New and Improved! Findings and Implications from a Baseline Energy Appliance, Equipment and Building Characteristics Study

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Summary

This poster presents results from a baseline energy appliance, equipment and building characteristics study in Hawaii, one of the most oil dependent states in the nation. The study objective was to collect key components of baseline information that will be used by the state's Public Utilities Commission (PUC) and the Public Benefit Fee Administrator to plan future energy efficiency programs and to support the energy efficiency potential study currently underway. The study also provides data to support measurement of the state's progress towards its Clean Energy Initiative, which is to relieve its dependence on oil by setting goals and a roadmap to achieve 70 percent clean energy by 2030, 30 percent from energy efficiency and 40 percent from locally generated renewable sources.

This effort complements the biennial HECO Residential Appliance Saturation Survey (RASS) that was conducted in late 2012 and baseline surveys conducted by Kauai Island Utility Cooperative (KIUC) during 2012 and 2013. Through the combination of this study and the research conducted by the HECO Companies and KIUC, the PUC is collecting comprehensive electricity equipment and facility characteristics data across Hawaii for both residential and business customers. The study includes a mail survey for businesses, and on-site surveys for both the business and residential sectors and provides updated estimates of the frequency (or saturation) and efficiency levels of electricity-using equipment that are present in homes and businesses.

The poster will include recent, robust baseline equipment saturations and efficiency levels for Hawaii's homes and businesses that are currently being used to inform program planning, evaluation and design decisions. These results and the context in which they are being used should be useful for other energy efficiency program planners, implementers and evaluators across the nation as energy efficiency is increasingly relied upon to meet more aggressive goals.