Evaluation Timelines
Background: BPA began an impact evaluation of the Unit Energy Savings (UES) portfolio in 2016 focused on the largest slices of the UES portfolio - residential lighting, HVAC and envelope measures. An internal team of subject matter experts has supported BPA in the strategy and planning for this evaluation. You can find a presentation of the approach, a highlights one-pager and the final evaluation plan at www.bpa.gov/goto/evaluation.

Residential Lighting Impact Evaluation: The evaluation found that nearly all reported savings for Retail and By-Request measures are accounted for in project documentation! The team presented findings in an internal brownbag on February 20th and again in an external brownbag on February 23rd. The final report, presentation and highlights can be found at this link.

Weatherization and DHP FAF Impact Billing Analysis: Evaluation has completed the primary and exploratory analyses and shared draft results with internal teams and select members of the RTF’s Statistics subcommittee. We have moved forward with a Phase II outlier analysis of ductless heat pump (DHP) replacing electric forced air furnace projects. This included collecting installation forms for sample projects, completed in June of this year, and customer phone and web surveys to be conducted July through August. Internal team reviews of draft results should begin in September.

Performance HVAC Impact using Program QA/QC: Huge thanks to the PTCS team and CleaResult for the excellent collaboration on sampling and process with our impact evaluation effort! With their help, the evaluation team has leveraged monthly QA/QC data to achieve progress toward our target sample. Internal team’s review of draft results is set for the end of 2017.

2017 UES Evaluation Work

Background: BPA is continuing its impact evaluation of the UES portfolio in 2017, focusing on the next set of prioritized measure groups across residential, agricultural and industrial sectors. The team identified these measure groups balancing their savings contribution, existing uncertainty, stakeholder needs and strategic opportunities. You can find a presentation of the 2017 evaluation plan, presentation and a highlights one-pager at www.bpa.gov/goto/evaluation.

Status: The team worked with and collected project data (invoices, distribution logs and installation forms) from 26 sampled utilities between April and June. July through August the team will move forward analyzing this data and developing savings estimates. Internal team’s review of draft results is set for September.

Opt-in Billing Data: Based on the draft results of the 2016 impact evaluation billing analysis, the evaluation team decided to provide an optional billing data collection and analysis for prescriptive duct sealing and DHP projects in zonal and electric forced air furnace applications. 11 utilities provided billing data and installation field forms! Our team will use this additional data to better understand our savings estimates for these measures. Internal team’s review of draft results is set for the end of 2017.
Industrial Energy Management Impact Evaluation

Background: BPA conducted an impact evaluation of the Industrial Energy Management program, including two of the High Performance Energy Management cohorts and on Track & Tune facilities. The evaluation team used regression analysis to estimate energy savings and characterize year-to-year savings trends. The evaluation surveyed participants for SEM adoption and also developed recommendations for methods to improve program savings estimates and impact evaluation methods for this program.

Status: Internal team finalized report in February. The report was updated substantially based on feedback and is now posted on the website. The evaluation team gave a webinar presentation in late February, and the programs team developed a BPA response memo to accompany the results.

Other Evaluation Activities

Process Evaluation Policies: The process evaluation policies were approved by the QSSI sponsor team and a team was formed to provide feedback into the details of implementation of those policies, which we’re calling the process evaluation framework. The internal team held two working sessions to think through, revise and create a final framework. This document was shared internally and a final presentation delivered to BPA sector leads at the end of June, in preparation for next steps on implementing the new framework.

Why Evaluation? www.bpa.gov/goto/evaluation has plans and reports!