

New York EEPS WGV Meeting Minutes 8/29/08 Teleconference

Attendees

John D'Aloia, DPS Staff – Co-convener
Frank Murray, Pace/NRDC – Co-convener
David Hepinstall, Association for Energy Affordability
Rebecca Rabison, Association for Energy Affordability
Jim Rioux, Central Hudson
Joseph McGowan, Con Edison
Janja Lypse, National Grid
Eric Meisl, NFG
Mike Reville, NFG
Anthony Belsito, NY DPS Staff Counsel
Paul Belnick, NYPA
Nancy Nugent, NY CPB
Erin Hogan, NYSERDA
Sue Nathan (for Carolyn Sweeney), NYSEG/RG&E

Gas Load Forecast

The group reviewed and discussed the load forecast worksheets compiled by the utilities and Aric Rider of staff (although Aric could not attend the meeting). It was noted that the overall gas demand estimates have dropped with the more recent studies. For example, for year 2013 the 08-09 utility Winter Supply Review (WSR) estimates the total state demand at 831TBtu, compared to the 2005 Optimal Study estimate, which estimated it at 973TBtu. Given the changes in assumption data over time, the group has decided to focus its load forecast on the more recent EEA/ICF 2007 and the utilities winter supply review (WSR) data. The group did, however, agree to understand the assumptions and methodologies of all the studies (which is one purpose of having the working group meet with the consultants on September 5th).

The group then discussed how best to refine the load forecast data, and agreed the following areas should be assessed;

- Break down of data by customer class (industrial, commercial, residential)
- Firm/non-firm; interruptibles
- Low-income; weatherization programs
- Downstate issue; Break out residential multifamily, typically master metered, from commercial classifications

The utilities agreed to continue working with staff to refine the load forecast data, as discussed above, and to report back at next Friday's meeting on their efforts.

Erin Hogan also reported that ICF is working on an updated natural gas forecast in the fall as part of the State Energy Plan. Erin will ask ICF specifically about differences in the projected manufacturing sector potential, and to report back to the working group

Program Compilation & Assessment

The group discussed how best to move the program compilation work forward, given the 60 day filings and other related efforts. It was decided that staff coordinate with the utilities and NYSERDA offline to compile and refine the various program data, and to report status back to the full group next Friday.

Erin Hogan reported that the existing program summary she previously distributed is essentially complete, although the group briefly discussed the need for further refinements or breakdowns. No consensus was reached.

Planning for September 5th Meeting

The group next discussed the agenda for next Friday's meeting.

Both Optimal and GDS have agreed to assist the group by teleconference, and the group decided to devote the morning session to a focused discussion and Q&A session, with both consultants – if they are amenable – joining us at the same time. If needed, we would continue discussion after a lunch break, assuming the consultants are available. The focus of the discussion with the consultants will be on the approaches, methodologies and assumptions of the various studies, an understanding of the results, and the lessons for our working group and the broader EEPS to draw on. Nancy Nugent and Carolyn Sweeney have drafted up some questions that the group will use to help focus our discussion. Frank Murray and John D'Aloia will also check with Judges Stein and Stegemoeller for their attendance and input.

The group will spend the remaining portion of next Friday's meeting discussing the load forecast and program efforts, and planning next steps.

Please email John D'Aloia by noon next Wednesday (September 3rd) to confirm your attendance in person or by phone,

Frank Murray and John D'Aloia will be in contact with everyone with further information as the meeting agenda is firmed up.