## IEPEC Conference June 7, 2010



## Ductless Heat Pumps for Residential Customers in Connecticut



Joseph R. Swift (CL&P)

## Contents

- Background
- Ductless Heat Pump Pilot
- Energy Savings
- Customer Feedback
- Looking Ahead





## Background

- Seven percent of Connecticut homes (100,000 households) use electric heat as the primary heat source
- Connecticut winters are notably cold. Annual Degree-Days Fahrenheit range from approximately 5,000 (shore) to 7000+ (hills) (2,775 to 3,900+ Degree-Days Celsius)
- Connecticut has the highest electric rates in the continental United States; this causes extreme hardship for many electrically-heated homes
- Some residents pay as much as \$5,000 annually or more for electricity costs
- Ductless Heat Pumps (DHPs) represent a viable, cost-effective solution for some customers





## Background



## The DHP Pilot



- Ductless Heat Pumps (DHPs) were installed at 144 sites in 2007 where electric resistance heat was being primarily used (96 in CT)
- Heating and Cooling Savings was estimated
  - > Total Heat Regression method used interval metered power data on the original electric heat system and the DHP system
  - Whole Premise Regression method measured interval data to calculate the household's total electric usage
  - Billing Analysis method used 124 PRISM regression models to estimate normal heating savings for pilot participants
- Participant Acceptance was evaluated

#### **Annual Heating Savings for Participants**

Method	Sample Size	Average Annual kWh Savings		
		Hartford	Bridgeport	
Total Heat	29	2,329	2,508	
Whole Premise	31	2,431	2,610	
Billing Analysis	124	2,764	2,636	



#### **Annual Cooling Savings for Participants**

Method	Sample Size	Annual kWh Cooling Savings		
		Hartford	Bridgeport	
Adjusted Cooling Savings	38	79	82	

#### **Estimated Heating and Cooling Seasonal Peak Savings**

Seasonal Peak kW Savings	Hartford	Bridgeport	
Heating	0.307	0.512	
Cooling	0.044	0.036	

## Load Profile for Hartford, CT for a Typical January Day





Wide range of savings beyond the scope of the evaluation. Opportunity for additional research.

- Sizing and Zone Control?
- Operations Does participant understand how to work system?
- "Snapback" With cheaper costs, did participants consume more energy?

## **Customer Satisfaction**



#### DHP Participant Satisfaction

Loval of Cortainty	Number of Respondents			
Lever of Certainty	СТ	MA	Total	
Would Likely Keep Existing System (0 - 3)	6	4	10	
Not Sure Which System Would Choose (4 - 6)	4	2	6	
Would Likely Install Ductless System (7 - 10)	4	7	11	
Don't Know/Missing	8	5	13	
Total	22	18	40	

#### Willingness to install DHP system



#### Savings and Benefit-Cost Ratios

		Low	Average	High
Pre DHP Heating Consumption	А	3,000	10,000	20,000
DHP Annual Heating Savings (kWh)	В	1,200	4,000	8,000
Pre DHP Cooling Consumption	С	60	120	300
DHP Cooling Savings (kWh)	D	40	80	200
Total Dollar Annual Savings (note 1)	E = 0.18 x (B + D)	\$223	\$734	\$1,476
Heat Pump Size (Btu/hr) (note 2)		12,000	24,000	36,000
Gross Installed Cost (note 3)	F	\$3,000	\$4,500	\$6,000
CEEF Incentive	G	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000
Federal Tax Credit (30% capped at \$1,500)	H = 0.30 x (F-G)	\$600	\$1,050	\$1,500
Final Customer Cost (note 4)	I = F-G-H	\$1,400	\$2,450	\$3,500
Simple Payback (Years)		6.3	3.3	2.4
Electric Benefit (note 5)	J	\$1,848	\$6,040	\$12,170
Utility Benefit-Cost Ratio	J ÷ G	1.85	6.04	12.17
Total Resource Benefit-Cost Ratio	J ÷ F	0.62	1.34	2.03
Customer Benefit-Cost Ratio (note 6)	18 x E / I	2.9	5.4	7.6



#### Notes:

1) Based on assumed average Connecticut rate of 18 cents per kWh.

2) Estimated heat pump based on size of heating load.

3) Costs based on review of CL&P rebate data. Assumes single zone system for Low and Average case, and a two system for the high case.

4) Final cost reflects 30% U.S. federal tax credit and current CEEF incentive of \$1,000.

5) Calculated using current CL&P avoided costs as filed in the CL&P and UI 2010 Conservation & Load Management Plan.

6) Calculated based on an 18 year estimated measure life. This number represents total lifetime savings divided by customer cost. Savings is not discounted.

### **Conclusions and Next Steps**



# •DHPs can be a cost effective option for customers with electric heat.

✓ Significant savings and good benefit/cost numbers.

#### Connecticut Program Highlights

- ✓ Up to a \$1000 Incentive
- ✓Contractor Training
- ✓ Introducing Residential Financing
- ✓ Focus on single unit/zone for cost effective savings

#### Additional Areas to Explore

- $\checkmark$  Sizing, zone control, interaction with zones.
- ✓ Customer understanding.
- ✓New generation of DHPs
- ✓DHPs in new construction







#### **Contacts:**

Joe Swift, CL&P (860) 832-4936 Swiftjr@NU.com Rebecca Meyer, CL&P (860) 832-4924 Meyerra@NU.com





Connecticut Light & Power

The Northeast Utilities System The United Illuminating Company



The Northeast Utilities System