



Building a Common Currency for Energy Efficiency: The Forum Adopts Guidelines for Counting Energy Efficiency Savings

Why is it important to build a common currency for counting electric and gas energy efficiency savings? Unlike fossil-fueled power plants and renewable resources (like wind and solar energy), where we can readily count the amount of energy generated by metering the flow of electricity through wires, counting energy efficiency “negawatts” is more complicated.

In order to support expanding the energy efficiency market, we need to remove the barriers standing in the way of efficiency investments and build the credibility of efficiency as a resource that creates jobs, reduces electricity costs, improves air quality and combats climate change. To do this effectively we need to make sure that 1) stakeholders across the industry have access to and understand how we count the energy savings generated by efficiency initiatives, and 2) that the information is presented in a consistent and transparent way. In short, the efficiency world needs to create a common ‘currency’ for how we count energy efficiency savings, and the Forum is taking the lead to accomplish this goal for the Northeast and mid-Atlantic regions.

This Issue Includes:

Building a Common Currency for Energy Efficiency: The Forum Adopts Guidelines for Counting Energy Efficiency Savings

Forum Projects Update

- Protocol Development
- Research & Evaluation

To learn more about the EM&V Forum, visit the [Regional EM&V Forum Website](#)

Calendar of EM&V and Other Energy Efficiency Meetings

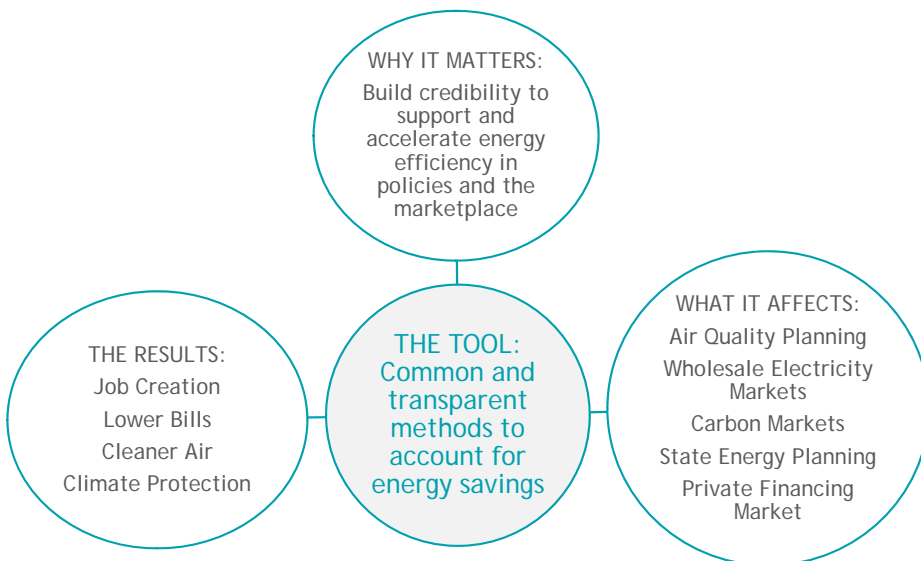
June 23, 2010: [Consumer Electronic/Plug Load Summit - Advanced Power Strips](#), presented by NEEP, NYSERDA & Efficiency Vermont in Albany, NY

June 30, 2010: Deadline to [Submit Abstracts](#) for the AESP National Conference to be held January 18-20, 2011 in Orlando, FL

July 27, 2010: [NAESB DSM/EE meeting](#) in Baltimore, MD

August 15-20, 2010: [ACEEE Summer Study](#) in Pacific Grove, CA

Mid-October, 2010: EM&V Forum Annual Public Meeting—details forthcoming



In late May, the EM&V Forum [Steering Committee](#) adopted two important Forum products that move the region and industry closer towards working with a common currency for counting EE savings. The *Regional EM&V Methods & Savings Assumptions Guidelines* ('the Guidelines') provide tools to 1) estimate initial energy efficiency savings to inform program planning and cost-effectiveness analyses and 2) calculate energy and peak demand savings for specific types of energy efficient measures or programs. The *Mid-Atlantic Tri-State Technical Reference Manual* (the TRM)



builds on the Guidelines, and provides savings assumptions and data on many efficient technologies included in energy efficiency programs in the mid-Atlantic region.

