

Illinois EE Stakeholder Advisory Group Large Group Meeting

Wednesday, April 13, 2022

9:30 am – 12:30 pm

Teleconference

Attendees and Meeting Notes

Meeting Materials

- Posted on the [April 13 meeting page](#):
 - [Wednesday, April 13 SAG Agenda](#)
 - [ComEd 2022-2025 Evaluation Plan Presentation](#) and [Evaluation Plan Matrix \(Excel\)](#)
 - [Nicor Gas 2022-2025 Evaluation Plan Presentation](#)
 - [Peoples Gas & North Shore Gas 2022-2025 Evaluation Plan Presentation](#)

Attendees (by webinar)

Celia Johnson, SAG Facilitator
Samarth Medakkar, Midwest Energy Efficiency Alliance (MEEA) – Meeting Support
Abigail Miner, IL Attorney General's Office
Adam Knickelbein, Guidehouse
Allen Dusault, Franklin Energy
Alvyn Walker, Leave No Veteran Behind
Amir Haghghat, CLEAResult
Andrew Cottrell, Applied Energy Group
Andrey Gribovich, DNV
Andy Vaughn, Ameren Illinois
Antonia Ornelas, Elevate
Arvind Singh, DNV
Barb Ryan, Applied Energy Group
Billy Davis, JitneyEV
Bradley Campbell, Opinion Dynamics
Brian A'Hearn, CLEAResult
Carla Walker-Miller, Walker-Miller Energy Services
Charles Ampong, Guidehouse
Christina Pagnusat, Peoples Gas & North Shore Gas
Chris Vaughn, Nicor Gas
Claire Flaherty, Cascade Energy
Cliff Haefke, Energy Resources Center, UIC
Cynthia Segura, Citizens Utility Board
Deb Dynako, Slipstream
Demi Charalab, Franklin Energy
Dena Jefferson, Franklin Energy
Dustin Bailey, Guidehouse
Erin Daughton, ComEd
Ethan Barquest, Verdant Associates
Greg Walker, Walker-Miller Energy Services
Haley Keegan, Resource Innovations

Hameed Yusuf, Resource Innovations
Hannah Collins, Leidos
Jake Fuller, Ecometric Consulting
Jane Colby, Apex Analytics
Jayden Wilson, Opinion Dynamics
Jean Gibson, Peoples Gas & North Shore Gas
Jeff Erickson, Guidehouse
Jennifer Fagan, Verdant Associates
Jennifer Morris, ICC Staff
Jenny George, Ameren Illinois
Jim Dillon, Ameren Illinois
Jim Fay, ComEd
Jim Jerozal, Nicor Gas
Julia Friedman, Oracle
Kalee Whitehouse, VEIC (IL-TRM Administrator)
Karen Lusson, National Consumer Law Center
Katherine Elmore, Community Investment Corp.
Keith Goerss, Ameren Illinois
Ken Woolcutt, Ameren Illinois
Kevin Grabner, Guidehouse
Kumar Chittory, Verdant Associates
Laura Pettersen, Resource Innovations
Lawrence Kotewa, Elevate
Lorelei Obermeyer, CLEARResult
Mark Milby, ComEd
Martha White, Nicor Gas
Mary Thony, Guidehouse
Max Michelotti, Power Takeoff
Micchael Pittman, Ameren Illinois
Michael Caldie, Walker-Miller Energy Services
Molly Graham, MEEA
Nate Yemm, Leidos
Neb Kistic, CLEARResult
Neil Curtis, Guidehouse
Nishant Mehta, Guidehouse
Omy Garcia, Peoples Gas & North Shore Gas
Patricia Plympton, Guidehouse
Paul Wasmund, Opinion Dynamics
Randy Gunn, Tierra Resource Consultants
Randy Opdyke, Nicor Gas
Rebecca McNish, ComEd
Rick Tonielli, ComEd
Rohith Mannam, Nicor Gas
Ryan Kroll, Driftless Energy
Sagar Phalke, Guidehouse
Shonika Vohra, Recurve
Sophie Berne, Guidehouse
Steve Robinson, Northwest Austin Council
Susan Buck, ComEd
Sy Lewis, Meadows Eastside Community Resource Organization
Tamika Cole, Walker-Miller Energy Services

Tara Cunningham, Rinnai
Taso Tsiganos, IL Attorney General's Office
Ted Weaver, First Tracks Consulting, on behalf of Nicor Gas
Thomas Manjarres, Peoples Gas & North Shore Gas
Vincent Gutierrez, ComEd
Wisit Kumphai, ComEd

Opening & Introductions

Celia Johnson, SAG Facilitator

Purpose of April 13th meeting:

- For the ComEd, Nicor Gas, Peoples Gas and North Shore Gas evaluators to provide an overview of the draft evaluation plans (EM&V work plans) for the 2022 program year, and 2022-2025 evaluation activities, prior to sharing the written draft plans with SAG for comment.

