energy use, utility program investments, adoption of efficiency and renewable energy requirements by state and local governments, education and training on best practices to optimize energy efficiency and yield, and benchmarking of facility energy use as a precursor for a certification program. Come join us for a lively discussion of these and other efforts to make cannabis energy efficient.

Responding to Large Customer and Key Account Opt-Out Pressure

Ellen Zuckerman, Schlegel & Associates

Over the past four years energy efficiency programs and advocates have been confronted with state-level pushes to opt out large customers from energy efficiency programs. More recently, we are hearing rumblings of discontent about participating among some key accounts. This session will: share experiences from across the country, assess the root causes for the pressure; discuss strategies for countering opt-out pushes; and begin a discussion of a coordinated, national initiative for proposing energy efficiency programs that are responsive to the needs of these customers.