

# Illinois EE Stakeholder Advisory Group Q4 Meeting

Tuesday, November 14, 2023 (Day 1)

9:30 am – 12:30 pm

Teleconference

## Attendees and Meeting Notes

### Table of Contents

|   |    |
|---|----|
| Meeting Materials.....                                | 1  |
| Attendees (by webinar).....                           | 1  |
| Opening & Introductions .....                         | 3  |
| Northern Illinois Multi-Family EE Program Update..... | 3  |
| ComEd Mid-Year EE Portfolio Progress Update.....      | 7  |
| Nicor Gas Mid-Year EE Portfolio Progress Update.....  | 10 |
| Closing and Next Steps .....                          | 13 |

### Meeting Materials

Meeting materials are posted on the [November 14 meeting page](#):

- [Tuesday, November 14 Q4 SAG Agenda \(Day 1\)](#)
- [Northern Illinois Multi-Family Energy Savings Presentation](#)
- [ComEd Quarterly Update Presentation \(November 2023\)](#)
- [Nicor Gas Quarterly Update Presentation \(November 2023\)](#)

### Attendees

Celia Johnson, SAG Facilitator  
Aadil Ahesan, Nicor Gas  
Allison Gregoire, Nicor Gas  
Amy Jewel, Elevate  
Andrew Braatz, Franklin Energy  
Andrey Gribovich, DNV  
Andy Vaughn, Leidos  
Antonia Ornelas, Elevate  
Ashley Pride, Nicor Gas  
Becca McNish, ComEd  
Bill Risley, Franklin Energy  
Bobbie Tolson, ComEd  
Brent Nakayama, Leidos  
Brian Schiemann, Nicor Gas  
Brittin Wood, Anura Energy  
Carlotta Ruiz-Smith, Ameren Illinois  
Carrie Malfeo, Village of Park Forest  
Cassidy Kraimer, Community Investment Corp.  
Chanda Rowan, Nicor Gas  
Chris Neme, Energy Futures Group, representing NRDC  
Christina Pagnusat, Peoples Gas & North Shore Gas  
Chris Vaughn, Nicor Gas  
Dan Huntsha, Faith in Place

Darin Davenport, Nicor Gas  
Dave Hernandez, ComEd  
David Brightwell, ICC Staff  
David Myers, Energy Solution  
Diana Fuller, Walker-Miller Energy Services  
Dorothee Vil Trent, Franklin Energy  
Ed Schmidt, MCR  
Elizabeth Horne, ICC Staff  
Erin Stitz, AEG  
Eve Pytel, Franklin Energy  
Fernando Morales, Ameren Illinois  
Gina Melekh, Franklin Energy  
Gregory Norris, Aces 4 Youth  
Hannah Collins, Leidos  
Jamey Neal, Ameren Illinois  
Jarred Nordhus, Peoples Gas & North Shore Gas  
Jason Fegley, Ameren Illinois  
Jason LaStella, Franklin Energy  
Jim Fay, ComEd  
John Dakarian, Nicor Gas  
John Lavalley, Ameren Illinois  
John Mansfield, Nicor Gas  
Jonathan Skarzynski, Nicor Gas  
Julie Hollensbe, ComEd  
Kalee Whitehouse, VEIC (IL-TRM Administrator)  
Kara Jonas, ComEd  
Karen Lusson, National Consumer Law Center (NCLC)  
Kari McCue, Nicor Gas  
Kari Ross, NRDC  
Katherine Elmore, Community Investment Corp.  
Kathryn Hart, Franklin Energy  
Keely Hughes, JPI Group  
LaJuana Garrett, Nicor Gas  
Lalita Kalita, ComEd  
Laura Agapay-Read, Guidehouse  
Laura Goldberg, NRDC  
Marilla Yaggie, ILLUME Advising  
Mark Milby, ComEd  
Mark Szczygiel, Nicor Gas  
Matt Armstrong, Ameren Illinois  
Mia Berrios, People for Community Recovery  
Michael Brandt, Elevate  
Mike King, Nicor Gas  
Miritza Thorpe, Ameren Illinois  
Molly Graham, MEEA  
Molly Lunn, ComEd  
Neb Kistic, CLEAResult  
Nate Yemm, Leidos  
Neil Curtis, Guidehouse  
Nicholas Crowder, Ameren Illinois  
Nicholas Wood, Anura Energy