Regional EM&V Methods & Savings Assumptions Guidelines

The intent of the Guidelines is to provide clarity, transparency, and a common understanding of methods to consider in determining gross energy and demand savings, and savings assumptions for a priority set of energy efficiency programs or technologies. They are presented as a set of general and measure-specific recommendations that apply to some of the technologies and program types that are the source of the largest portion of residential and commercial/industrial energy savings in the region, such as electric HVAC systems, Lighting, and Gas Boilers and Furnaces.

The Guidelines build on regionally and nationally recognized best practices and protocols. They are particularly important because they help support growing interest in connecting energy efficiency initiatives to state and regional air quality plans and climate change goals. Also, they can help support opportunities for private financing of energy efficiency efforts. The Guidelines are a living document which will be updated and expanded to meet future EM&V needs. [Find out more here.](#)

The Mid-Atlantic Tri-State Technical Reference Manual

Maryland, Delaware, and the District of Columbia sponsored the development of the Tri-State TRM as a way to guide local energy efficiency programs that are in the early stages of implementation. The TRM provides a common platform for Mid-Atlantic stakeholders to characterize measures within their efficiency programs, analyze and meaningfully compare cost-effectiveness of measures and programs, and communicate with policy-makers about program details. It also helps guide future EM&V activity in these states. The TRM presents savings assumptions for 30 residential and commercial/industrial electric energy efficiency technologies or measures that are typically among the largest sources of savings. It is one of the only TRMs in the country that serves a multi-jurisdictional audience instead of a single state or organization. Like the Guidelines, the Tri-State TRM is considered a living document that will be updated and expanded over time. [Find out more here.](#)

Next Steps

By adopting the Guidelines and the Tri-State TRM, the Steering Committee agrees *to encourage the use and implementation of these Forum products in their respective states.* When implemented and used by the states, the Forum products will serve as critical first steps towards building a common currency for efficiency in the region, and furthermore, will help inform current efforts to build a national currency for efficiency. For example, the Guidelines are being shared with [NAESB](#) (the North American Energy Standards Board) which is in the process of developing wholesale and retail energy efficiency M&V standards and model business practices, respectively. The Guidelines are also contributing to the [SEE ACTION Network](#) project (the US DOE and EPA State Energy Efficiency Action Network EM&V project). For more information about these newly released Forum products, please contact [Julie Michals](#) or [Elizabeth Titus](#).

EM&V Forum Revised 2010 Project Agenda

Due to budget cuts to the New Jersey Clean Energy Program, New Jersey is not participating in Regional EM&V Forum projects and activities in 2010.

To account for the lack of New Jersey participation and funding this year, the Forum Steering Committee approved by consensus a revised 2010 agenda and budget at its May 27 meeting.

The revised agenda moves two projects—one to develop common EM&V methods for emerging technologies and one to develop guidelines for incorporating energy efficiency into system planning—from the 2010 project agenda to the 2011 agenda.

The [2010 Project Agenda](#) provides descriptions of all 2010 EM&V Forum projects.

Meeting notes and action items from previous quarterly Steering Committee meetings and quarterly Project Committees meetings are posted to the EM&V Forum website:

[Steering Committee Meeting Notes & Action Items](#)

[Project Committees Meeting Notes & Action Items](#)



EM&V Forum Projects Update

The EM&V Forum continues to conduct projects on its 2009 agenda, as most 2009 projects did not begin until mid-late 2009. All but one of the 2009 protocol development projects are complete, and the 2009 research and evaluation projects will be completed in late 2010. The Forum is now in the process of kicking off several of the projects on its 2010 agenda. The following section provides more information about the status of EM&V Forum projects.

PROTOCOL DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

A1: *Glossary of EM&V Terms & Definitions*: Version 1 of the Glossary, which was completed in 2009 and is available [here](#), will be updated this summer. The Forum plans to add terms that are used in recently completed Forum products but are not included in the first version of the Glossary. For more information about this project, contact [Cecily McChalicher](#).

A3: *Common Statewide Energy Efficiency Reporting Guidelines*: NMR Group, Inc., the contractor for this project, has completed a final draft report that provides recommended reporting guidelines for energy efficiency savings, costs, jobs and emission impacts, including process recommendations for improved collaboration and information sharing between key stakeholders. The draft report and guidelines were presented to the EM&V Forum Steering Committee in late May, and the final guidelines will be presented to the Steering Committee for review/adoption in September. For more information about this project, contact [Julie Michals](#).

