

**Illinois EE Stakeholder Advisory Group  
Reporting Working Group Meeting**

**Tuesday, October 10, 2023 (Teleconference)**  
9:00 am – 11:00 am

**Attendees and Meeting Notes**

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**Meeting Materials**

Materials are posted on the [October 10 meeting page](#):

- [Tuesday, October 10 SAG Reporting Working Group Agenda](#)
- [SAG Facilitator Presentation: Reporting Working Group Plan and Metrics Process](#)
- [SAG Reporting Working Group Plan – Metrics Process in Fall 2023 / Early 2024 \(draft\)](#)
- [Reporting Principles Added to Policy Manual Version 3.0 \(Final 9/25/2023\)](#)

**Attendees**

Celia Johnson, SAG Facilitator  
Caty Lamadrid, Inova Energy Group (SAG Meeting Support)  
Andy Vaughn, Leidos  
Becca McNish, ComEd  
Bruce Liu, Nicor Gas  
Cassidy Kraimer, Community Investment Corp.  
Chester Kolodziej, Rockford, IL Energy Advisor  
Chris Neme, Energy Futures Group, representing NRDC  
Chris Vaughn, Nicor Gas  
Dena Jefferson, Franklin Energy  
Diana Fuller, Walker-Miller Energy Services  
Erin Stitz, Applied Energy Group  
Henry Tieman, Nicor Gas  
Jamey Neal, Ameren Illinois  
Jarred Nordhus, Peoples Gas & North Shore Gas  
Jason Fegley, Ameren Illinois  
John Carroll, Ameren Illinois  
John Dakarian, Nicor Gas  
Karen Lusson, National Consumer Law Center (NCLC)  
Kari McCue, Nicor Gas  
Ken Parker, Community Investment Corp.  
Kim Janas, IL Attorney General's Office  
LaJuana Garrett, Nicor Gas  
Laura Hoffman, Resource Innovations  
Lionel Valencia, Village of Lansing  
Matt Armstrong, Ameren Illinois  
Michael Brandt, Elevate

Miritza Thorpe, Ameren Illinois  
Molly Lunn, ComEd  
Nelson May, Future Energy Enterprises (IQ South Facilitation Team)  
Omayra Garcia, Peoples Gas & North Shore Gas  
Philip Mosenthal, Optimal Energy, representing IL AG and NCLC  
Randy Opdyke, Nicor Gas  
Sam Lamos, Opinion Dynamics  
Sarah Amspacher, Resource Innovations  
Selena Worster Walde, Erthe Energy Solutions  
Stacia Dreyer, Opinion Dynamics  
Tammy Jackson, Ameren Illinois  
Tina Grebner, Ameren Illinois  
Victoria Nielsen, ScottMadden  
Zach Ross, Opinion Dynamics

### **Opening & Introductions**

*Celia Johnson, SAG Facilitator*

### **SAG Facilitator Introduction: SAG Reporting Working Group Plan and Metrics Process**

- Facilitator suggestions for collaboration and inclusive participation:
  1. Listen to suggestions and share feedback with an open mind
  2. Consider compromise options throughout this process
  3. Be patient when listening to others; avoid interrupting
  4. Provide space for all participants to speak up
  5. Avoid using acronyms or phrases that may be misunderstood
- Background on Utility EE Reporting
  - Illinois utilities prepare quarterly and annual reports on EE portfolio progress
  - Quarterly and annual reports are filed with the ICC, posted on the [Utility Reports page](#) of the SAG website, and circulated to SAG
  - The utilities report-out to the large group SAG twice per year on EE portfolio progress
  - There is a lengthy list of quarterly and annual reporting requirements already included in the Policy Manual, and reporting is also referenced in 2022-2025 EE Plan [stipulated agreements](#)
  - The [SAG Reporting Working Group](#) meets on an as-needed basis to discuss utility reporting
- Background on Policy Manual
  - The SAG Policy Manual Subcommittee worked on updates to Policy Manual Version 3.0 for 14 months, from June 2022 to August 2023
  - The updated Policy Manual will be filed with the Commission soon for approval
  - Four of the new policies in the Policy Manual relate to reporting:
    - Income Qualified Multi-Family Reporting Principles
    - Income Qualified Health and Safety Reporting Principles
    - Equity and Affordability Reporting Principles
    - Diverse Contracting Reporting Principles
- Feedback on the new reporting policies was requested from the SAG Equity Subcommittee, IQ North EE Committee, and IQ South Committee in June 2023, prior to finalizing policies
- The final “reporting principle” policies are posted on the [SAG Reporting Working Group page](#):

