



EPA's State Technical Forum on EE/RE
Call #1 - November 4, 2004

Julie Rosenberg and Edgar Mercado, EPA's Office of State and Local Capacity Building and the sponsor outlined the goals of the Forum:

- Provide a framework for the state energy, environment and utility program representatives to collaborate and share lessons learned within and among states,
- Resolve issues that prevent state officials from maximizing EE/RE environmental benefits;
- Maximize participation of state staff (environment, energy, utility commissioners) through phone conferences;
- Provide targeted technical assistance to supplement the discussion of current state programs, best practices and technical issues (i.e. emissions quantification); and
- Lead into a face to face workshop in 2005.

Catherine Morris and Meg Kelly, The Keystone Center and the Forum facilitators, provided an overview of the format for the calls, including general ground rules:

- 1) Calls will be scheduled once a month. The next two calls are scheduled for Thurs., Nov. 18th at 2-3:30 EST and Thurs., Dec. 16th 2-3:30 EST.
- 2) We will start and finish calls on time, each call will be designed to last for approximately 1 ½ hours;
- 3) Keystone will be responsible for ensuring that the call agendas are distributed in advance and are based on the input and needs of the states;
- 4) Keystone will summarize the calls and distribute to all participants;
- 5) Participants agree to frank and honest discussions.

Bill Balcke, Perrin Quarles Associates and the technical consultants, gave examples of the type of technical assistance that they will provide throughout the forum including,

- Background information on topics
- Multi-jurisdictional comparisons on the state of the science on quantification methods and other topics,
- Identification of gaps in analytical tools or best practices for further government research or assistance
- Assistance to states making presentations for the Forum

State participants: Each of the state representatives introduced themselves and provided their expectations for a successful Forum. (List of participants attached.) A summary of the comments follows:

Areas of Interest/ Measures of Success:

Participants are generally interested in information exchange and learning from each other about best practices in state EE/RE programs and policies and quantifying the co-benefits. Many of the participants are interested in making a more direct connection between energy and environment

and specifically in adopting practices for translating EE/RE program impacts to emissions reductions (for SIP credit). Even states that did not have formal SIP requirements wanted to know better ways to quantify the emission impacts and the benefits for the state economy. Participating states have a wide range of experience and resources in these areas, so to some the measure of success for the Forum was learning from others how to “get started,” while other states are looking for “more accurate and reliable quantification” of the co-benefits of the myriad of programs already in place.

Specific expectations for the Forum included:

- *Capacity building*
 - Increasing states’ capacity to quantify/demonstrate benefits of EE/RE programs
 - Help in shaping energy plans that are environmentally friendly
 - Developing ways to encourage energy efficiency without putting unreasonable upward pressure on electricity rates
 - Quantifying how EE can reduce emissions; identifying which programs are most effective in this regard
 - Mobile sources / innovative technologies as a source of emission reductions
- *Learning from others*
 - Contact info for counterparts in other states to use in the future
 - Developing/sharing best practices among states
 - Examples of successful voluntary efforts
- *Improving intra-state coordination*
 - Integrating air quality, energy, & environmental planning and accounting
 - Using air quality as a driver for more RE development
 - Coordination of state and local air quality agencies
- *SIP Credit for EE/RE*
 - EE/RE programs eligible for SIP credits
 - How to reflect RPS in the SIP
 - Mechanics of implementing SIP EE/RE credits
 - Discuss uniformity of approach by EPA in how they evaluate SIP EE/RE proposals
 - Application of NOx SIP call guidelines
- *Greenhouse gas emissions:*
 - Efficiency strategies w/ co-benefits of reducing CO2 emissions
 - Standardized and accurate accounting of GHG and other emissions
 - Impact of transportation on CO2 emissions

Next Steps:

- In addition to the topics discussed on the call, Keystone provided a summary of input received in advance from selected states about their current programs that link EE/RE and environmental improvement and how the Forum could be helpful in advancing future programs. Participants were asked to contact Keystone Center with any additional topics of interests beyond those discussed on the the call and included in the handout.
- NY State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) agreed to present their experience in using third party verification of program energy savings and their methods for translating the programs savings to potential emissions reductions. After the call, NYSERDA’s presentation was scheduled for Dec. 16th. An agenda will be circulated for the next call by Nov. 12th.