

SESSION 6A

Searching for the Needle in the Haystack: Finding Energy Efficiency in the Midst of the Economic Downturn

Moderator: Michael Li, U.S. Department of Energy

PAPERS:

Evaluation of Energy Savings in Varying Economic Conditions

Deborah Swarts, Navigant Consulting

Roger Hill, Navigant Consulting

Mike Yim, Navigant Consulting

Jennifer Barnes, Navigant Consulting

Phil Degens, Energy Trust of Oregon

Trends in ENERGY STAR Awareness, 2002 to 2010: Did the Great Recession Have an Impact?

Carla Jackson, Abt SRBI, Inc.

Jane Peters, Research into Action

Mersiha Spahic, Research into Action

Recession Impacts: Savings During and After the Recession

Dr. Lori Megdal, Megdal & Associates, LLC

Tracey DeSimone, New York State Energy Research and Development Authority

Dr. Juliet Nelson, Megdal & Associates, LLC

SESSION SUMMARY:

This session will focus on examining the impact of the recession on energy efficiency programs. The economic recession over the last few years has dramatically altered the business as usual, and as a result, the estimates that efficiency savings were based on were significantly different. For example, operating schedules for manufacturing lines have been reduced, which in turn alters some of the assumptions that the original estimate of savings was based on. This session will explore the difference between the expected energy savings versus the realized energy savings after taking into account the impacts of the recession. This session will examine an example from a gas efficiency program in New York, an industrial efficiency program in Oregon, as well as discussion about the impact the recession had on the ENERGY STAR program.