- [Reporting Principles Added to Policy Manual Version 3.0 \(Final 9/25/2023\)](#)
- Effective Date for New Reporting Policies:
  - *This policy is effective ninety (90) days after conclusion of the SAG Reporting / Metrics Working Group, but no later than April 1, 2024, unless consensus is reached for a later date within the SAG Working Group. Program Administrators remain bound by provisions of settlement agreements regarding reporting metrics – including for 2022 and 2023. Any new metrics approved through the SAG Working Group will be supplemental to specific metrics that were agreed-upon and referenced in a Program Administrator’s stipulation.*
- The new reporting policies mention reaching consensus on metrics:
  - *Program Administrators shall work with interested stakeholders to reach consensus in developing the specific metrics to address these reporting needs. The metrics may evolve over time.*
- The new reporting policies mention where metrics will be available:
  - *The list of metrics will be posted on the SAG and LIEEAC website(s). The metrics will be referenced in, and lessons learned from reported metric data will be referenced in, the Program Administrators’ quarterly and/or annual reports and discussed in SAG and LIEEAC with the goal of improving Program delivery and outcomes.*
- Process to Develop Final Metrics (to follow-up on the Policy Manual update process)
  - Working Group Meeting Timing: October 2023 – January 2024
    - Metrics will be finalized by end of January 2024
    - Utilities need time to update internal reporting processes, before the April 1, 2024 effective date
    - As referenced in the policy, there may be metric(s) that require a later effective date
  - Working Group Participation: Open to all interested participants
- Working Group Phase 1: October – November 2023
  - Develop and Finalize IQ Multi-Family Metrics and IQ Health and Safety Metrics
- Working Group Phase 2: December 2023 – January 2024
  - Develop and Finalize Equity and Affordability Metrics and Diverse Contracting Metrics
- What is the end product of this metrics process?
  - A document summarizing final metrics for each of the new Policy Manual Reporting Policies
  - If needed, a spreadsheet template may also be developed
  - Several years ago, SAG developed a statewide Quarterly Report Template and Annual Report Template that utilities use for reporting
  - For reference, these spreadsheets are posted on the [SAG Templates page](#):
    - [Statewide Quarterly Report Template \(Final, updated 2/7/2020\)](#)
    - [Statewide Annual Report Template \(Final, updated 2/7/2020\)](#)
- Where should the final consensus metrics be memorialized?
  - This needs to be finalized by the end of the metrics development process (January 2024)
  - Options for memorializing consensus:
    - Post on the [Reports Section](#) of the SAG website
    - Several stakeholders suggested the final consensus metrics should also be filed in the ICC docket approving the updated Policy Manual
- Written feedback on draft Reporting Working Group Plan due by Tuesday, October 24
  - Send feedback to [Celia@CeliaJohnsonConsulting.com](mailto:Celia@CeliaJohnsonConsulting.com)

## **Metrics Discussion – IQ Multifamily and IQ Health and Safety Metrics**

*Celia Johnson, SAG Facilitator*

Consider the following questions during metrics discussions:

1. What is the objective of each of the new reporting metrics?
2. How does the new metric inform program delivery?
3. Will metrics be reported in quarterly reports or annual reports?
4. Which metrics belong in the narrative report, vs. shared via a table or map?

