

SESSION 9B

COST CONSTRAINED CROSS-PROGRAM EVALUATIONS

Moderator: Jane S. Peters, Research Into Action

PAPERS:

Getting the Best Evaluation for the Buck

Valy Goepfrich, KEMA-XENERGY Inc.
Christopher Dyson, KEMA-XENERGY Inc.
Miriam Goldberg, KEMA-XENERGY Inc.
Jeff Erickson, PA Consulting Group
Oscar Bloch, Department of Administration, Division of Energy

Portfolio Process Evaluation: An Enhanced Perspective with Cost-Efficient Options

Patricia Gonzales, NYSERDA
Sharyn Barata, B & B Resources
Lori Megdal, Megdal & Associates
Larry Pakenas, NYSERDA

Measurement and Baseline Issues Related to Evaluating a Diverse Portfolio of Federally-Supported Building Energy-Saving Projects

Donna Hostick, PNNL
Katherine Allen Cort, PNNL
David Belzer, PNNL
James Dirks, PNNL
Douglas Elliott, PNNL
David Anderson, PNNL
Jerome Dion, DOE EERE

SESSION SUMMARY:

Energy efficiency is riding high again with funding levels beginning to approach those last seen in 1995, yet evaluation-funding still faces some level of austerity. Many program efforts are seeking to accomplish more in terms of measures installed among a broad array of target audiences. At the same time evaluation efforts have to accomplish more with less, and according to these three authors that can be done in a variety of ways.

The first paper is *Getting the Best Evaluation for the Buck*, by Valy Goepfrich and co-authors Christopher Dyson, Miriam L. Goldberg, Jeff Erickson, and Oscar Block. The authors are all involved in the evaluation of the business programs for the Wisconsin Focus on Energy effort. This paper reviews the methods used to insure that process, market and impact findings are collected and analyzed on a regular basis for this program area. The approach used integrates a variety of data collection techniques:

mail surveys, on-site verification, in-depth interviews and engineering analysis to provide a comprehensive assessment of portfolio level program performance for the business programs area.

The second paper is titled, *Portfolio Process Evaluation: An Enhanced Perspective with Cost-Efficient Options* by Patricia Gonzales, Sharyn Barata, Lori Megdal and Larry Pakenas. This paper focuses on an effort by the authors to assess process issues across the portfolio of all programs offered by NYSERDA. The primary target of this assessment is contract cycle time. Data are collected from surveys conducted for other purposes as well as a targeted survey for the process assessment. With very limited evaluation resources overall, little process evaluation could be conducted. Therefore, the authors created a very targeted evaluation effort crossing multiple programs to provide valuable information for a program process improvement that was among the most critical issues facing the programs.

The final paper is *Measurement and Baseline Issues Related to Evaluating a Diverse Portfolio of Federally-Supported Building Energy-Saving Projects* by Donna J. Hostick, Katherine Cort, David Belzer, James Dirks, Douglas Elliott, David Anderson, and Jerome Dion. The authors are all involved in the evaluation of the U.S. Department of Energy's Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy. This evaluation effort is larger in scope from the two state efforts due to its national focus. Additionally, because the national programs do not operate at the end-users level but rather are research and development in nature, savings are generally estimated using a modeling process. In this paper, Hostick and her co-authors describe a variety of solutions they have tested for the DOE programs, and discuss their recommended approach and requirements for improved data to further improve the modeling process.