

Illinois EE Stakeholder Advisory Group Network Lighting Controls Subcommittee

Tuesday, March 7, 2023
1:00 pm – 2:30 pm
Teleconference

Attendees and Meeting Notes

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Meeting Materials

Materials are posted on the [March 7 meeting page](#):

- [Tuesday, March 7 Network Lighting Controls Subcommittee Agenda](#)
- [Ameren Illinois Presentation: Network Lighting Controls Update](#)
- [ComEd Presentation: Network Lighting Controls Update](#)

Attendees (by webinar)

Celia Johnson, SAG Facilitator
Caty Lamadrid, Inova Energy Group – SAG Meeting Support
Andrey Gribovich, DNV
Andy Vaughn, Leidos
Ashley Harrington, ComEd
Catherine Allen, ComEd
Claire Cowan, Slipstream
Diana Fuller, Walker-Miller Energy Services
Dan Mellinger, Energy Futures Group, representing NRDC
Elizabeth Horne, ICC Staff
Elaine Miller, Northwest Energy Efficiency Alliance (NEEA)
Emily Pauli, ComEd
Hameed Yusuf, Resource Innovations
Jason Jeunnette, DesignLights Consortium
Jeff Harris, NEEA
John Lavalley, Leidos
Laura Pettersen, Resource Innovations
Matt Armstrong, Ameren Illinois
Molly Lunn, ComEd
Monique Gagne, Center for Energy & Environment

Nicholas Crowder, Ameren Illinois
Peter Brown, Lighting Transitions
Philip Mosenthal, Optimal Energy, representing IL AG's Office and National Consumer Law Center
Rebecca McNish, ComEd
Rita Siong, Resource Innovations
Sy Lewis, Meadows Eastside Community Resource Organization
Will Wilson, Leidos

Opening & Introductions

Celia Johnson, SAG Facilitator

Purpose of the meeting: For Ameren Illinois and ComEd to update Subcommittee participants on the progress of network lighting control measures; discuss stakeholder questions.

- The Networks Lighting Controls (NLC) Subcommittee was formed in 2022. Two meetings were held in 2022. One in April of 2022 on the Ameren Illinois and ComEd NLC initiatives, and one in July 2022 where the discussion centered on successful NLC initiatives throughout the country.

Utility Updates

Purpose: For Ameren Illinois and ComEd to update Subcommittee participants on the progress of network lighting control measures; discuss stakeholder questions.

Ameren Illinois Presentation

Nic Crowder, Ameren Illinois

- **Materials:** [Ameren Illinois Presentation: Network Lighting Controls Update](#)
- In 2023 Ameren is forecasting an increase of projects and savings above 2022.
- A variety of marketing channels were used to reach customers and program allies. Ameren received feedback that program allies were interested in technology and learning more about incentives available. As part of the market transformation efforts, Ameren held three 2-day training events across Ameren's territory on LLLC (Luminaire Level Lighting Controls). Good feedback was received from training and education events.
- 2023 incentives levels are different than 2022. Lighting controls are still included in standard lighting offer, but instead of having a pilot focused on LLLC, Ameren changed the program to a Small Business Direct Install initiative that includes NLC (Network Lighting Control) and LLLC measures.
 - Ameren strived to simplify the program and modify incentives to align with the higher cost of the LLLC measure.
 - With a focus on small businesses, Ameren is ensuring coverage with the partners allies and customers across their territory.

[Dan Mellinger] Why did you reduce incentives for NLC (2022 to 2023), while LLLC incentives were increased?

[Nic Crowder] We wanted to streamline the program and looked at analysis from previous years. We want to see feedback from customers and partners.

[Dan Mellinger] Does the Illinois Technical Reference Manual treat NLC and LLLC the same?

[Nic Crowder] There are different savings values in the IL TRM.

- 2023 marketing efforts look like 2022. Ameren wanted to keep presenting information to partners in the way that they are used to seeing it. However, training is being revised for 2023, with details will be available at a later date.
- In 2022 there were separate market transformation trainings, and one of the lessons learned is to try to inject the LLLC messaging and education into broader reaching strategies.
- We had discussions with installation contractors and distributors to understand how both market actors deliver controls. For past year we did training for both market actors together, for this year we want to separate the training so we can give each group the information they need that is more applicable to what they need.