A4: *M&V Protocol Development in Wholesale Capacity Markets*: NEEP is participating in the [NAESB](#) (North American Energy Standards Board) efforts to develop wholesale M&V standards and retail M&V model business practices. NAESB has developed wholesale electric quadrant demand response measurement and verification standards that the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission recently adopted by [order](#). On the retail energy efficiency side, NEEP helped inform the draft [project scope](#), which was presented to the NAESB DSM/EE committee at a May 20 meeting. The proposed scope is to focus on M&V model business practices for calculating gross energy and demand savings. NEEP has shared the Forum *Common EM&V Methods and Savings Assumptions Guidelines* with the task force, and anticipates it will serve as a key resource to develop recommended model business practices for retail energy efficiency. For more information about this project, contact [Julie Michals](#).

Protocol Development Projects Highlights

The *Glossary of EM&V Terms and Definitions* will be updated this summer.

The *Regional EM&V Methods and Savings Assumptions Guidelines* have been adopted by the Steering Committee and will inform national protocol development efforts.

The *Common Energy Efficiency Reporting Guidelines* will be presented to the Steering Committee for review/adoption in September.

The *Mid-Atlantic Tri-State TRM* has been accepted as a Forum product by the Steering Committee and will be expanded to include additional measures/parameters.

View all of the completed
Regional EM&V Forum

[Protocol Development and
Research and Evaluation
Products](#)



RESEARCH AND EVALUATION PROJECTS

B1: Phase 2 - Develop/Collect Loadshape Data to meet Regional Needs:

This project includes two studies—one to generate 8760 commercial/industrial lighting loadshapes (from secondary sources) and another to develop 8760 unitary HVAC loadshapes (from primary research). Collection of existing studies is underway for the commercial/industrial lighting study. Modeling and analysis will take place during the summer and fall. Primary data collection has begun for the Unitary HVAC study on a sample of approximately 400 units in New England, New York and Maryland. Metering will continue throughout the summer. Results for both studies are expected by year-end. For more information about the loadshape studies, contact [Elizabeth Titus](#).

B2: C&I Lighting Measure Life and Persistence Project: The results of this project will be measure life estimates developed from models informed by primary data collected from programs that have been in existence and measures that have been installed for many years. The sample design, initial collection of program tracking data from program administrators, and development of survey and field protocols for this project are complete. Fieldwork will take place during the summer, with results expected by year-end. For more information about this project, contact [Elizabeth Titus](#).

B3.1: Net Savings Scoping Paper: The result of this project will be a white paper based on secondary research and in-depth interviews with experts and input from Forum participants. The goal of the paper is to inform and support the EM&V Forum goals to understand the reasons for measuring net savings, increase the consistency and quality in EM&V practices with respect to defining and estimating energy efficiency program net savings, and identify the needs of related stakeholders such as air regulators. The white paper will be completed in August. For more information about this project, contact [Elizabeth Titus](#).

B3.2: Claiming/Attributing Savings from Codes and Standards Activities: The preliminary scope of this project is to hold a one-day workshop this summer (date to be determined) focusing on key aspects of attributing savings from residential new construction code activities for EM&V Forum members and interested stakeholders. The workshop will assist Forum members whose organizations are a) considering programs and/or other activities that encourage improved codes, standards, and code compliance, and b) expecting to claim savings attributable to their activities. For more information about this project, contact [Elizabeth Titus](#).

RE1: Incremental Cost Assumptions: The purpose of this project is to provide updated incremental cost data for selected efficiency measures that will help inform cost effectiveness analysis, measure screening and program design. The RFP for this project is under development and will be issued in July. Denise Rouleau will be assisting the Forum with this project. For more information about this project, contact [Elizabeth Titus](#).

Research and Evaluation Projects Highlights

Primary data collection is underway for the *Unitary HVAC Loadshape* project and will continue throughout the summer.

Fieldwork for the *C&I Lighting Measure Persistence* project will take place during the summer.

The *Net Savings Scoping Paper* will be completed in August.

Planning is underway for a *Codes and Standards* workshop for Forum participants.

The *Incremental Cost Study* is underway, with an RFP to be issued later this summer.



Thank you Forum Funders:

Connecticut

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turers Association*

The Forum also includes many participants beyond the Forum funders who serve an important role in advising and informing Forum projects and plans. View a list of [Forum Participants](#).

Join the NEEP Partners Program

NEEP's Partners Program provides your organization with visibility, affiliation and an opportunity to support the work and mission of NEEP.

For more information about joining the NEEP Partners Program, please contact:

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