

IL EE Stakeholder Advisory Group Large Group SAG Meeting

Wednesday, November 13, 2019
10:00 am – 12:00 pm

Teleconference

Attendee List and Meeting Notes

Attendees (by webinar)

Celia Johnson, SAG Facilitator
Samarth Medakkar, Midwest Energy Efficiency Alliance (MEEA) – Meeting Support
Laura Agapay-Read, Navigant
Matt Armstrong, Ameren Illinois
Brian Bowen, Uplight
David Bryant, No Organization
James Carlton, People for Community Recovery
Jane Colby, Cadmus Group
Andrew Cottrell, Applied Energy Group
Larry Dawson, IL Association of Community Action Agencies (IACAA)
Jeff Erickson, Navigant
Jason Fegley, Leidos
Omayra Garcia, Peoples Gas & North Shore Gas
Jean Gibson, Peoples Gas & North Shore Gas
Kevin Grabner, Navigant
Steve Greene, Bidgely
Randy Gunn, Navigant
Travis Hinck, GDS Associates
Jeff Ihnen, Michaels Energy
Ryan Kroll, Michaels Energy
John Lavallee, Leidos
Bruce Liu, Nicor Gas
Abigail Miner, IL Attorney General's Office
Zenia Montero, ICF
Jennifer Morris, ICC Staff
Phil Mosenthal, Optimal Energy, on behalf of IL Attorney General's Office
Chris Neme, Energy Futures Group, on behalf of NRDC
Rob Neumann, Navigant
Theo Okiro, Future Energy Enterprises
Randy Opdyke, Nicor Gas
Patricia Plympton, Navigant
Alberto Rincon, Future Energy Enterprises
Zach Ross, Opinion Dynamics
Erin Stitz, Applied Energy Group
Mark Szczygiel, Nicor Gas
Taso Tsiganos, IL Attorney General's Office
Andy Vaughn, Ameren Illinois
Ted Weaver, First Tracks Consulting, on behalf of Nicor Gas
Cate York, Citizens Utility Board

Chris Vaughn, Nicor Gas
Charles Ampong, Navigant
Janice Boman, Embertec
Ian Champ, CLEAResult
Ryan Curry, 360 Energy Group
Jan Harris, Navigant

Meeting Notes

Nicor Gas 2020 Evaluation Plan Kevin Grabner, Nicor Gas

Introductions

- Wrapping up PY4-6 evaluation reporting.
- Currently working on summary reporting and TRC calculation 2018.
- 2019 impact verification, NTG, process, other research.
- Since about half of the evaluation plan for gas utilities are joint with ComEd, Navigant will send out first draft on December 13th, generally after December 9th, which is when ComEd's 2020 evaluation plan draft is scheduled to be released.

2020 Evaluation Plan Overview

- There will be impact evaluations on all of the 2020 programs.
- One new program is Home Energy Reports, so this will be a new impact evaluation.
- Best efforts are made to complete draft gas utility impact reports by April 30th.
- Typically review NTG once every 4 years.
- There will be a joint survey in Q1 2020 on single family IHWAP participants, coordinated with Peoples Gas & North Shore Gas.
 - Phil Mosenthal: It would also be useful to interview delivery contractors and utility program staff. It is important to understand how well everyone is working together and whether there are ways to improve that. Customer participants won't have any knowledge of that.
 - Chris Neme: Agrees.
 - Kevin Grabner: We completed a focus group with Community Action Agencies in 2018 for single family. We also interviewed multi-family IHWAP providers. We don't have a plan to revisit those folks in 2020. This could be revisited in 2021.
- Non-energy impact analysis will begin for Nicor Gas, both on jobs impact modeling and secondary research. For secondary research, we are interested in looking at non-energy impacts in the income qualified sector. There is also a non-income qualified component.
 - Ted Weaver: For the past two planning cycles, we have used a 10% NEBs adder. This comes from an Iowa study. The new secondary research will help inform next steps on a future adder.
- Chris Neme: There are other single-family income qualified initiatives, from both gas companies and ComEd. We don't get a full picture from process analysis when we look at just one delivery stream. There are ways to optimize SF income qualified EE delivery and doing this analysis is valuable to the process evaluation. Even if it's in 2021 – conduct a process evaluation that's more holistic for both income qualified SF and MF program delivery.
 - **Navigant will discuss this between the Gas and Electric evaluation teams.**
- Reviewed 2020 Eval Activities & Timeline for Pilots & MT (See slide 7)

