

Utility Sounding Board Meeting Summary

June 11, 2008

USB members in attendance:

- Theresa Lackey-*Midstate Electric Co-op*
- Darroll Clark-*Franklin Co. PUD*
- Larry Blaufus-*Clark Public Utilities*
- Dawn Senger-*Richland Energy Services*
- Wes Thomas (pm only)-*McMinnville Water & Light*
- Doris Abravanel-*Snohomish Co. PUD*
- Robert Kajfasz-*City of Port Angeles*
- Randy Thorn-*Idaho Power Company*
- Dan Villalobos (via phone)-*Inland Power and Light*

BPA staff in attendance for various discussions:

Karen Meadows	Mark Johnson	Sarah Moore
Mira Vowles	Ray Hartwell	Jillianne Welker
Boyd Wilson	Josh Warner	Carrie Nelson
Tom Hannon	John Pyrch	Bruce Cody
Darby Collins	Lauren Gage	

Green Motor Initiative Introduction

Jillianne Welker, BPA Contractor

The Green Motor Initiative (GMI) uses a method for ensuring and capturing KWh savings through Green Motor Rewinds. It is estimated that 0.5 aMW savings are available within the region.

- Motors that qualify-NEMA Standard Horsepower rated motors between 15 and 500 horsepower.
- A regional approach allows regional motor repair service centers to service overlapping geographic territories. As a market transformation effort, GMI will ensure higher quality motor rewinds.
- Three GMI components need to be consistent:
 1. Rebate- \$2.00/horsepower
 2. Implementation
 3. Process Measures and Verification
- The instant rebate acknowledges the participating utility as the provider of the rebate.
- BPA sends the payment to Green Motor Practice Group, and then GMPG sends the payment to the service center, service center provides rebate.
- Utilities get 75% applied to their HWM, but no Admin.

Residential

Sarah Moore *Contractor*, Mark Johnson *Public Utilities Specialist*, Ray Hartwell *Public Utilities Specialist*

CFLs

USB Discussion Points

- Market research shows that we have not achieved full market penetration.
- Expanding program to a year round offering.
- The offering is anticipated to go beyond 2009 and possibly through the next rate period.
- Utility budgets will be year to year.
- Starting to combine regional and local CFL programs.
- CFL disposal is an issue, but there is not a lot of interest in increasing the price of CFLs to subsidize disposal.

Action Items

- Send a summary of CFL market research (*requested by Darroll Clark to Karen Meadows*).
- The USB should send feedback on this issue to Lisa Perigo.

PTCS Heat Pump Measures

- BPA is making changes to how heat pump credits and reimbursements.
- BPA has unbundled the PTCS measures, and now offers stand alone measure credits.
- Only heat pumps installed after April 1st will qualify for the new PTCS C&C credit/reimbursements and the adjusted credits/reimbursements.
- Additional \$50 credit/reimbursement when both PTCS C&C and PTCS DS are performed within the same 6 months (intent is to get them done at the same time).
- Should be available in the PTR by July 1st.

Action Items

- Schedule a Brown Bag on this topic.
- A USB member suggested capturing the audio portion of the Brown Bags for those who aren't able to participate.

Pilot Program-Commercialization of ductless heat pumps

- A unified approach with NEEA will include:
 - Quality control
 - Data collection
 - Surveys
 - Billing history
 - Sub metering
 - Customer survey
- Purpose of program is to conform the savings
- Incentive amount not confirmed for multi-family units. It will be part of the discussions with NEEA. The goal is to be consistent.
- BPA pays for the program, not the utilities
- The timeline is not yet approved. Would like it for the summer air conditioned months; hopeful launch by July 1st.

Northwest ENERGY STAR New Homes Program for Oregon

Proposed Oregon ENERGY STAR incentives were discussed; these will be retroactive in Oregon to 4/1/2008. Possibly region-wide in 2009.

HVAC Trade Ally Network (TAN)

A HVAC TAN was discussed to provide regional infrastructure to support utilities in their implementation of new HVAC programs. (See handout)

HVAC TAN could:

- provide a central forum for education (both commercial and residential);
- minimize potential confusion;
- collect contractor feedback;
- assist trade allies in connecting with utility HVAC programs and
- help roll out regional programs.

BPA anticipates more requests for training, which could confuse the market without an integrated training plan.

USB Discussion Points

- Why should we change things, why participate today? How will it affect the heat pump program?
- It will be less useful for utilities that have established programs.
- The presumption is that all utilities want the same information to go to the TAN, but what if that is wrong?
- Utilities had an issue with third party contractors. Is TAN going to replace third-party contractors?
- There are many venues for HVAC contractors to share info already. It's confusing to compare Oregon incentives with Washington's incentives.
- We are doing fine status quo, it would just add confusion.
- There is no need to add a layer of complexity.
- It needs to be researched; it has the potential to eliminate existing programs.
- Utilities already have established relationships.
- An option could be for BPA to have a sub regional model rather than a region wide model.
- Contractors could be upset because of more competition.
- We need to speak with HVAC contractors and see if it would be something that they would want to participate in.