Nick Warnecke, Ameren Illinois  
Nicole Popejoy, IACAA  
Nikki Pacific, Ameren Illinois  
Omayra Garcia, Peoples Gas & North Shore Gas  
Pastor Vance, Elevate  
Patrice McFarlin, SEEL  
Pauravi Shah, ComEd  
Philip Halliburton, ComEd  
Philip Mosenthal, Optimal Energy, representing IL AG and NCLC  
Randy Opdyke, Nicor Gas  
Rohith Mannam, Nicor Gas  
Ron Siddle, CMC Energy  
Selena Worster Walde, Erthe Energy Solutions  
Sharon Mullen, Abacus Energy Works  
Stephen Robinson, Northwest Austin Council  
Sy Lewis, Meadows Eastside Community Resource Org.  
T. Walker, CLEAResult  
Tamika J. Cole, Walker-Miller Energy Services  
Ted Weaver, First Tracks Consulting, representing Nicor Gas  
Tim Dickison, Ameren Illinois  
Tina Grebner, Ameren Illinois  
Victoria Nielsen, Scott Madden  
Will Wilson, Leidos  
Zach Obert, Franklin Energy  
Zachary Froio, AEG  
Zoe Bottger, Elevate

### **Meeting Notes**

Follow-up indicated **in red**.

### **Opening & Introductions**

*Celia Johnson, SAG Facilitator*

### **Purpose of Meeting:**

1. For northern Illinois utilities to present an update on the joint multi-family EE program;
2. For ComEd to present a mid-year update on EE portfolio progress; and
3. For Nicor Gas to present a mid-year update on EE portfolio progress.

### **Northern Illinois Multi-Family EE Program Update**

*Kara Jonas, ComEd; Eve Pytel and Dorothy Vil Trent, Franklin Energy; Amy Jewel and Zoe Bottger, Elevate Energy*

- **Purpose:** For northern Illinois utilities to present an update on the joint multi-family EE program.
- **Materials:** [Northern Illinois Multi-Family Energy Savings Presentation](#)

### **Introduction**

- Before 2022, ComEd, Nicor Gas, Peoples Gas & North Shore Gas had separate multi-family offerings. We did a lot of work in past years to consolidate the various offerings into one comprehensive program. This is the first time we have presented a specific

multi-family update since the program design changed. We will also be sharing the impact and results to date.

- Agenda – 1) Program Overview; 2) Customer Journey; and 3) Special Initiatives
- Information about how we engage with contractors and other groups

#### Multi-Family Energy Savings

- Provides free products and rebates for projects to save money and energy at MF properties. These incentives or free improvements for weatherization, lighting, HVAC and more are available to qualifying properties.
- Eligibility – 3 or more units and be served by ComEd, Nicor Gas, Peoples Gas or North Shore Gas
- Franklin Energy is the prime implementing contractor for additional details about the implementers involved, see slide 4
- Of the 106 contractors, 26% are diverse business enterprises
- This program is a one-stop-shop for all residential facilities with 3 or more units seeking EE assistance
- Goal is to reduce energy burden regardless of income or need for electric, gas or joint EE measures
- Three program paths (see slide 5)
  - Income Eligible
  - Public Housing
  - Market Rate
- Eligibility (see slide 6)
- Incentive Levels (slide 7)
  - IL Home Weatherization Assistance Program (IHWAP) can in some cases serve properties that are public housing.
  - We budget significant funds for health and safety (H&S). H&S is often required to pursue EE programs. In 2023, over \$4 million has been used for H&S.
  - This table also includes true kWh (over 28 million for ComEd) and therms for ComEd, Nicor Gas, Peoples Gas & North Shore Gas

#### Customer Journey

- Many customers become aware of the program through direct outreach, advertisements, or word of mouth
- Customers can either call the program or use the online multi-family portal ([www.multifamilyportal.com](http://www.multifamilyportal.com))
- Through the portal, customers enter information about their building, and then we call them to get them scheduled for an energy assessment
- There are more than 30 measure types, in four larger categories: 1) weatherization; 2) electric; 3) health and safety; and 4) gas
- All of the weatherization measures are free to participants
- Lighting is upgraded to LEDs – exit signs, linear fluorescent, outdoor lighting, etc.
- Gas saving measures range from boiler tune-ups and pipe insulation, to more complex upgrades
- Health & safety funding supports the elimination of health and safety issues before EE work is performed
- 6-flat building project example, heated with a steam boiler (slide 10)
- Comprehensive project example (slide 11)

