Lighting Impact Evaluation: BPA Response Memo

February, 2017

Create unique Reference Numbers to distinguish between Simple Steps and Non-Simple Steps measures. The IS2.0 database uses the same measure reference numbers regardless of program. This makes it impossible to clearly identify which measures saved energy under which program. BPA should enhance their measure tracking processes to allow BPA to clearly identify the amount of savings reported to the Simple Steps program versus outside programs.

*BPA Response: We agree with this recommendation. As noted in the report, BPA has already taken steps to make changes. We are planning to create separate and unique retail lighting measures for Simple Steps and utility run programs.*

Opportunities exist to streamline outside program data collection and reporting. Very few utilities were able to easily provide project documentation for their sampled projects, and the mapping process used (linking a specific reported measure to its required project documentation) was often inconsistent, labor intensive and/or complex. In one example, the information needed to fully verify lighting projects was spread across multiple sets of documents: sales reports with the quantity sold that matched to a particular IS2.0 line item; store receipts with specifications including lamp type, lumen bucket, wattage, etc.; and bulk invoices that recorded the total number of units purchased. The evaluation team had to make sure the quantities and specifications in the invoices matched the claimed quantity for each RefNo recorded in the sales reports. In fact, one utility was unable to provide this information within a seven month data collection period. The evaluation team recommends customer utilities use distribution logs similar to those used by the Simple Steps third-party implementer. This would increase the efficiency and accuracy of future evaluation efforts. It may also allow utilities to more efficiently and accurately assign UES values and report savings, especially for By-Request measures.

*BPA Response: We understand the opportunities do exist to improve data collection, but we want to balance utility effort and evaluation ease moving forward. We will review the Simple Steps distribution log to determine if we recommend a change to utility requirements.*

Alter Measure Distribution Log to include installed location for Direct Install lamps. The delivery verification requirements for Direct Install (DI) lamps include installation location. BPA’s required project documentation requirement, namely the Measure Distribution Log, does not currently require this information. The evaluation team recommends that BPA alter the Measure Distribution Log to require location information for Direct Install lamps to allow for evaluation via document review in the future.

*BPA Response: BPA is planning to adjust the distribution log to include location for direct install lighting measures.*