Reminder:

- SAG held a meeting on February 22 which focused on Ameren IL's evaluation plan.
- SAG Facilitator will post draft evaluation plans on the website and circulate for comment when they are available (anticipated mid-May).

ComEd Evaluation Plan

Jeff Erickson, Guidehouse

- Overview of evaluation plan schedule
- For next year's program, Guidehouse anticipates following the normal schedule (tee-up in December, prior to evaluation year)
- Shared restructured ComEd portfolio
- Combined residential and IE (income eligible) programs; table shows structure and portion of budget
- Structure of evaluation for Business Programs, residential & IE Programs, and Pilots & Market Transformation (MT) Programs
- Business
 - Incentives: Different evaluation based on customer's path (standard vs custom projects)
 - Targeted systems: Will use different sampling for how customers go through program
- Residential and Income Eligible
 - Now combined; more change than on the business side. ComEd consolidated 20 or programs from this portfolio into 7. Evaluator will prepare separate evaluation reports for each program. They will differentiate savings between market-rate and income eligible.
 - They will have different evaluation methods based on how customer enter into program. See retail/Online program evaluation notes, for example.
- Pilots and MT Programs
 - For pilots and initiatives with expected savings in 2022, evaluator will treat these programs the same as business and residential; will discuss how reports look with ComEd, but impact evaluation will be treated the same
 - For exploratory pilots and initiatives, evaluator will provide research support
- Program-Level Research – Activities and Timelines

- Final impact report due by April 30 of each year; Total Resource Cost test (TRC) report due June 30
 - Net to Gross final values due October 1
 - Research results presented as completed
- Overview of impact evaluation approaches
- Example of Four-Year Evaluation Timeline – [See spreadsheet](#)
- Evaluation for Pilots and Market Transformation
 - Appendix C of IL-TRM spells out method for MT programs evaluation; Guidehouse is engaged in discussion with ComEd about 10 year evaluation plan for ENERGY STAR retail products platform; by definition these programs require longer period to see savings
- Special Topics Research – Cross-program evaluation
- NTG Evaluation Timeline
 - Working toward more real-time evaluation for residential, aligned when customers participate.
 - For non-res new construction – we do a survey on a rolling basis, when customers enroll into program
 - Custom programs are treated similarly; rolling survey, sampled for impact purposes in three buckets – large, medium and small savings programs. This work is ongoing; will be reported out this year
 - We tend not to do evaluation until pilots reach viability. As is the case with any new program, we do research of secondary information (default NTG value to be used in impact evaluation going forward)
- Research activities and timeline
 - Ductless mini-spilt hear pumps, Compressed air leak repair EUL, IE Multifamily, Business energy analyzer EUL
- Multifamily research activities
 - Purpose is to lead development of increased IE MF program participation, executing stipulation agreement requirements for evaluation of customer engagement and targeted EE efforts
 - Combination of stakeholder interviews and non-participant interviews, and best-practice research. To deliver findings and recommendations to increase participation.
- PJM reporting support
 - Capacity resource reporting to PJM – how much ComEd nominates for energy efficiency as a resource. Shared approach and timing. February to July on annual basis.
- Non- Energy Impacts
 - We have researched ComEd’s non-energy impacts (NEIs) for a few years now. Status update: We have a methodology proven for economic and employment report, now due April 30 for CEJA (we use IMPLAN for this) and draft report is available on the Sag website – we invite comments and feedback.
 - We are in our 3rd year of conducting societal health impacts and 2nd year of including those in annual TRC report. We use best available information and methodology (EPA). We also produce a memo, available in May, for PY 2021.
 - We are looking at benefits that accrue to residents of SF and MF homes which have received air sealing, insulation and HVAC upgrades – reduced asthma, arthritis and thermal stress symptoms and associated medical costs. On a parallel path, we are measuring the benefits accrued to building owners –

quantifying and monetizing benefits associated reduced maintenance, thermal complaints, tenant turnover, among others. Shared when results will be available.

- Evaluation Coordination
 - TBD which programs are joint given ComEd restructured their portfolio

Nicor Gas Evaluation Plan

Kevin Grabner, Guidehouse

- Unlike ComEd, programs are largely structured and grouped the same. There have been some changes to initiative within some programs, but the programs that were offered in the previous portfolio cycle are active and continuing in this cycle.
- Program-level research
 - MT is newer in this cycle. Began in previous cycle with exploring various initiative. Evaluators advise on these statewide initiatives, and we will move into research and verification of implemented initiatives once they launch
 - IE process evaluation is done largely jointly – targeting program outreach and delivery
- Portfolio-level research
 - TRM Update process and future updates to be supported with research
 - NEIs: Gas companies have been able to extend research done for electric utilities to gas utilities, including economic impacts model. We plan to do model development with Nicor Gas. Joint research on societal impacts – most extended to gas utilities.
 - Annual reporting
 - Collaboration – significant collaboration with ComEd on joint programs
- Key activities for 2022
 - Program-level and portfolio-level
- Program-Level Research
 - Gross, NTG Research, and Process and Other Research
 - See presentation slides for timing, methodology and approach

Discussion

[Shonika Vohra] What is consumption-based model work? Meter level data analysis?