*Karen Lusson: What kind of free incentives are available to building owners, for income eligible MF? What % requires financing?*

- *Eve Pytel: Most measures do not require co-pays for income eligible. Weatherization has to be free. There are very few measures that would require a co-pay for income eligible. For example, high cost capital projects – such as a boiler. We can provide in follow-up a report-out of measures that would require a co-pay.*

*Karen Lusson: Can you describe what happens with the gas company involvement when ComEd identifies a building as a good candidate for electric ASHPs? Does the gas company walk away? Can you walk us through that process?*

- *Zoe Bottger: In the assessment, we are looking for opportunities that save both gas and electric. From a customer experience perspective, it is seamless if a customer is interested in an electric air source heat pump.*
- *Eve Pytel: The heat pump program is currently restricted to those with electric heat. The MF program is not fuel switching for that reason.*
- *Kara Jonas: We have a separate offering (“Go Electric” is the current name), where both SF and MF properties are a good fit. In that offering we have a demonstrate a positive bill impact. This is a very targeted offering, handled by that separate offering.*
- *Laura Goldberg: How is the MFES program connected to the separate Go Electric offering? Is there a referral process? Interested in better understanding that connection.*
- *Kara Jonas: There is a referral process from other EE programs to the electrification-specific program. The electrification program is heavily targeted, because we want to engage potential customers that will benefit from electrification. That generally means customers are identified through “customer reach-backs” for customers that have been served by other EE programs.*

*Chris Neme: For the A/C replacements planned for 2024, are those central A/C or window A/C? Central A/C is costly.*

- *Zoe Bottger: I think it is window A/C units, but we will check and follow-up.*

*Phil Mosenthal: It looks like you have been spending about 10% on health and safety. The statute says 15%. Has any funding been reallocated to make sure the health and safety budget is spent?*

- *Kara Jonas: Some of that statutory requirement is specific to ComEd. That is a budget across the ComEd EE portfolio. There are other EE programs that have health & safety budgets as well. We do anticipate spending the 15% in 2023 while including the other EE programs.*
- *Phil Mosenthal: You mentioned that most measures are free – that includes common area measures too?*
- *Zoe Bottger: Yes. However, the mechanical equipment upgrades typically have a co-pay.*

**IL Home Weatherization Assistance Program (IHWAP) Partnership**

- Utilities match IHWAP funding to enable air sealing, attic and wall insulation, HVAC repair or replacement, water heater repair or replacement, lighting and refrigerators, ventilation and health and safety
- Example of a typical project at the Chicago Housing Authority Dearborn Apartments – measures included air sealing, water conservation, lighting improvements, heating plant improvements and health and safety

*Karen Lusson: For the utility-only weatherization program, how do you make sure you are not serving a building that was going to be served by IHWAP?*

- *Eve Pytel: We have both the public housing program and the IHWAP program. The IHWAP program may be active in both income eligible areas, and public housing areas. We have coordination meetings with the IHWAP program teams and public housing. We don't want to create a situation where we are confusing agencies. We also do assessments. In that assessment, they are able to see if there was previous work. We also work directly with customers and get an understanding of building history. For CEDA, we meet with them almost monthly, including specific plans. We also coordinate with other agencies.*

#### Operational Efficiency Overview

- This is a new offering in the Multi-Family Energy Savings Program
- This is meant to empower MF property owners to reduce energy consumption by changing behaviors
- Examples – coaching the building staff on energy efficient behaviors leading to energy savings
- Resident Energy Champions receive training on identifying energy savings opportunities, by being paired with an energy coach; they receive stipends for program participation

*Chris Neme: Does this also include tenant education? What are the different kinds of things being covered?*

