

Bill Bradbury
Chair
Oregon

Henry Lorenzen
Oregon

W. Bill Booth
Idaho

James A. Yost
Idaho



Northwest **Power** and **Conservation** Council

Jennifer Anders
Vice Chair
Montana

Pat Smith
Montana

Tom Karier
Washington

Phil Rockefeller
Washington

June 3, 2014

MEMORANDUM

TO: Power Committee Members

FROM: Nick O'Neil, RTF Manager

SUBJECT: Panel on RTF Adaptations for Small and Rural Utilities

About two years ago, the Council directed the Regional Technical Forum (RTF) to develop energy efficiency acquisition process assistance for small and rural utilities. At the June meeting, I will brief the Council on progress that has been made since 2012. In addition, a panel of experts representing small and rural utilities from the RTF and the RTF Policy Advisory Committee will be on hand to discuss the progress to date.

Regional Technical Forum Small/Rural Subcommittee Update

**June 2014 Power Committee Presentation
Missoula, MT**

Small/Rural Subcommittee Background

- **2011 - RTF conducted a technical support study**
 - **Purpose:** Help determine what technical assistance the RTF (in coordination with BPA and NEEA) can offer small and rural utilities to tailor their conservation initiatives to meet the unique circumstances of their service territories.
 - **Consultant hired to interview small and rural utilities and provide recommendations**
 - Final report and recommendations available online

Small/Rural Subcommittee Background

- 2012 – Presented study recommendations to the RTF with staff responses
- Study highlights related to the RTF
 - Create a checklist of small/rural principles to test against RTF decisions
 - Develop a Manufactured Homes Decommissioning measure
 - Develop UES measures specific to schools for lighting, ventilation and weatherization
 - Develop UES measures for commercial lighting in lieu of using BPA's lighting calculator
 - Simplify irrigation measures
 - Identify potential conservation measures for idle wind turbines (navigation lights, control systems, etc.)

Small/Rural Subcommittee Background

- In 2012 RTF decided to form a Small/Rural Subcommittee
 - Given a work plan separate from general RTF
 - Budget has increased from \$20k - \$50k in three years
 - Proposed to meet on a quarterly basis or when feedback on measure development is needed
 - Requested active attendance from BPA to ensure coordination on various topics
 - Meeting minutes and materials posted online

What has happened since 2012

SMALL/RURAL SUBCOMMITTEE PROGRESS

Small/Rural Subcommittee Work

- Currently developed checklists for 40 UES measures
- Created work plan prioritization list

Priority	Measure	Analysis Stage	Possible Approach	Regional Potential (aMW)	Estimated Cost
1	Schools – Interior Lighting	Measure Development	Planning or Provisional UES measure: Review program data for hours of operation, by room type for provisional/planning values. Collect hours of operations to calibrate. Use Lighting Standard Protocol for all other values.	5.29	\$20K
2	Schools – Exterior Lighting	Measure Development	Proven UES measure: Review program data for hours of operation. Use Lighting Standard Protocol for all other values.	0.4	\$10K, could be done with Area Lights
3	Area Lights	Measure Development	Proven UES for photocell controlled equipment - Primarily just workbook development. Interview regional experts to develop measure list, baseline/measure pairings, and install/operation/maintenance costs.	2.9	\$10K
4	Manufactured Home Decommissioning	Measure Development	Small Saver - Building simulation - SEEM, informed by RBSA. Develop logic model of measure outcome, as with Refrigerator Recycling	1 or 2 aMW? More research needed.	\$10 to \$20K
5	Schools – Weatherization	Measure Development	Small Saver - Building simulation, but no calibration. PNNL's ASHRAE 90.1 prototype models, Adv. Energy Design Guide: K-12 Schools baseline, Cool Schools audit data, 2009 CBSA Public Use Data. Simulate baseline and efficient cases, normalize by floor area.	1.97	\$20 to \$30K

Small/Rural Subcommittee Work

- **Held quarterly meetings in 2013**
 - Average of 8 utilities present per meeting
 - Began developing several UES measures specific to schools (lighting & weatherization)
 - Investigated development of a Manufactured Home Decommissioning measure
 - Subcommittee agreed it was a social engineering project
 - Utility funding alone not sufficient
 - Continued to review UES design checklists for potential barriers to implementation

Small/Rural Subcommittee Work

- **Held 4 meetings so far in 2014**
 - Average of 6 utilities present per meeting
 - Finalized Area Lights UES measure
 - RTF approved at 02/19/14 meeting
 - Finalized Weatherization UES for Schools
 - RTF approved at 03/18/14 meeting
 - Began process of researching a potential path for Manufactured Home Decommissioning measure
 - Small task order awarded to look at possible funding sources outside of utility efficiency programs

Small/Rural Subcommittee Work

- **Agreed to stop development of Schools lighting measures**
 - Subcommittee reviewed work product
 - Determined that despite strong desire for Schools UES measures, large number of permutations was a significant barrier to implement
 - Decided to test out new BPA lighting calculator with promised support
 - Can always re-engage this effort at subcommittee at a later date

Small/Rural Subcommittee Work

- **Remainder of 2014 – Light on work**
 - Staff investigating next items on priority list
 - Will continue to present checklists based on RTF decisions
 - More input from the subcommittee is needed
 - Topics for 2014 are somewhat sparse
 - Schools ventilation UES measures
 - Dude-ranch specific UES measures
 - Will be developing 2015 work plan this summer

Small/Rural Subcommittee Work

- **How to get involved:**
 - Subcommittee is open to all interested parties
 - Past meeting materials and notes available on RTF webpage:
<http://rtf.nwcouncil.org/subcommittees/smallutilities/>
 - Or send ideas to any of the Small/Rural Subcommittee contacts
 - Nick O'Neil – Council
 - Ryan Firestone – RTF Staff
 - Eugene Rosolie – Cowlitz PUD (Subcommittee co-chair)

Contact

Nicholas O'Neil, P.E.
Northwest Power and
Conservation Council

noneil@nwcouncil.org
503.820.2312

Ryan Firestone
Ptarmigan Research, LLC

[ryan.firestone@
ptarmiganresearch.com](mailto:ryan.firestone@ptarmiganresearch.com)
510.333.0469