Focus upcoming discussions on suggesting metrics that directly relate to the final policy principles

- Policy Manual Subcommittee spent a significant amount of time (7+ meetings) discussing the new reporting policies
- Avoid re-hashing prior discussions
- If questions come up that do not relate to metrics, those questions will be captured for discussion outside of the Reporting Working Group

## **Income Qualified (IQ) Multi-Family Metrics**

*Celia Johnson, SAG Facilitator*

- **Purpose:** To discuss potential income qualified multi-family metrics that will meet the new policy.

## **Stakeholder Introduction to IQ Multi-Family Reporting**

*Chris Neme, Energy Futures Group, representing NRDC*

- Stakeholders are interested in seeing data on what the participation levels look like for different types of housing.
- There can be barriers to the customer if there are completely separate programs for gas vs. electric utilities; we have talked for years about making EE programs easier for customers through joint or coordinated program delivery. Understanding where there is joint or coordinated delivery and what that means. This will help us understand where there are opportunities to do better.
- Stakeholders want to see MF opportunities being addressed comprehensively. We will need to discuss what that means, and how it can be reported in a way that is doable. This will shed light on whether the programs are comprehensively addressing opportunities.
- MF EE programs can address new opportunities, including heat pump and heat pump water heater measures.
- Interested in the extent utility programs are effective leveraging other opportunities. This may make the EE dollars extend further.
- Understanding where program participants and projects are located helps us understand the extent to which programs are addressing the poorest neighborhoods. There are variances among low income populations. Interested in how diverse neighborhoods are being served by the program.

## **Discussion on reporting “the mix of buildings being treated”:**

- Proposed timing: Annual reporting
- Options discussed on reporting the mix of buildings being treated:
  1. Utilities include reporting to SAG (quarterly or annual)

2. Utilities collect / present information to SAG in one of the report-out meetings, instead of including it in quarterly reports
3. Evaluators do a standalone research project

*Matt Armstrong: There are several requirements in the statute about spending; 7% of electric budget must go to public sector; 0.6% to public housing. On the gas side, the requirement is 10% of the budget to the public sector. I'm struggling with how tracking buildings being treated in different building types helps us. We struggle a bit with the public sector minimums, bringing projects into the program and getting complete. It's important to recognize we are working within the bounds of the statute.*

- *Chris Neme: For MF buildings, the only thing the utilities are bound by is public housing. We see at least three categories of MF building that are worth separating:*
  - *1) Public Housing*
  - *2) State or Federally Assisted Housing (low income housing tax credit properties, Section 8 properties, etc)*
  - *3) Naturally occurring housing*
- *Chris Neme: What is the mix of participation, building owners vs. units with separate heating systems? The building owner may have a stronger incentive to participate.*
- *Matt Armstrong: Ameren will explore with the team what we know about properties / whether it's possible to track. For Ameren, IQ MF has been well-received. Currently the program is fully subscribed through 2024. We are better off using program dollars to provide comprehensive programs, vs. developing metrics.*
- *Chris Neme: When a building participates, ask whether it is subsidized or unsubsidized. Understanding who is participating may lead to us suggesting more funding for this type of program in a future plan.*
- *Matt Armstrong: There is time and work on the backend to get information in the reports. These conversations and organizing / finalizing reporting is a significant time commitment.*
- *Omy Garcia: Agreed with the level of time it takes on the backend. We wouldn't know whether a customer is subsidized or unsubsidized under after they participate.*
- *Future follow-up item, requested by Karen Lusson: It would be interesting to know what if any financing by the building owner was required and via what means. OTB? Other financing? And will such financing, if happening, vary by utility (or even building project)? Is any required financing the hurdle that prevents participation? This is one area I for one have little understanding of the extent financing is required in the MF IQ program.*
- *Karen Lusson: Are these types of questions already asked? Unsubsidized vs. subsidized, and type of building.*
  - *Matt Armstrong: I think these are questions that are already asked. If unsubsidized would that customer need to participate in the market rate program?*
  - *Chris Neme: You do not have to be "subsidized" in order to be eligible to participate.*
- *Chris Vaughn: What are we trying to capture with this reporting?*
  - *Chris Neme: One of the underlying reasons for this IQ MF reporting category is there are many different types of MF buildings, and there are many ways they are different (by size, subsidized or not, how they are metered, etc). It is helpful to understand the participation. This may shed light on budget in future plans, targeted outreach, modifications to program design. We are trying to think big picture to better understand the categories of buildings that participate.*