[Elaine Miller] Do some of the marketing materials differentiate non-energy benefits for NLC or LLLC?

[Nic Crowder] Slide 8 shows some of the marketing collateral helping customers choose between NLC and LLLC, we do call out non-energy benefits of both. Marketing discusses functionality, applicability, feasibility of installation, savings, and non-energy benefits. All this information is important for customers to decide.

[Dan Mellinger] Can you comment on training for building operators and facility managers who are the users of these systems?

[Nic Crowder] There are some facility managers that attend the trainings, and Ameren is going to continue to engage them through that, but not directly due to barriers of entry.

[Dan Mellinger] Idea to use contractors and distributors as a conduit to a very small group of facility managers for projects that were just implemented. These systems are complicated and there are strategies that facility managers should know to take advantage of it. An evaluation study from CT showed that if a system is not commissioned then it is not delivering expected savings (reduction from 49% to 38% to both measure types).

- *Link to CT study - One caveat is that the evaluation does not define "commissioning": <https://energizect.com/sites/default/files/2022-07/CT%20X1931-4%20ALC%20PSD%20Phase%20%20Memo%20Final060822.pdf>*
- *Link to summary presentation: https://energizect.com/sites/default/files/documents/x1931-4 ALC PSD Phase 2 Final Results Slides_072922.pdf*

[Phil Mosenthal] Ameren might want to think about requiring commissioning or having a tiered incentive structure if a project has been commissioned.

[Jeff Harris] What kind of response have you had from manufacturer sales representatives in terms of program support? Are they helping market to end-customers? If not, what can be done?

[Nic Crowder] For 2022 we focused on program allies (installation contractors and distributors in Ameren's network) but we did not reach out to manufacturers. Part of the reason was trying to understand the market, which manufacturers we should include, etc. Ameren has now had conversations with distributors and would look at taking this step next, but it needs to be done carefully, with a good understanding of the market so it is not seen as biased towards one manufacturer.

[Jeff Harris] Does DesignLights Consortium (DLC) specification is it helping you sort through technical components of products? Or are there other specification needs you see?

[Nic Crowder] As far as what qualifies, I don't have any opinions about it yet.

[Will Wilson] Leidos is a Program Implementer to Ameren, the program likely fulfills a portion of commissioning during technical review, when they verify that minimum of three control strategies have been enabled. This is being checked on some level.

[Jeff Harris – via chat] Part of the whole point of LLLC is that it can be largely self-commissioning... would be interested to know where it falls short.

[Phil Mosenthal] Customers can pick any three strategies to qualify for eligibility? There's no bonus if you qualify for all five?

[Nic Crowder] It's a minimum of three control strategies. What Ameren is seeing with installation so far is that for luminaire level has a higher ability for facilities to take advantage of. No incentive bonus, just additional savings.

ComEd Presentation

Rebecca McNish, ComEd and Laura Pettersen, Resource Innovations

- **Materials:** [ComEd Presentation: Network Lighting Controls Update](#)
- Refresher of Lighting control goals within Plan 6 (2022-2025). This information was shared last April. ComEd set a very high bar for lighting controls, especially when compared to 2021. We assumed this measure would increase to contribute 80 GWh per year across standard program, and that it would grow to account 7% of portfolio spend.
- Standard and Small Business programs are the two programs incentivizing lighting controls. Both are prescriptive offerings geared towards different customer targets.
 - Variety of lighting controls are offered for both interior and exterior.
 - Incentives for small businesses are slightly higher than for standard
 - Incentives have increased for 2023 (generally)
 - For ComEd's programs lighting controls are defined as per the TRM
- ComEd will submit recommendations and updates for IL TRM v12
 - Asking three updates for NLC. One of them is expanding the scope of DLC listed systems because there have been projects submitted to ComEd with equipment not included in DLC QPL list.
 - Adding two new measures to TRM: Time Clocks for lighting and Photocells. These are measures existing in ComEd's programs but the savings are calculated with algorithms from other states' TRMs.

