



## Overview of SEE Action Energy Efficiency Resources for New Hampshire

*Compiled by NEEP - fall 2015*

**About SEE Action:** The State and Local Energy Efficiency Action Network ([SEE Action](#)) is a project of the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) that advances state and local investment in energy efficiency. Topical working groups include stakeholders and experts from across the country representing state and local governments, associations, business leaders, non-government organizations, and others.

**NEEP's Role:** The Northeast Energy Efficiency Partnerships is a non-profit organization designated by the U.S. Department of Energy<sup>1</sup> to provide policy and programmatic support, share best practices and link states in the Northeast/Mid-Atlantic region with DOE guidance and materials. We wish to bring these resources to the attention of those working to advance efficiency as a resource in New Hampshire, and are available to help disseminate and interpret SEE Action and other relevant DOE resources.



**Help for New Hampshire's EE Policymaking Efforts:** SEE Action has a number of guidance papers and online materials that are very germane to the work that New Hampshire is currently undertaking per [PUC Order DE 15-137](#) relative to the creation of an Energy Efficiency Resource Standard.<sup>2</sup> Intervenors in that docket, including the electric and gas utilities, state agencies and other stakeholders are working through important matters relative to goal setting, cost recovery, and evaluation, measurement and verification.

Following are links to guidance documents we encourage state policymakers, regulators, utility program administrators and interested parties to review as you develop the framework to build upon the successful Core programs and help New Hampshire harness the power of cost-effective energy efficiency.

### [Setting Energy Savings Targets for Utilities](#)

This paper discusses how electric and natural gas utilities can achieve greater efficiency by establishing numeric energy savings targets and goals for energy efficiency programs. At the EERS technical sessions, there was discussion of an aspirational goal such as “all cost-effective” vs. setting targets over various time horizons. SEE Action makes a compelling case for the latter, and demonstrates that states with targets are much more apt to achieve deeper energy savings.

### [Analyzing and Managing Bill Impacts of Energy Efficiency Programs: Principles and Recommendations](#)

This paper provides policymakers with principles and recommendations to understand and manage concerns about bill and rate impacts resulting from requiring utilities to provide efficiency programs. For states creating or ramping up investments in efficiency as a cost-effective resource, it is important to understand how impacts on customers are weighed. Benefits as well as cost must be considered for entire rate classes — program participants and non-participants alike — with the goal of moving more and more customers into the participant column.

The experts of SEE Action recommend an approach based on first thoroughly assessing and understanding the rate and bill impacts expected from a proposed set of efficiency programs — then managing energy efficiency

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<sup>1</sup> NEEP is funded in part by the U.S. DOE Office of Weatherization and Intergovernmental Programs to support programs, policies and technologies that advance energy efficiency in states and local communities.

<sup>2</sup> This resource sheet might be included alongside [non-docketed items](#) under DE 15-137.



programs and budgets to mitigate rate increases. In analyzing rate and bill impacts, it is important to account for the long-term savings as well as the short-term costs. It is also important to account for all ways in which rates may be affected, including reduced generation costs and reduced wholesale electricity prices. On page three of this short paper, the authors outline helpful principles for managing both rate and bill impacts. Another useful resource for New Hampshire to explore is a recent presentation made by former Massachusetts utility regulator Tim Woolf on "[Energy Efficiency: Rate, Bill and Participation Impacts.](#)"

### [Energy Efficiency Program Impact Evaluation Guide](#)

SEE Action describes this paper as the key efficiency evaluation, measurement, and verification (EM&V) resource for novices and experts. It includes definitions, concepts, and steps for calculating savings, avoided emissions, and other impacts. Also see the [Evaluation, Measurement, and Verification \(EM&V\) Resource Portal](#) – an EM&V resource compendium for energy efficiency program administrators and project managers. The resources focus on tools and approaches that can be applied nationwide, address EM&V consistency, and are recognized by the industry.

One of the issues under consideration in New Hampshire is whether to maintain a state specific Technical Reference Manual (TRM) or leverage resources with neighboring states. Regional consistency in EM&V protocols is a general theme of the portal, with NEEP's [EM&V Forum](#) and [Regional Energy Efficiency Database](#) (REED) highlighted as resources.

### [Energy Efficiency Collaboratives](#)

Energy efficiency collaboratives vary greatly and are typically designed for a specific jurisdiction, making them hard to compare side by side. This guide seeks to highlight a few common elements and draw conclusions on the overall effectiveness of specific characteristics of collaboratives. This guide defines and examines four different types of collaboratives in terms of their origin, scope, decision-making method, membership, duration, available resources, and how they interact with and influence their respective commissions.

***New Hampshire Guidance:*** As the Public Utilities Commission and intervenors continue work to create an Energy Efficiency Resource Standard, it is helpful to consider when and how the state might create a stakeholder board to help oversee the creation, implementation and review of expanded energy efficiency programs. With the existing Energy Efficiency and Sustainable Energy Board as a logical starting place, the report describes the type of "Enhanced Collaborative" that might serve the state well. Beginning on page 11, the paper describes the scope and structure of such boards, noting that they typically are headed by a high-level staff person, maintain an operating budget and are supported by staff and or consultants.

**More Resources Available, New Ones Coming Soon** - While the above resources are a few that NEEP believes are most applicable to New Hampshire's current energy efficiency policy efforts, the SEE Action Network has many valuable resources including guidance papers, case studies, technical guidance and discussion forums at: [www4.eere.energy.gov/seeaction](http://www4.eere.energy.gov/seeaction).

SEE Action has announced forthcoming resources including guidance papers on Clean Power Plan compliance, performance incentives and addressing the issue of large customer "opt out." For help with any of these resources or to get connected with the SEE Action Network and other offerings from the DOE, please contact Natalie Treat, NEEP's Public Policy Outreach Manager at [ntreat@neep.org](mailto:ntreat@neep.org) or 781/860-9177 x121.