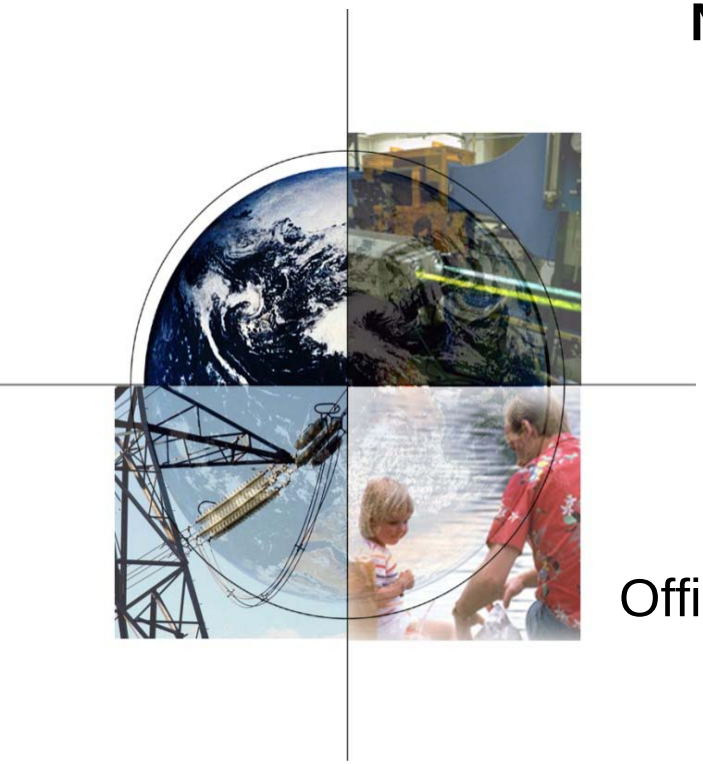

Northeast Energy Efficiency Partnerships Regional EM&V Forum

National Energy Program Evaluation Efforts

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DOE EERE EM&V Commitment

- My office is committed to evaluation, monitoring and verification.
  - Reliable evaluation results are necessary to maintain good programs and implement effective energy policy.
  - Understanding and documenting the effects of our programs is critical for internal management and for documenting performance to the Secretary, to the President and to Congress.
  - *Much* more important with the Recovery Act.
- Even so, we do not often need the level of rigor or precision that power providers and regulators need for calculating incentives, financial credits or cost recovery.

Current EERE Evaluation Efforts

- Three large-scale national studies in various stages of planning:
  - State Energy Program (SEP)
  - Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP)
  - Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grants (EECBG)
- Smaller-scale retrospective look at SEP and the State Energy Offices

National SEP Evaluation

- Multi-layered sampling approach to estimate the impacts of the national SEP portfolio.
- RFP to go out in late October.
- Sample over 100 representative state programs.
- States encouraged to conduct evaluations with Recovery Act funds following the SEP evaluation guidelines.
- Objectives:
  - Energy saved
  - Renewable energy generated
  - Carbon emissions reduced
  - Jobs created
  - Market effects

National WAP Evaluation

- Four part evaluation design: impact and process assessments, technical studies and synthesis of previous studies.
- Weatherization agency sampling approach to estimate the impacts of the national WAP portfolio.
- Project has already been awarded.
- States can contribute to the study if they would like the evaluation expanded within their state.
- Objectives:
  - Provide a comprehensive review of program performance
  - Enable DOE to make any necessary improvements to program operations.

Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grants Evaluation

- This study is currently in the initial stages of planning. Not yet settled on an approach
  - 2300 direct applicants, eligible activities in 13 categories.
  - Will likely take a sampling or case study approach
  - Stay tuned for decisions on this one.

Retrospective SEP Study

- Assessing the impact of SEP on states and state energy offices over the last 20 years.
- Looking at the role SEP has played in the growth of state energy offices, their expanded role in developing state energy policy and programs, and growth in the use and refinement of EE/RE technologies.
- Study is currently in the field and will be completed by the end of the year.

Recovery Act Monitoring and Reporting

- Monitoring
  - Plan and detailed procedures adopted for monitoring.
  - Field monitoring significantly increased in frequency and scope
  - Focus at present is on plan and regulatory compliance, not verification of energy savings and other impacts
- Reporting
  - Expanded scope to comply with program needs and OMB requirements
  - Plans to increase frequency of progress reporting to monthly – not yet approved.

Degree of Overlap

Not a lot….

- Each of these studies have specific objectives with customized approaches to match.
- There will be some overlap in our EECBG and SEP studies, and these will be coordinated.
- The DOE studies are different than the utility studies being carried out under the requirements of state regulatory agencies.
- Current studies are designed to meet the specific needs of the key decision makers.
- Degree of overlap is a function of similar needs, not a function of following a standard protocol.

Thank you!

Any questions or follow-up:

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