Action Items

- Follow up with utilities speaking with HVAC contractors.
- Flush out ideas more fully for another USB meeting.
- EERs should discuss this in more detail with their utility customers.

2010-2011 EE Budget Proposal

John Pyrch *Energy Efficiency Implementation Manager* (see Power Point documents)

John provided a brief summary of EE's budget proposal:

- Provided explanation of the IPR process.
- Discussed the future without CFLs and what will be done to replace them.

USB Discussion Points

- If NEEA is more cost effective, why don't we give them more money?
- In regards to NEEA, everything is open for debate. BPA's funding cycle ends next year with NEEA. We need a better transition for moving from market transformation to acquisition.
- There are forums for discussing the funding cycle, including future involvement with NEEA.

Public Power Council (PPC) Position Paper on BPA Current Programs

Josh Warner *Policy Development Specialist*

Feedback was requested on the PPC position paper, which addressed potential changes to the current BPA conservation programs.

USB Discussion Points

- One of the key points in the paper suggested that BPA offer improved and more frequent training for the planning, tracking and reporting (PTR) system. In response to this it was suggested that there should be a user group to work on the PTR system and help develop it to be more usable.
 - Designing the PTR more intuitively should be a focus.
 - It is hard to tell who is entering into the PTR because people have shared their passwords.
 - Nora should get involved. It would be good to invite her to a USB meeting or to the user group.
- A 3rd party rebate provider could provide more consistency. Mailing rebates to a 3rd party could simplify the relationship.

Action Item

Future USB discussion on a PTR user group

Alternative Measure Definition: BPA Qualified

Lauren Gage *Public Utilities Specialist*

BPA qualified is an alternative measure definition that will increase the flexibility of BPA offerings, where there is insufficient data to be approved by the Regional Technical Forum (RTF)

- BPA will continue bringing measures to the RTF, but with small projects BPA could offer measures, expected to be cost effective, until there is enough technical information for the RTF.
- It's not efficient to wait for RTF approval of these types of measures.
- It removes an obstacle for conservation because it takes a long time to get enough technical data.
- We can collect data through pilots and then take it to the RTF.
- BPA has an internal list of small projects that are good candidates to be BPA qualified measure, including the Energy Smart Design -Office trade off package, the lodging package and commercial shower heads.

- The measures will be entered into the PTR as “BPA Qualified”, and any savings changes will not be retroactive.

USB Discussion Points

- It may require a change in marketing, since utilities couldn't guarantee savings to end-users.

Update from Regional Technical Forum (RTF)

Bruce Cody *Public Utilities Specialist*

Recap of the RTF's meeting on May 27, 2008 (see handout)

USB Discussion Points

- There is a lot of interest in CVR. Is there a BPA willingness to pay?
- BPA has a custom project methodology but is looking at a calculation methodology.
- Upgrading calculator to two forms: manager (overview and planning) and engineer (technical, detailed info).

Action Item

- Bruce will send USB a copy of the pilot study report on voltage control.

CRC Loan

Mira Vowles General Engineer

An un-vetted idea that would allow unspent, end-of-rate-period CRC funds to be used towards loan programs for qualified energy conservation measures:

- The loans must be used for qualified energy conservation measures.
- As the money comes back in, it must be re-spent on conservation loans.
- Utilities cannot use the left over CRC credit towards existing loans.
- According to an E Source paper, there is a lower risk threshold with on-bill-financing.
- It would be a one time offer, between now and the end of the rate period
- The money would need to be obligated in loans by October 1, 2009.

Action Items

- Mira will check in with Josh Warner regarding how the kWhs before and after October 1 effect the High Water Mark.
- A Brown Bag was suggested for discussing options for spending end-of-rate-period CRC funds.
- EERs should discuss this with their utility customers

Next Meetings:

- July 9 Conference call
- August 13-USB face to face (picnic in the park)

Summary of Action Items

BPA	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Karen to send out a summary of the market research (or preferably the detailed data) to USB• Flush out ideas for HVAC TAN more completely for another USB meeting• Bruce Cody will send USB a copy of the pilot study report on voltage control• Mira will check in with Josh Warner regarding how the kWhs before and after October 1 effect High Water Mark• Will consider a Brown Bag for discussing options for spending CRC credit• Research technology for Brown Bags that records the phone conversations so that people that miss the brown bag can listen later on• Future USB discussion on a PTR user group
USB	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Send feedback regarding the CFL program to Lisa Perigo• Volunteers to follow up with Ray regarding HVAC TAN