## EM&V: AN INTRODUCTION TO KEY CONCEPTS AND MAPPING A PATH FORWARD

### PRESENTED TO: DELAWARE ENERGY EFFICIENCY ADVISORY COUNCIL

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### QUESTIONS ABOUT ENERGY EFFICIENCY PROGRAMS

- How did we do?(Ex Post)
  - How much energy and demand were saved, how confident are we that savings occurred?
  - How much generation is avoided?
  - How much of the savings is attributable to the program intervention?
  - What other benefits did program produce? What were the costs? Is program worth continuing?
  - Is intervention still needed (Is the market transformed)? What changes are needed if we do it again?
- How are we doing?
  - Is program performing as expected?
  - Why isn't the program saving what we expected it to? What can be done to increase performance?
  - Are products, trade allies, markets behaving as expected?
  - Is participation happening as we expected? Who are the participants?
  - Who are the non-participants and why are we not reaching them?
- What should we be doing? (Ex Ante)
  - What do we need to know to design this program?
  - What market failure necessitates our intervention?
  - How does market work, and how does our intervention affect market?
  - What do we expect the program intervention to do?
  - What external factors may effect performance?
  - What are the uncertainties and risks?
  - How will this program fit into the portfolio of programs?

### TYPES OF EVALUATION STUDIES

- Impact: Determines and documents direct and indirect benefits of an EE program
  - Energy and demand savings, non-energy benefits
  - Supports cost-effectiveness analyses
  - Real time or retrospective
- **Process**: Formative, systematic assessment of a program
  - Documents program operations
  - Identifies and recommends improvements
- **Market**: Assesses structure or functioning of a market, behavior of market participants, and/or market changes that result from program efforts
  - Includes market baselines, potential, and market effects studies

### IMPACT EVALUATION APPROACHES

- Verification: Is equipment installed and in use?
- M&V: Project-by-project estimate, via
  - End-use metering: pre vs. post, isolated savings component (e.g.; hours of use)
  - Billing analysis: pre vs. post
  - Building or system simulation
- Deemed savings: stipulated estimates
  - Technical Reference Manual
- Large-scale data analysis
  - Randomized controlled trials
  - Quasi-experimental designs
  - Component metering

### IMPACT EVALUATION CONCEPTS

- Saving estimate based on counterfactual scenario
  - Def'n: the difference between energy the participant would have used without the program and energy consumed after participating
- First-year and/or lifetime estimates
- Gross vs. net savings
  - Def'n: net savings are changes in energy consumption or demand that are attributable to an energy efficiency program
  - Adjusts for free-riders and spillover

### IMPACT EVALUATION CHALLENGES

- Identifying a control
  - Need to control for external factors
  - Biases: self selection, recruitment
  - Hawthorne effects: does act of studying affect the outcome?
- Determining the correct baseline
  - Existing conditions, codes & standards, or common practice
- Estimating persistence
  - How long do savings last?
  - Do savings degrade ?
- Accounting for rebound: do participants take back savings?
- Data collection cost constraints
  - Results are estimates with uncertain distributions
  - Measurement errors
  - Scope vs. intensity

### QUESTIONS ANSWERED BY IMPACT EVALUATIONS

#### • How did we do?

- How much energy and demand were saved, how confident are we that savings occurred?
- How much generation is avoided?
- How much of the savings is attributable to the program intervention?
- What other benefits did the program produce? What were the costs? Is program worth continuing?
- Is intervention still needed (Is the market transformed)? What changes are needed if we do it again?

#### How are we doing?

- Is program performing as expected?
- Why didn't the program save what we expected it to? What can be done to increase performance?
- Are products, users, trade allies, markets behaving as expected?
- Is my participation as expected? Who are the participants?
- Who are the non-participants and why am I not reaching them?

#### • What should we be doing?

- What do I need to know to design my program?
- What market failure necessitates our intervention?
- How does market work, and how does my intervention affect market?
- What do we expect the program intervention to do?
- What external factors may effect performance?
- What are the uncertainties and risks?
- How does program fit into portfolio and long-term plan?

## PROCESS AND MARKET STUDIES

### Tools

 Interviews, surveys, focus groups, ride-alongs, stocking studies, mystery shoppers, data analysis of tracking information, metering,

### Studies

 Baseline, potential, equipment saturation, market research, market characterization, market adoption, benchmarking, equity distributions

### Objectives

• Provides feedback, gauges progress, provides market intelligence, checks QA/QC and satisfaction

## WHY EVALUATION PLANNING IS SO IMPORTANT

- At Portfolio Level
  - Money is never enough budgeting and planning a necessity
  - Need balance of impact, process, and market studies
  - Need both short and longer term perspective
  - Need to consider all portfolio objectives
- At the Program Level
  - Need to understand program objectives
  - Need to understand how to measure success
  - Need to know data requirements and ensure availability
  - Need to design feedback to gauge progress

## WHAT SHOULD BE INCLUDED IN PROGRAM PLAN DEVELOPMENT

- Statement of objectives
  - Why are we inserting ourselves in this market?
  - What barriers exist that need intervention?
  - How does current market work and who are the actors?
- Logic model
  - What is expected outcome from my intervention?
  - What are the risks to my success?
  - What are the expected outcomes? How will we measure success, what are the *metrics*?
  - What feedback will we need to gauge progress?
- Define evaluation plan to monitor progress and to measure success
- Define data collection needs, availability, and analysis approach

## CONSIDER MORE PILOTS

- Test concepts that we are uncertain about
  - Less at stake
  - Quicker way to start
- Pilots can test individual components: e.g. incentive amount, delivery approach, market messages
- Evaluation planning even more important for pilots
  - Answers to most important questions before committing everything
  - Builds in rapid feedback
  - Can establish testable experiments

## RESOURCES

- IEPEC-search Evaluation Conference papers https://www.iepec.org/?page\_id=4715
- North East Energy Partnership reports http://www.neep.org/resources
- Calmac searchable database of all CA reports http://www.calmac.org/search.asp

• Energy Efficiency Program Impact Evaluation Guide, DOE, Evaluation, Measurement, and Verification Working Group, December 2012

# QUESTIONS?

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