- *Dorothee Vil Trent: There are two opportunities – 1) staff for buildings, for various opportunities for the building and 2) tenant level. For #2, the Resident Energy Champions attend a series of workshops, and host events to encourage their fellow tenants to take on some of the energy savings behaviors. The plan is to adopt this in every building recruited to be part of this co-hort.*
- *Chris Neme: Do you have any plans to assess the energy savings?*
- *Dorothee Vil Trent: At this point we are focusing on building this so the program can be evaluated.*
- *Kara Jonas: This is a new initiative, funded by ComEd for this year. We are testing it out. It is applying the successful model of strategic energy management to the MF sector.*
- *Karen Lusson: Can you elaborate on how the stipends work? How much per energy champion? Do you track and record energy savings through this program?*
  - *Dorothee vil Trent: The monthly stipend amount is being finalized, and there is a set of checklist requirements. Yes, there is an energy savings value and we will be tracking it.*
  - *Karen Lusson: Can you send those answers (stipend amount and valuation of savings) as a follow-up to SAG so we have a better understanding of how savings are tracked through this program?*
- *Cassidy Kraimer: Is there a set of curricula for these workshops, or events for tenants and/or Resident Energy Champions?*
  - *Dorothee vil Trent: Yes.*
- *Julie Hollensbe: Much of the future/expansion considerations for the Multi-Family Operational Efficiency offering will be based on evaluation results.*
- *Keely Hughes: Are there any incentives, or the tenants in the building to get them excited or engaged? Are the residents getting anything for signing up?*
  - *Dorothee Vil Trent: This is something we can take into consideration.*

- *Keely Hughes: This is being done similarly in Indiana, the property manager is giving rebates back to the tenants winning a competition on energy savings. This has been very successful.*
- *Carrie Malfeo: Can you confirm you do not need to participate in the MFES offering to get into this new offering? Is it possible to sign up?*
  - *Dorothee Vil Trent: There is no requirement to participate in MFES in order to qualify for the Operational Efficiency offering.*
  - *Follow-up on how buildings can sign up to participate.*

#### Heat Pump Initiative

- Heat pumps are fully subsidized.
- For the income eligible MF offering, 621 heat pumps have been installed so far in 2023, savings 8.5 million kWh.
- For the public housing MF offering, 48 heat pumps have been installed
- This initiative includes a lot of QA/QC and resident engagement. We can follow-up with additional information.

*Chris Neme: Can you confirm these are ductless mini split heat pumps?*

- *Eve Pytell: Mostly – a few are not. We can follow-up with more information.*

#### **Follow-up items from Northern Illinois Multi-Family Energy Savings Presentation:**

1. Provide a list of measures that would require a co-pay in the Multi-Family Energy Savings Program.
2. Check on whether the A/C replacements planned for 2024 are central A/C or window A/C units.
3. Provide the requirements for participants in the Operational Efficiency offering.
4. Provide the stipend amount and information on savings for the Operational Efficiency offering.
5. Provide additional information on the heat pump initiative (in response to a stakeholder question about how many installed were ductless mini split heat pumps).
6. Provide information on how buildings can sign up to participate in the Operational Efficiency initiative.
7. Question shared following the meeting: What reporting are is being used to demonstrate the effectiveness of their one-stop shop/consolidated MF offerings currently? With the process changing next year, are there plans to measure the outcomes from this change?

### **ComEd Mid-Year EE Portfolio Progress Update**

*Molly Lunn, ComEd*

- **Purpose:** For ComEd to present a mid-year update on EE portfolio progress.
- **Materials:** [ComEd Quarterly Update Presentation \(November 2023\)](#)

#### Near, Medium and Long-Term ComEd Challenges

- Annual and cumulative goals are increasingly difficult to achieve
- There are a wide range of factors impacting the ComEd EE portfolio
  - Economic conditions and resulting increase in \$/kWh
  - Increasing amounts of expiring savings
  - Significant drop-offs in low-cost savings opportunities (due to EISA, voltage optimization, and C&I lighting market saturation)
- Other utilities across the country are in a similar situation – we are hopeful we can work collectively to overcome some of these challenges

- At the beginning of 2023, we were on track to meet CPAS and AAIG, and 2024 and 2025 were at risk, but we have been able to ramp down the \$/kWh of programs where costs had gone up due to market conditions, this improved cost effectiveness by 2 cents. We also reduced the 2023 forecast by \$17 million, to help with projected savings gaps in 2024 and 2025.

#### 2023 Portfolio Summary through Q3

- For electrification savings, per CEJA, 25% of the savings has to come from income eligible households. Because the cost is so high, more than 25% of the budget is going to low income households. Because we can only afford so much of this expensive work, we have to slow down the non-income eligible electrification.

