Memorandum

To: EEAC
From: Eric Belliveau and the EEAC Consultant Team
Date: 4 March 2011
Subject: Monthly Report – February 2011

The Consultant Team is pleased to provide this monthly update to the Council on our recent activities. February produced much in the way of positive results, both within the PAs’ programs and in progress on many planning and implementation issues. The latter was produced by continued cooperation between the PAs, stakeholders and the Consultant Team in individual Working Groups and associated discussions. We are optimistic that our working relationships with the PAs will continue to strengthen throughout 2011.

Planning Activities

- Presented the proposed key priorities for 2011 to the Council and clarified the key priorities through discussions with the Council and the PAs. These key priorities are also the foundation of the 2011 Consultant work plan.

- Met with PA representatives to follow-up on improvements for processes and communications in 2011. During the initial meetings we jointly developed and agreed to several enhancements for processes and communications, intended to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of PA/Consultant interactions. These include a Shared master schedule, quarterly PA/Consultant coordination meetings, periodic conference calls between the PAs and Consultants (particularly in advance of the Council meetings), and other strategies.

- Continued discussions between the PAs and the Consultants in an effort to resolve the remaining outstanding issues on the 2011 Mid-Term Modifications (MTMs). Progress has been made to resolve several issues and reduce the gaps or level of differences for others. We worked on language for a proposed agreement on a comprehensive package to resolve the vast majority of the MTM issues, which we plan to provide for Council review in March.

- Reviewed and analyzed the 2010 preliminary year end results, reviewed the PA-submitted data and summaries, and developed a summary of our review and analysis, which we presented to the Council at the February 8th meeting. Followed up on data and analysis issues throughout the month.

- Assisted in the selection of the contractor for and the launch of the Regional Avoided Cost Study, which will provide a very important set of inputs for planning and reporting.
Highlights from the Implementation Oversight Groups and EM&V Group

The sections below highlight activity in each of the major oversight areas.

C&I Team
The Team worked on several issues over the past month, covering a wide variety of topics.

- Solidified final agreement to pursue two lighting initiatives in 2011, for high performance T8 lighting and LED lighting. While many details remain to be worked out, this agreement will help to significantly advance market transformation in the commercial indoor lighting market in MA.

- Worked with PAs to establish variations in municipal program offerings across the state and an agreement in principal to investigate the success of the different approaches and move to a single consistent approach, as appropriate, while preserving an appropriate level of flexibility to meet individual customer needs.

- Understanding the current state of the art in deep existing building efficiency opportunities, to guide future efforts in this area.

- Addressed some unique EM&V issues related to PA’s progress in engaging very large customers in long term, comprehensive efficiency efforts.

- Established appropriate policy around custom measure cost-effective screening and continued efforts to develop a draft screening tool for use by all PAs.

Residential Team
The Residential Team covered key program areas by engaging with several working groups. High level developments by PAs in these areas include the following.

- Products: The PAs continue to fine-tune product offerings in response to market conditions. Successful initial LED promotions indicate potential to reduce incentive levels in the near future. PAs and investigating or rolling-out additional products, including variable speed pool pumps, TVs, and higher-tier clothes-washers and refrigerators. PAs are also assisting with contractor selection for DOER’s MORE appliance program.

- Cool Smart: Continued assessment of whether and how to support efficient furnace fans in oil and propane furnaces. Efficient gas furnace fans represent 57% of the Program’s projected 2011 savings. The Gas PAs met in February to discuss the definition of “hard to reach” (HTR) as it applies to customers and potentially contractors for their High Efficiency Heating and Hot Water (HEHE) Program. The Gas PAs added several HTR measures in their 2011 Plan, in large part to address the free-ridership identified in last year’s HEHE evaluation.
Residential New Construction: Program participation and presence in new homes market is strong. Sixty-four (64) Massachusetts towns have now adopted the Stretch Code, many with the help of the JMC PAs and their vendors. The PAs have been working to move the program towards an open Energy Rater market and plans for code support activities and seeking corresponding savings attribution from DOER.

Mass Save Home Energy Services: Full launch of the market model in April. Lead Vendor selection and contract negotiations have been initiated or are imminent, and discussions with contractors have been re-initiated via a webinar on 2/28, with a series of follow-up discussions planned.

Deep Energy Retrofit: The consultants met with the evaluators (ERS) and implementation staff (Building Science Corp.) to review progress to date and consider future direction for the Pilot. Consultants drafted and presented a memo to the DER Working Group encouraging them to begin thinking about program direction post-pilot.

Multifamily Retrofit: Revised program implementation manual being developed by the PAs and their Multifamily Market Integrator (MMI) vendor. The electric PAs continue to focus on challenges in supporting oil heating and hot water measures, including associated building envelope measures (insulation and air sealing) that make program recruitment more difficult.

Evaluation, Measurement & Verification

- Continued to move the roughly 45 in progress ‘Round 1’ EM&V studies toward completion. A majority of the results will begin flowing in April and May.
- Continued efforts in several research areas to plan ‘Round 2’ EM&V studies to begin in mid-2011 or later.

Upcoming Activities

The Planning group will undertake several tasks in the next few months.

- Addressing/resolving the 2011 MTM issues and participating in the DPU proceedings.
- Completing a summary report of 2010 preliminary year end results.
- Supporting and analyzing progress towards full incorporation of the key building blocks for accomplishing the goals of the Three-Year Plans to achieve deeper savings and other key priorities.
- Reviewing interim deliverables in the Regional Avoided Cost Study.
- Participating in DPU 08-50 processes such as reporting and bill impacts, as scheduled.
- Reviewing and analyzing first quarter 2011 quarterly reports (in April and May).
Upcoming activity in the C&I, Residential, and EM&V groups will likely include the following.

- The C&I group will engage on EM&V reviews of current evaluations of C&I programs, continue to work with PAs on detailed design and deployment of upstream lighting initiatives, establish common offerings in municipal programs, and review the draft common custom screening tool.

- The Residential Team will be working on several important tasks in March and April; including Code support trainings; NESEA Conference presence and workshops, initiating planning discussions for the next three years; continued efforts to expand the Deep Energy Retrofit Pilot into a full program; and launching the Home Energy Services program.

- EM&V will be reviewing several EM&V studies as they become available.