[Kevin Grabner] It is meter level – on the gas side it is monthly energy bill data. Monthly billing records 2 years before and 2 years after (ideally) to see what impacts are. For single projects, we look for two-years before the project and the handful of months following the project.

[Shonika Vohra] Is there a non-participant group baseline?

[Kevin Grabner] For some, for population studies there are control groups. For HERs, there are non-participants that are selected in the randomized control design.

Impact Evaluation Timeline for 2022 Program

- Engineers review measures
- Sampling custom projects after Q2 – two waves of surveys
- End of year program level impacts in 2023 for 2022 programs
- Complete cost and savings reporting in Q3 2022
- Parallel Path Review evaluation can occur at any point

- Most programs in IE and residential are TRM-based. HERs is a randomized control of billing data.
- On business side, largely custom measurement and verification

NTG Evaluation Timeline (Wave 1)

- Slightly different than previous cycles; previously tended to do most of research in the same year where recommendations and results are reported. We are looking to move research and survey design earlier – Q3 prior to evaluation year.

Draft timeline of NTG research

- Color code indicates where values go into effect
- This will be laid out in evaluation plan

Market Transformation evaluation activities

- Evaluator role depends on maturity of initiative. In earlier stages, we provide advice and guidance. As initiative develops, we look to advise on savings protocol for initiatives that look more promising. Then move into evaluation.
- Discussed coordination with other utilities

Portfolio Level Topics; Evaluation Budget; Evaluation Coordination

Discussion

[Karen Lusson] Can you speak to coordination with Ameren?

[Kevin Grabner] We have a monthly meeting to coordinate on a statewide level. As they do studies, we coordinate when there are issues that come before the SAG. Includes policy questions, how to handle CHP, etc. We have been coordinating on NEIs – they had done some work on model development. We have been working towards a statewide model. We are also looking at statewide research – non-participant spillover study – and we are looking at potentially extending this to the gas utilities. We also coordinate on methodology – application of TRM protocol survey instruments.

Peoples Gas and North Shore Gas Evaluation Plan

Kevin Grabner, Guidehouse

Overview

- This evaluation plan is almost identical to Nicor Gas. Therefore, we won't go into the same level of detail. We can discuss highlights and areas of discussion.
- Similar to Nicor Gas, Peoples Gas and North Shore Gas programs are largely the same as previous cycles. Adjustments made to initiatives and programs, but groups are the same.
- Budgets between sectors are similar – Peoples Gas has a large multifamily and Income Eligible sectors compared with North Shore Gas, and North Shore Gas has a large focus on the residential side.

Introduction to 2022-25 Evaluation

- Program-level research is the same as Nicor. Following similar strategy and approach to evaluating MT and Income Eligible.
- Gas companies are on the same timeline as ComEd – plans will be available on May 13

- Overview of 2022-25 Evaluation activities
- Impact Evaluation Timeline – same as Nicor Gas
- Peoples Gas and North Shore Portfolio Impact Evaluation
- NTG Timelines (same as Nicor Gas)
- Draft Timeline for Research
- Market Transformation Evaluation
 - Initiatives being developed for triple-pane windows; evaluators are helping developing elements of saving protocol. Our role will get more intense as the initiative comes together.

Discussion

[Karen Lusson] Is Guidehouse looking at how well the Income Eligible programs are reaching customers whose billing suggests that they are struggling to pay their bills? Stipulations for all utilities included this agreement to reach customers who are struggling the most. Is this on the agenda to examine?

[Kevin Grabner] The general question of outreach and participation in the Income Eligible sector is in the agenda for this cycle. It's a process that we're working on internally between the evaluation teams for the utilities. This is an area as we do the draft plan that we'll be coordinating on – identifying those specific areas that utilities have in their stipulations. We'll be looking at how to identify what those needs are and how we can fit that together between ComEd and Gas utilities. It's a work in progress.

[Jeff Erickson] We are engaged in conversations about that. We are currently planning for this research.

Evaluation Budget

- Higher proportion of PG/NSG evaluation budgets go into impact evaluation. Custom samples are the same size as electric companies. These aspects of the evaluation take up a larger proportion – as we allocate the budget, we prioritize meeting requirements for savings and ICC-ordered SAG input.

Evaluation Coordination

- Joint research
- Similar with impact evaluation, sometimes it's efficient to combine into a single report, and sometimes it's less efficient. This is done on a case-by-case basis.
- Similar coordination issues across the utilities.

Closing and Next Steps

Celia Johnson, SAG Facilitator

- SAG Facilitator received feedback for evaluation teams: There is a need to coordinate between evaluators and the Income Qualified Advisory Committees, which are expected to re-launch this spring.
- Next Steps: Written draft evaluation plans for ComEd, Nicor Gas, Peoples Gas and North Shore Gas will be circulated for review and comment to SAG (anticipated on May 13).