

Progress Report for Workgroup #2: Implementation Manual

Issues: Excerpt from Scoping Document: “Problem Statement – Depending on one’s perspective, the current frequency of changes to the Implementation Manual (IM) may not be frequent enough or too frequent.”

Summary of Progress to Date:

- The workgroup met via conference call and LiveMeeting on February 11th.
- Workgroup discussed two main perspectives:
 - Utility Perspective: The frequency of publication of the IM makes program planning and implementation, administration, marketing and oversight very challenging, at times confusing and adds costs. Publication is too frequent. A rate period IM would be ideal but at a minimum an Annual Manual should be considered.
 - BPA Perspective: Under the current model, BPA could be booking savings values that the RTF no longer supports for possibly as long as 15 months given the time it takes to update the IM ahead of the six month notice. Moving to an annual IM could prolong this by an additional six months.
- Workgroup Objective: Arrive at a consensus-based recommendation that;
 - Provides a greater degree of stability in customer programs and policy.
 - Ensure IM publication process, including clarity on how and why changes are made, is transparent, systematic and structured.
 - Allows BPA to ensure consistency and alignment with RTF modifications in a timely manner
- Workgroup chairs presented seven options ranging from “status quo” to “Annual Manual” with six month change notice and no other changes allowed, to an “Annual Manual” hybrid in which *some* changes would be allowed (following last big tent meeting a rate-period manual option was also submitted as an option for consideration.)
- Based on all input from the WG, two options were developed and sent out to the team for consideration.
 - **Option #1:** *Publish Implementation Manual once per rate-period in October to coincide with release of EEI rate-period budgets. Maintain a Tracking document throughout the rate period with all changes being locked as of April 1st prior to the release of the next IM.*
 - **Option #2:** *Publish Implementation Manual once per year in October. Maintain a Tracking Document throughout the year with all changes being locked as of April 1st for publication in the subsequent October IM.*
- The recommendations were submitted to the workgroup for discussion and edit.
- Many agree that adopting a frozen efficiency model with a rate-period manual would be ideal but understand BPA’s desire to keep as current as possible with RTF kWh assumptions and believe the annual manual is a good compromise.
- At the last big tent meeting, the lag in savings issue was a primary concern and a recommendation internal to BPA that may effectively address the savings lag issue referred to as a Savings Delta

Portfolio Adjustment is being considered and is currently under discussion. BPA will provide more information on this in the near future

- The two options which are currently being considered by the workgroup can be found in their entirety on the Post-2011 Review webpage.

Next Steps:

WG 2 conference call for April 8th to gauge support of options. If consensus, then submit a formal proposal to BPA for consideration.

Request for feedback

We request feedback on the two options from those outside the workgroup and would appreciate any additional feedback.

Co-chair Contact Information

Ross Holter, r.holter@flathead.coop, 406-751-4433

Dan Villalobos, dpvillalobos@bpa.gov, 509-625-1370