*Phil Mosenthal: Is there a constraint on how much you can rollover one year to the next?*

- *Molly Lunn: Yes, it's 10%. Since our budget is \$400, we have the ability to rollover \$40 million. It looks like we will be rolling over about \$17 million.*
- *Phil Mosenthal: One strategy could be to do more low income multifamily electrification.*

*Chris Neme: The federal (Inflation Reduction Act) rebates could defray ComEd's costs. I understand these are not available yet. Are you anticipating the challenge with the cost of low income electrification to benefit from the federal rebates? There are other IRA funds available today.*

- *Molly Lunn: Yes, that is a possibility.*

#### Medium-Term 2024-2025 Forecast

- For 2024, we are at just about 100% of CPAS and AAIG achievement.
- 2025 presents significant savings challenges. A lot of this is because of expiring savings. We are actively looking at closure opportunities; continuing to bring down that \$/kWh, especially for income eligible EE electrification. We are trying to be very strategic about where we are putting non-incentive dollars, and shifting to incentive dollars where possible.
- ComEd is looking at the new NTG 1.0 opportunity for disadvantaged communities.
- Braiding other funding – both IRA and City of Chicago funding
- Currently working with the state of Illinois on retrofit and electrification EE rebates regarding braiding / coordination. We have been meeting with them since Q1, and in December all utilities are meeting to help inform the Illinois EPA plan to be submitted.

*Karen Lusson: How much of the state's allocated IRA rebate program dollars (\$263.67 million) will ComEd and other utilities (Ameren) be asking be incorporated into their programs? Can you be specific about your "ask" of the state energy office?*

- *Molly Lunn: This is the state of IL's plan. We have told the state we would love to braid with EE funds. All of the IL utilities are engaging with the IL EPA. I'm not sure the IL program will be ready to 2024, but likely by 2025.*
- *Karen Lusson: Can the Q&A with IL EPA be shared with SAG?*
- *Molly Lunn: This may depend on what the questions look like, but we are happy to share as much as we can.*
- *Chris Neme: Beyond the tax credits and IRA, is ComEd also looking at other funding opportunities?*
  - *Molly Lunn: Yes, we are looking at other opportunities. For Green and Resilient Funding, I am aware of it. Will review this suggestion with the ComEd team. It is*



*a heavy lift to be the lead application. The IL Finance Authority is also coordinating with DOE on a revolving loan fund. We talked with them earlier this year about potential opportunities for public sector customers in disadvantaged communities. They submitted a funding application, but unsure what the status is.*

- *Chris Neme: I encourage other partners to consider the Green and Resilient Funding opportunity – there is a lot of funding available, and a short amount of time to leverage the funding.*
- *Cassidy Kraimer: There are 3 different pots of money. One of them is specific to property owners. This involves a HUD certified contractor to walk through the building.*

#### Business and Public Sector Highlights

- Small Business (private and public) – fully reserved by the end of Q3, including more than \$20 million in incentives for disadvantaged communities. This program has worked on increasing the share of non-lighting measures. Working to complete projects in 2023, and working on the 2024 project pipeline.
- Standard (private and public) – there is a strong project pipeline in Q1/Q2
- Midstream / Upstream – the fork truck incentive was added in Q2 and had very strong demand, became fully subscribed in Q3
- Retro-Commissioning – 36 projects completed this year in disadvantaged communities. We have also initiated work with the Chicago Dept. of Aviation, working on implementing a project at Midway. We are hoping to enroll O'Hare in 2024.
- Custom – First electrification project completed in Q2. Working on process improvements to improve uptake for customers.
- Industrial Systems – We are hoping to grow this part of the portfolio. We had a roundtable with service providers, we have engaged two additional service providers, created a new payment option, and coordinated with the Cook County BRITE program.
- Commercial Food Service – We saw growth in demand controlled kitchen ventilation units. This helped with savings and increased cost-effectiveness.

#### Residential and Income Eligible Highlights

- Home Energy Savings
  - Income Eligible Retrofits – We have a new service provider, Comfort 1<sup>st</sup>.
  - Assessments transitioned to a new vendor, Utility Energy Services, an MBE. Serving both customers with in-home and virtual Home Energy Assessments.
- Whole Home Electrification
  - Single Family and Multifamily
  - Focusing in Q4 on reaching back to customers served with weatherization that are a good fit for electrification
- Our health and safety numbers are very good for this year. We feel like we have hit our stride with health and safety. (see slide 10)
- Heating and Cooling – We are seeing strong demand. Incentives include air source heat pumps, mini split heat pumps, smart t-stats, central A/C. However, as of July 1<sup>st</sup>, ComEd discontinued the central A/C rebate.
- Retail (Market Rate and Income Eligible) – Enhanced efforts to serve IE customers with higher post purchase rebates on various Energy Star products.