- *Chris Vaughn: I'm concerned about this being captured as a policy vs. a standalone research project.*
- *Matt Armstrong: This is a lot of different data to report-out.*
- *Chris Neme: We could also think about who is doing the reporting. Perhaps some of this could be looked at through evaluation.*
- *Molly Lunn: Perhaps we could pull information out of evaluation reports. In terms of cost, it will be less expensive for ComEd to organize data (vs. the evaluator). Is there a better forum than quarterly reports? We could present some of this information and report it to SAG, instead of including in quarterly reports.*
- *Chris Neme: We have to decide whether reporting is quarterly or annual. For some of this data, it's important to have it in a report. This way we can go back to a previous report and find data that helps answer a question. If information is in a slide deck, it can be difficult to find.*
- *Karen Lusson: Part of the rationale for this is to require the utility to track it so that the utility itself can identify the barriers and successes on these points and adjust the program as needed.*
- *Chris Vaughn: Should these metrics be cross referenced? Or is each separate?*
- *Chris Neme: Good point, if there is a way to combine them that makes sense we can talk about that.*

Definition of “subsidized housing” and “unsubsidized housing”:

- Cassidy Kraimer: Use Section 8 project-based vouchers to track subsidized housing  
See <http://preservationdatabase.org/register-as-a-new-user/>
- Cassidy Kraimer: “Unsubsidized” is an area where the median income is lower per census tract, and the building is not receiving a subsidy.

Discussion of “type / size of buildings”:

- Initial questions:
  - Does this mean the number or units in the building?
  - Would there be separate reporting on each building type? If so, what types of buildings?
- Chris Neme: Also, does the building have a central heating system or not? The market barriers are very different depending on the heating system.
- Phil Mosenthal: Also track whether the building is master-metered or not.
- For all of the IQ MF metrics, consider where/how this reporting is being shared.

Current Utility Definitions for Multi-Family Building EE Eligibility:

- Ameren Illinois: 3 or more units
- ComEd: 3 or more units
- Nicor Gas: 3 or more units
- Peoples Gas & North Shore Gas: 3 or more units

Discussion of “comprehensiveness” reporting:

- Initial Suggestions from Community Investment Corp., ICC Staff, IL AG, NCLC and NRDC:
  - Report on the % of multifamily buildings, and the associated housing units they compromise that adopt any common area measures, and the % that get each of the major measure categories, including (but not limited to) building envelope measures, HVAC measures, DHW measures, and common area lighting measures.

- Include a breakdown of the reasons why a customer did not install the measure. For example: 72% of MF residences received attic insulation updates. 10% didn't get this because of a structural issue; 3% didn't get this because a customer refused; etc.

*Chris Neme: Suggests a similar table to what Ameren currently includes in their evaluation on single family. There are a series of tables showing the number of unique customers and how many of each have had certain measures installed. I would like to see a similar table for multi-family that reports the number of units and buildings that received each service. We want to see the measure mix.*

- See Appendix D here: <https://www.ilsag.info/wp-content/uploads/2022-AIC-Residential-Program-Annual-Impact-Evaluation-Report-FINAL-2023-04-28.pdf>
- *Karen Lusson: Stakeholders want to understand how comprehensive the program results are.*
- *Ken Parker: We also want to understand the barriers to not being able to complete these projects.*
- *Chris Neme: We want to make sure these buildings are being holistically and comprehensively treated.*
- *Chris Vaughn: Are we trying to split up building envelope categories?*
- *Matt Armstrong: Keep in mind statutory requirements exist to provide guardrails.*
- *Philip Mosenthal: One of the reasons that stakeholders pushed for a one-stop-shop approach to multifamily programs was to achieve greater comprehensiveness in terms of the measures installed. Having transparency into the measure mix and number of units impacted would allow to see if that comprehensiveness is being met.*
- *Chris Neme: Out of all the metrics and points on the stakeholder's reporting list this is probably the most important information we are looking for, because we want to make sure each building is being treated as comprehensively as possible.*

Discussion of "geographic distribution" reporting:

- In terms of geographic distribution, should metrics be reported in a table or a heat map? and using zip code or census tract? Stakeholders made some initial suggestions, are there any reactions from the group?