- Evaluating pilots and MT efforts when proposed or launched by Nicor if savings will be claimed.
- Reviewing baseline development of Food service.
- Emerging tech - as tech get closer to TRM, Navigant reviews the work papers, some are joint and some are just Nicor.
- Reviewed 2020 Evaluation Activities & Timeline for IQ (See slide 8)
 - Interim review in Q3
 - EOY impact evaluation
 - Process evaluation – completed Affordable housing new construction developers survey
 - Process evaluation – completed IHWAP single family CAA focus group and Interview
 - Currently SF IHWAP participant survey
- Reviewed portfolio research activities slide, some completed, some planned and some under constructions (See slide 9)
 - Energy savers kits have a survey.
 - Nicor identified air duct sealing participant research.
 - Joint efforts in the past with ComEd are changing in 2020. Nicor was interested in looking at what the impact of that change.
- Jennifer Morris: One or two gas measures are provisional measures in IL-TRM. Is additional research being done?
 - Research being done by Nicor through emerging tech.
 - Navigant involved in secondary engineering review.
 - Plan is to update the TRM to reflect this.
- Phil Mosenthal: Does NTG research occur in process evaluations?
 - Process research done in two parts – larger study which looked at participants, trade allies non part trade allies and manufacturers, PY 4-6 for steam traps.
 - Findings fed into NTG analysis.
 - Jennifer Morris: Elevate was planning to review steam trap evaluation and look at expanding facility types. Navigant and Elevate should coordinate. The goal is to have updates ready by May 15th.

Other Evaluation Efforts

- Custom gas measure EUL – gas companies don't have CPAS but they still do the analysis. Measure lifetime is still relevant on the gas side.
- As Navigant sees technologies not in the TRM, which is typical in custom projects, they will do secondary research to determine EUL.
- Billing analysis on the gas side of individual customers to analyze the gas impacts of bills.
- What size of a population needed to do a billing analysis?
 - Size of savings relative to population to come up with a sample size. Challenge is that neither of the gas utilities do many small business thermostats.
 - How many (small business) thermostats would it take to do an analysis? Is this measure being considered for expansion?
 - There's been uncertainty concern on what the savings are in that market.
 - Phil Monsenthal: I have seen data that there are a substantial number of small business customers that don't have programmable thermostats.
- NEI Secondary Research on IQ Programs
 - ComEd is working on the IQ market research. Opportunity here for gas to collect surveys on both gas and electric.

Evaluation Methods

- Impact evaluation annually for every program
- Reviewed breakdown of methodology by program.
- Phil Mosenthal: Given that a lot of the TRM driven research is about data verification and integrity – that's important to do, but is there any economic benefit to not treat them as individual programs, but a multi-program analysis instead? To the extent this could reduce costs, it would be valuable to look at.
 - A lot of TRM work is cross cutting.

Peoples Gas & North Shore Gas 2020 Evaluation Plan *Kevin Grabner, Navigant*

Introduction

- Same activities as Nicor Gas – wrapping up last steps on PY 4-6.
- Most effort in 2020 is impact evaluation and NTG research.
- One new effort are weatherization kits, so we will complete an impact evaluation.

2020 Evaluation Plan Overview

- IQ – number of process activities – 2019 IHWAP participants.
- Property owner and managers on the IEMS program, interviews with property managers.
- Wx kits distribution – survey and impact evaluation (2019 participants).
- Question: How are you doing NTG studies covering 2020 participants in 2020? Only participants from first half of the year?
 - Those interviews would happen in 2021 primarily survey development and sample preparation in 2020.
- Question: For all gas utilities– what impact evaluation are you doing for market transformation?
 - That would be in 2020 just for the food service program, to the extent that food service measure is going to have savings.
 - TBD whether commercial food service will be a resource acquisition or market transformation program (to be further discussed in 2020 in the SAG Market Transformation Savings Working Group meeting).
- Reviewed NTG and Process evaluation timeline for certain measures/programs
 - If savings will be claimed, evaluators get involved.
 - WX kits and IQ MF Rebates.
 - A number of activities for income qualified – affordable housing joint survey.
 - Good foundation for a holistic look at the IQ market once these two active studies are complete, they'll have all the pieces to put side by side.
 - Chris Neme: Did the surveys look at integration across delivery channels?
 - Yes, this came up in interviews.
- Reviewed research activities
 - Steam trap – joint.
 - PG & NSG doesn't see programmable thermostats as having a significant role.
- Job impact analysis needs to be completed.
- Budgets are tighter for PG & NSG and optimized where possible.
- Looking to expanding research studies as a portion of evaluation/
- Diversity spend was 3% in 2018 but 8% in 2019.

- Phil Mosenthal: Consider an SEM process evaluation. Also look at process evaluations as part of income qualified evaluations, including participant surveys of public housing work.
 - There has been some research on the process side by ComEd's evaluation for public housing.

Next Steps + Summary of Follow-Up Items

Nicor Gas, Peoples Gas & North Shore Gas Evaluation Plans: 2020 written draft evaluation plan will be available for review in December (anticipated Dec. 13th). SAG Facilitator will circulate all evaluation plans to SAG and post on the SAG website – <https://www.ilsag.info/evaluation-documents/draft-evaluation-materials/>

- Note: There will likely be several rounds of comments on draft evaluation plans. If you are interested in reviewing and commenting on the draft evaluation plan, it's important to submit comments in the first round to be included in additional updates.
- Final evaluation plans will be posted on the SAG website (anticipated by end of February) – https://www.ilsag.info/evaluation-documents/evaluation_plans/