*Karen Lusson: How does “income eligible retrofits” differ from the “assessments” program?*

- *Molly Lunn: The assessments program includes traditional assessments, either a walk through or virtual assessment, for both market rate (non-income eligible) and income eligible. Income eligible customers get a larger number of measures.*
- *Kara Jonas: We are evolving the program design for 2024.*

*Karen Lusson: How does ComEd avoid conflicts between the retrofit program and other offerings?*

- *Julie Hollensbe: There are a lot of programs we are able to do through the retail channel – there are measures that are pretty unique and outside the EE retrofit program. We try to make sure customers are aware there are free opportunities for income eligible in the EE retrofit program.*

Research & Development Highlight (Pauravi Shah)

- “Go Electric” – online customer and contractor educational resource, focused on heat pumps
- This is to educate customers and contractors on the latest technology, including its suitability for customer homes and installation best practices
- There is a savings calculator, to help ComEd customers understand bill impacts (this is a CEJA requirement)
- Screen shot (slide 15) of savings calculator, for operational cost savings
  - Phase 1 of the calculator will estimate cost savings
  - Phase 2 will expand cost savings estimation to include payback
- Savings Calculator Results (slide 16)
- Phase 2 “Go Electric Development”
  - We have ongoing usability research to better understand the user experience on the website.
  - The next phase in 2024, we will be incorporating user feedback, adding information on heat pumps, as well as additional electrification measures
  - There are training opportunities and resources for contractors – online modules
  - We are conducting in-person training in the fall shoulder season – contractors are very busy in the winter and summer

*Karen Lusson: Can you identify how much of the approximately \$100 million annually that ComEd is supposed to be spending on income eligible (IE) programs has been spent for 2023? And same question for IE weatherization budgets for 2023?*

- *A: See Tab 1 of the ComEd Q3 report spreadsheet: [ComEd 2023 Q3 Spreadsheet](#)*

## **Nicor Gas Mid-Year EE Portfolio Progress Update**

*Mike King, Nicor Gas*

- **Purpose:** For Nicor Gas to present a mid-year update on EE portfolio progress
- **Materials:** [Nicor Gas Quarterly Update Presentation \(November 2023\)](#)

EE Portfolio Impacts

- \$252 million incentives since 2011
- 219 million first year therms saved since 2011
- 1.33 million customers in 643 communities have participated
- \$2.02 billion in economic activity spurred since 2011

Karen Lusson: What is the breakdown on spend on IE weatherization since 2011?

- Nicor Gas will follow-up

#### Federal Coordination Update

- We have been in contact with IL EPA on engagement with federal (Inflation Reduction Act) funding. We may not be able to share the Q&A the utilities will share with IL EPA due to state procurement requirements.

#### Stipulation Update (see slide 4)

- \$31.9 million spent on total EE budget, EE budget is \$45.7 million per year
- \$11 million income eligible spend; 31.68% MF, 68.32% SF
- \$10.5 million income eligible spend on whole building retrofits
- 13.06 weighted average measure life
- \$14.55 million Tier 1 diverse spend
- \$5.31 million Tier 2 diverse spend
- 87.8% of total eligible spend

#### Portfolio Summary for 2023

- 7.55 million net savings to date
- 53.5% of planned savings
- 14.1 million annual savings goal
- \$31.9 million spend to date
- 69.7% of planned spend

Chris Neme: Is Nicor Gas concerned about not getting to targets at the end of the year, or is this a typical annual cycle?

- Kari McCue: We are anticipating meeting the 2023 savings goal and 2023 spend target.

#### Residential Programs Update

- 5 programs
- 3.24 million net therm savings to date
- \$7.93 million spend to date
- Key Highlights
  - We expect to provide rebates for about 11,000 furnaces this year.
  - For the Air Sealing and Insulation program, we have served 339 homes in the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter, about 72 more homes than what the offering achieved this time last year.
  - Residential New Construction program anticipated to complete just over 2,100 homes in 2023.
  - Addition of gas heat pumps represents a significant innovation milestone.
  - In 2023, we have served over 35,000 customers.

Chris Neme: For Air Sealing and Insulation, is this tracking to the stipulation requirement? Does this target include both SF and MF?

- A: Our stipulation is 1,850 per year. We are track to be over 2,000 for 2023. Correct, this includes both SF and MF.