*Chris Neme: Where did we end up on up mapping disadvantaged communities for net to gross (NTG) per the new Policy Manual policy?*

- *Matt Armstrong: The policy it references the IL Solar for All program. Looking at zip codes where income is below 150% of federal poverty level.*
- *Chris Neme: Is Solar for All report based on zip code or census tract?*
- *Matt Armstrong: Solar for All reports by census tract, and then utilities use a converter to zip code so we can operationalize it.*
- *Chris Neme: Consistency would be ideal. This could be annual reporting.*
- *Chris Vaughn: After discussion internally at Nicor, reporting this by census tract would be difficult for us.*
- *Karen Lusson: Our interest in geographic distribution is to understand which communities are and are not being served. We want to cross check data against communities with most disconnections, arrearages, etc.*
- *Chris Neme: This strikes me as a metric where annual reporting might be sufficient. It is probably something that if it is done by zip code it is easily reported. But I can see having the analysis being done by an evaluator in terms of what the data means.*
- *Phil Mosenthal: Is it possible to create a heat map and or an overlay?*

- *Matt Armstrong: This seems a topic better suited for evaluation instead of utilities offering up data without analysis that might raise more and more questions.*

### **Income Qualified (IQ) Health and Safety (H&S) Metrics**

- **Purpose:** To discuss potential income qualified health and safety metrics that will meet the new policy.
- In Ameren's Q4 report for 2022, there are health & safety metrics already reported on. Ameren suggested the Reporting Working Group consider Ameren's current health & safety reporting as a starting point.
- Question for Discussion: Does Ameren's 2022 Q4 reporting meet the IQ health and safety principles policy?
  - See pages 31-34 of the Ameren 2022 Q4 report: <https://www.ilsag.info/wp-content/uploads/PY22-Q4-Ameren-Illinois-Quarterly-Report-Final.pdf>

*Chris Neme: Ameren's table is helpful, but would like to see a column added to break down the dollars spent by each H&S issue, so stakeholders can see where dollars are going. I also would like to see what the percentage of the total program spent is for each H&S issue.*

- *Chris Vaughn: Nicor Gas tracks a lot of this in a similar manner to Ameren.*
- *Omy Garcia: We track the buildings, and what the issue is. I'm not sure we get as specific as this, will take this back.*
- *Chris Neme: Stakeholders are interested in this being reported quarterly. Due to electric utility minimum spend on health and safety, important to be able to see how the spend is going throughout the year.*
- *Ken Parker: Agreed, having this information quarterly helps make judgments throughout the year.*
- *Omy Garcia: My concern about reporting quarterly is that some of these projects take more than a quarter to complete.*
- *Chris Neme: I think it should be reported in the quarter in which it is finished.*

Question for Discussion: Do utilities have a definition for the various health and safety categories? Are categories consistent across utilities?

- *Chris Neme: There should be alignment on what the categories are, and what they mean. The utilities may need to get together to talk about this.*

### **Closing and Next Steps**

*Celia Johnson, SAG Facilitator*

- Feedback on the draft SAG Reporting Working Group Plan due by Tuesday, October 24<sup>th</sup>. Send feedback to [Celia@CeliaJohnsonConsulting.com](mailto:Celia@CeliaJohnsonConsulting.com).
- SAG Facilitator will follow-up with the stakeholders who shared initial suggestions, to propose specific IQ multi-family and IQ health and safety reporting metrics for the next meeting (scheduled on Monday, October 30<sup>th</sup>).