- Historic participation: General trend is seeing an increase in spend and savings, there was a decrease in 2021 largely due to changes in savings calculations
- Controls achieved 64% of savings goal and 90% of spend goal. While goals were not met, there was an increase of 61% from 2021 to 2022.
- ComEd is seeing NLCs contribute a significant amount of savings to the portfolio. Increased participation from energy efficiency service providers. The number of projects coming in quadrupled, and many of them came from smaller and medium-sized customers.
- Clear shift in ComEd's market from non-NLC Lighting controls to Network Lighting Controls, specially in 2022.

[Elaine Miller] Can you slice this further to distinguish what is LLLC vs NLC?

[Laura Pettersen] In 2022 we did differentiate between the two for the standard program, but I don't have the number available. For Small Business we did not differentiate. For 2023 ComEd won't be able to differentiate for either program because we stopped treating them differently.

[Dan Mellinger] Do you know the overall standard lighting savings trend over same period compared to NLCs? It would be good to explore if there is a decline in C&I lighting as saturation increases, are the savings plateauing? ComEd is showing growth due to NLC so we want to dig into it more.

[Laura Pettersen] We can get back to the group with numbers for controls vs total lighting.

- See slide 15 for project highlights.

[Will Wilson] Curious about indoor agriculture applications. Is this a greenhouse? How were savings validated?

[Laura Pettersen] Plants are in different parts of the cycle and they are in different 'rooms' and the dimming happens there. Resource Innovation team can share more strategies.

[Dan Mellinger] Comment for commissioning. Are you doing a custom calculation for savings in agricultural facilities?

[Laura Pettersen] We require a certain number of strategies implemented.

[Dan Mellinger] On the surface this strikes me problematic, because as an operator of an agricultural facility, any dimming that I do will decrease my output.

[Laura Pettersen] I believe in those cases dimming is helpful to their production.

- Tactics and initiatives for 2023. ComEd updated both programs to allow different baseline options and higher incentives for no-control baseline projects. Measures names were aligned between two programs. Incentives for NLC were increased.

- ComEd received feedback from energy efficiency service providers (EESPS) that customers are not knowledgeable on lighting controls. EESPS are selling NLCs because they are pushing them, not at the customer's request. EESPS realize lighting incentives are changing and they are expecting to see greater focus on controls.

[Elaine Miller] Is there an opportunity to differentiate between NLC and LLLCs in the future given potential for savings and NEB?

[Laura Pettersen] It is not something ComEd is looking at for 2023, because last year we found the market was getting confused. We would evaluate for 2024.

[Dan Mellinger] Overarching comment to both utilities: the states of CA and VT have implemented legislation that bans mercury-containing fluorescent products. In many areas this was underway for CFL but this now extends to linear fluorescent products which has implications for C&I lighting programs. In CT incentives for LED products are being discontinued at end of this year, but control incentives will maintain and persist. IL has been rumored to be drafting a similar bill to VT and CA, if this were to pass then that eliminates the current baseline for LED products. Something to keep an eye on.

[Jeff Harris] Could you share thoughts about how you would simplify the program?

- *[Laura Pettersen] Between 2022 and 2023, the Small Business program called the measure "advanced lighting controls" and had different language on requirements than Standard program. The first thing we did was make the language consistent. In the Standard program we had the LLLC vs non-LLLC description and we eliminated this to simplify the measure.*

[Jeff Harris] Have you thought about working with manufacturing sales rep to make sales to customers?

- *[Laura Pettersen] ComEd is not currently talking to lighting manufacturers but we are setting up some meetings with vendors in the next few weeks.*

Closing and Next Steps

Celia Johnson, SAG Facilitator

- ComEd follow-up item: On slide 14, what share of lighting overall does this represent? There is interest in the overall standard lighting savings trend over the same period, compared to NLCs.
- The next meeting date is anticipated late in 2022, for utilities to share a progress update on NLC measures. SAG Facilitator will follow-up with Ameren Illinois and ComEd on preferred timing.