#### Business Programs Update

- 5 programs
- 5.76 net therm savings to date, by the end of Q3

- \$10.1 million spent to date
- Key Highlights
  - Addition of gas heat pump projects to the Custom Program pipeline
  - Collaborating with Cook County
  - Completed 14 C&I projects in Q3 – 12 were private sector and 2 were public sector

#### Income Eligible Programs Update

- 3 programs
- 1.06 million net therm savings to date
- \$11 million spent to date
- Key Highlights
  - DeKalb Housing Authority completed projects totaling \$152,000 in incentives through Q3
  - SF Retrofits offering served 832 SF customers through Q3; this has been successful due to partnerships with 21 community-based organizations
  - SF and MF direct install to comprehensive project conversion rate is 85% and 80%

#### Innovation and Engagement

- Emerging Technology 2023 TRM Submissions
  - Insulated Concrete Forms – this is a new type of building structure; the inside is filled with concrete, making the home almost 100% air tight. Coordinating with ComEd to introduce to the residential new construction program.
    - Sector – residential new construction
  - Tankless Water Heater Array – on demand water heater system, using an array of tankless water heating units to increase the overall system capacity and reduce standby heat losses. Units are spec'd to the building demand.
    - Sector – commercial

*Chris Neme: Does the tankless water heater array include MF buildings with central heating?*

- *A: Yes, that would also qualify.*

#### Market Development Initiative Curriculum / Recap

- Workforce Training Overview
  - Focused on increasing the delivery of EE funds to underserved and disadvantaged communities
  - Enhancing the participation of local and diverse talent at all levels of the EE workforce
  - Included on the job and classroom training, and virtual webinars
  - We graduated our first skilled cohort on August 14<sup>th</sup>.
- TAD Overview
  - Recruiting, training, supporting, developing and mentoring a diverse group of 10 contractors
  - Focus on technical assistance in diverse certification process, back-office support, business resources and funding for industry certifications
  - First cohort graduation will be in Q4

### Energy Efficiency Program Advertising Campaign

- Earlier in 2023, this new EE program campaign includes TV, radio, print and digital advertising.
- Our philosophy is there is something for everyone in our EE offerings.

### Community Connection Center

- 2023 was a very busy year
- 59 community events held – income eligible, market rate, three grocery and resource fairs, senior citizen focused, and veteran focused

*Karen Lusson: Does Nicor Gas include information at the C3 fairs on how people can get late fees and deposits waived as income eligible customers? (There's a form they can fill out that Nicor offers...)*

- *John Mansfield: We have staff from our Customer Care Center at the grocery resource fairs. This is information shared with customers.*
- *Karen Lusson: Kudos to Nicor Gas as the only utility that allows customers to self-certify. Suggests that form should also be available at fair tables.*

*Sy Lewis: Do you use smaller community-based organizations in the communities we are visiting?*

- *John Mansfield: Yes. We coordinate with local CBOs. We have an event coordinator.*
- *Sy Lewis: If a local community organization would like to get involved, how would they do that?*
- *Reach out to John Mansfield, Nicor Gas ([jomansfi@southernco.com](mailto:jomansfi@southernco.com))*

## **Closing and Next Steps**

*Celia Johnson, SAG Facilitator*

### **Follow-up items from Northern Illinois Multi-Family Energy Savings Presentation:**

1. Provide a list of measures that would require a co-pay in the Multi-Family Energy Savings Program.
2. Check whether A/C replacements planned for 2024 are central A/C or window A/C units.
3. Provide the requirements for participants in the Operational Efficiency offering.
4. Provide the stipend amount and information on savings for the Operational Efficiency offering.
5. Provide additional information on the heat pump initiative (in response to a stakeholder question about how many installed were ductless mini split heat pumps).
6. Provide information on how buildings can sign up to participate in the Operational Efficiency initiative.
7. Question shared following the meeting: What reporting are is being used to demonstrate the effectiveness of their one-stop shop/consolidated MF offerings currently? With the process changing next year, are there plans to measure the outcomes from this change?

**ComEd Midyear EE Update Presentation:** No follow-up items.

### **Nicor Gas Midyear EE Update Presentation:**

1. Provide the breakdown on Nicor Gas spend on income eligible weatherization since 2011.
2. If any community organizations are interested in getting involved with Nicor Gas community engagement efforts, reach out to John Mansfield: [jomansfi@southernco.com](mailto:jomansfi@southernco.com)