

**Illinois EE Stakeholder Advisory Group
Large Group SAG: Evaluation Plan Meeting (Day 2)**

**Wednesday, December 6, 2023 Teleconference
10:00 am – 12:00 pm**

Attendees and Meeting Notes

Meeting Materials1
Attendees (by webinar)1
Opening & Introductions2
Nicor Gas Evaluation Plan.....2
Peoples Gas and North Shore Gas Evaluation Plan3
Closing and Next Steps.....3

Meeting Materials

Meeting materials are posted on the [December 6 page](#) of the SAG website:

- [Wednesday, December 6 SAG Evaluation Plan Meeting Agenda](#)
- [Guidehouse Presentation: Nicor Gas 2024 EE Portfolio Evaluation Plan](#)
- [Guidehouse Presentation: Peoples Gas & North Shore Gas 2024 EE Portfolio Evaluation Plan](#)

Attendees

Celia Johnson, SAG Facilitator
Caty Lamadrid, Inova Energy Group (SAG Meeting Support)
AJ Young, Greenlink
Abigail Miner, IL Attorney General's Office
Andrey Gribovich, DNV
Andy Vaughn, Leidos
Bruce Liu, Nicor Gas
Carina Paton, Frontier Energy
Carrie Malfeo, Village of Park Forest
Cassidy Kraimer, Community Investment Corp.
Charles Ampong, Guidehouse
Chester Kolodziej, EE / Solar System Advisor
Chris Neme, Energy Futures Group, representing NRDC
Chris Vaughn, Nicor Gas
Christopher Frye, Guidehouse
Dena Jefferson, Franklin Energy
Elizabeth Horne, ICC Staff
Eljona Fiorita, CLEAResult
Erin Stitz, Applied Energy Group
Gregory Norris, Aces 4 Youth
Houston Downen, Frontier Energy
Kate Shonk, Citizens Utility Board
Katherine Elmore, Community Investment Corp.
Keely Hughes, The JPI Group
Ken Parker, Community Investment Corp.
LaJuana Garrett, Nicor Gas
Larry Kotewa, Elevate

Laura Agapay-Read, Guidehouse
Matt Armstrong, Ameren Illinois
Michael Brandt, Elevate
Monique Leonard, Ameren Illinois
Nick Warnecke, Ameren Illinois
Paul Higgins, Abacus Energy Works
Philip Mosenthal, Optimal Energy, representing IL AG and NCLC
Randy Opdyke, Nicor Gas
Ryan Kroll, Driftless Energy
Scott Eckel, ICC
Sharon Mullen, Abacus Energy Works
Thomas Manjarres, Peoples Gas & North Shore Gas
Valencia Roner, Energy Infrastructure Partners
Zach Ross, Opinion Dynamics

Opening & Introductions

Celia Johnson, SAG Facilitator

Purpose: For the Nicor Gas and Peoples Gas and North Shore Gas evaluators to provide an overview of and request feedback on draft evaluation plans (EM&V work plans) for the 2024 program year, including updates on 2024-2025 evaluation activities.

- Annual process that is held each December, where independent evaluators present an overview of their draft EM&V plans for each utility to the SAG.
- SAG participants are encouraged to ask questions and share feedback.
- Draft evaluation plans will be circulated for written comment to SAG following the meeting.

Nicor Gas Evaluation Plan

Laura Agapay-Read, Guidehouse

Material: [Guidehouse Presentation: Nicor Gas 2024 EE Portfolio Evaluation Plan](#)

- Continuation of yesterday's meeting focused on gas utilities.
- Slide 4 – The distribution of Nicor's portfolio budget and savings guides the evaluation approach.
- Slide 5 – Guidehouse conducts gross impact analysis to every program on an annual basis. One exception in this plan where evaluation will use 2023 realization rates (RR) for 2024 programs with a small amount of savings and a historically consistent RR close to 1.
- Net to gross (NTG) research is conducted once per cycle, process research is conducted strategically, and joint opportunities are explored where appropriate. New this cycle is the market transformation (MT) efforts.
- There is cross-cutting research across portfolio on Technical Reference Manual (TRM) updates, non-energy impacts (NEIs), and reporting.
- Slide 9 – Among residential programs, two will be using 2023 RR (Energy Education Kits and Energy-Saving Kits) unless something remarkable is found. For most other programs, Guidehouse will be doing a TRM review, except for Home Energy Reports where they also look at consumption data.
- Slide 11 – For the Business and Public sector, Guidehouse will use a TRM approach for most programs except for New Construction, Strategic Energy Management, and Custom programs which will require a custom evaluation approach with site visits.

- Slide 12 – Because the NTG framework has an October 1 timeline, NTG research does not follow the calendar year.
- Slide 14 – New this cycle are MT programs. Utilities and stakeholders are finalizing concept and strategy and evaluators are providing support. Nicor Gas is engaged in Stretch Codes and Building Performance Standard (BPS) initiatives. Also looking at High Performance Windows and gas Heat Pump Water Heaters.

Chris Neme: For non-Low Income residential building envelope programs. I want to understand if there are any process evaluation efforts on what the uptake is when market rate homes get assessments. Which homes are following through and if they aren't what the barriers are? I think this is more important than NTG research.

Laura Agapay-Read: This is not in the evaluation plan but will discuss with Nicor.

- Slide 17 – Portfolio level topics for market transformation include significant TRM support and research as well as studies on Stretch Codes and BPS and joint work with utilities.
- Slide 18 – Evaluation budget is split so that half of it is on gross impact evaluation. About a third of it is designated to NTG research, TRM, and MT efforts. Our efforts are focused on where there are large savings and therefore large risk.

Peoples Gas and North Shore Gas Evaluation Plan

Laura Agapay-Read, Guidehouse

Material: [Guidehouse Presentation: Peoples Gas & North Shore Gas 2024 EE Portfolio Evaluation Plan](#)

- Slide 9 – List of residential programs for PG&NSG. Guidehouse is planning to use 2023 RR where savings are either small or historically consistently close to 1. This is the case for Energy Efficiency Education and Home Energy Jumpstart
- Slide 11 – For business and public sector, we are using TRM approach for every component of programs except for custom programs. Custom evaluation approach involves on-site evaluation for every program except SEM.
- Slide 13 – Timeline for NTG shows in 2023 we planned research but the work for MF, Home Energy Rebates and Custom Rebates will be done in 2024. Some additional NTG work will happen in 2025.
- Slide 15 – The only applicable MT initiative is Building Performance Standard.
- Slide 18 – Split of budget effort is going primarily to impact evaluation, and a bit less on NTG/Process/MT/TRM when compared to Nicor Gas.

Chris Neme: Same request on SF weatherization. Please include process evaluation efforts to understand barriers to uptake and follow-through.

Closing and Next Steps

Celia Johnson, SAG Facilitator

- SAG participants will have an opportunity to review and provide comments on written draft EM&V work plans. Draft EM&V work plans will be posted on the SAG website and circulated to SAG by December 15.