# Electronic Technical Reference Manual (eTRM): Path to the New California "Database of Record"



CAL TF STAFF
STAKEHOLDER PRESENTATION
APRIL 26, 2018

# **Executive Summary**





- Introduction to the Cal TF
- What is the eTRM?
- Benefits of the eTRM
  - To Users/Implementers
  - To Measure Developers/Ex Ante Team
  - Aligns with Policy Objectives
- Path Forward
  - Regulatory Path
  - eTRM Development/Measure Consolidation Milestones

# The California Technical Forum (Cal TF)





#### What is the Technical Forum?

A group of in-state and out-of-state technical experts that work in a collaborative and transparent way to review new and updated energy efficiency measures and other technical information related to California's integrated demand-side management portfolio.

# The Cal TF A Broad Collaborative













CPUC Office of Ratepayer Advocates

























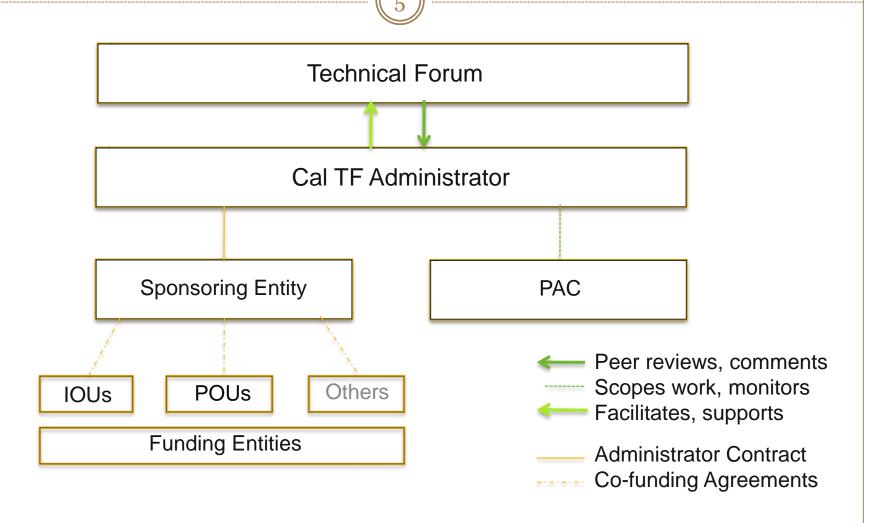




eTRM Update 2018

# The Cal TF The Collaborative Supports the Technical Experts





## What is the eTRM?





- The electronic technical reference manual (eTRM) will serve as the repository for California statewide deemed energy efficiency measures
  - Replacement for utility workpapers & POU TRM
- An online relational database, will significantly improve workflow (planning, reporting, measure development/updates) and accuracy
- Conforms to (exceeds) TRM best practices
- Populated with statewide "consolidated" measures developed through a collaborative process with utilities (IOUs/POUs) & industry experts
  - Utility-specific workpapers (already approved) are being "harmonized" and standardized

eTRM Update 2018

## Benefits of the eTRM





#### All Measures are Fully Documented and Reproducible

- All measure parameters for a single measure linked
- Source documents are clearly cited and hosted in the tool
- Methods, calculations, models are clearly documented

#### Automates Measure Updates when Inputs Change—Weather Files, Code Updates, Etc.

- Changes that apply to multiple measures or all measures will occur automatically
- Reduces potential for errors
- Includes clear update and revision histories for each measure

#### Clear and Documented Workflow Management

Identifies who has updated and/or reviewed a measure

#### Generates All Key Outputs (Ex Ante Data)

- Utility/POU tracking, reporting and cost-effectiveness databases; CPUC reporting and CEC forecasting databases
- Streamlined regulatory reporting
- APIs will link directly to utility data systems

#### Differential Access

- Permits restricted access to prevent unapproved changes
- Accurate revision history archived

#### The eTRM







#### Statewide Applicability & Consistency

- No gaps in utility service territories or climate zones
- Consistent offerings
  - Baselines and measure definitions, units, methods, adjustment factors, etc.
- Statewide naming conventions
- Consistent, detailed descriptions
- Essential for third-parties to effectively design and implement an increasing share of the EE portfolio

#### Transparent and Fully Documented

- Full documentation of input parameters, assumptions, models
- Clear, concise explanations of impact and cost analyses and key measure information
- Reference library contains source documents no broken links

#### Easily Accessible

- User-friendly interface
- All measure values/information, review disposition, etc. in a single platform

#### The eTRM





#### Single, Statewide Measures

- Rather than utility-specific workpapers for similar measures that may or may not be consistent
- Centralized measure and measure documentation repository within the eTRM
- Reduces time and resources required for review

#### Streamlined Workflow

- Measures are developed within the eTRM
- All development and review documentation and results stored within the eTRM platform, easily accessible and always available
- Roles and permissions defined for developers vs reviewers vs approvers (will separately indicate Cal TF vs CPUC approval)

#### Fully Documented

- Methodology & calculations
- Linkages between input values & original sources (not other TRMs)
- eTRM Reference library
  - All documentation uploaded and stored in eTRM, readily available, no broken links
  - Quality of documentation assessed
- QA/QC guidelines for developers help to ensure review requirements are met

# The eTRM Supports Policy Objectives





Since 2012, the Commission has directed utilities to prepare *statewide* workpapers.

We agree that similar measures delivered by similar activities should have single statewide values [emphasis added] unless recent evaluations show that a significant variation between utilities and that difference is supported by a historical trend of evaluation results. (D.12-05-015, p. 54)

Commission Staff guidance to utilities for 2017 workpapers in the Ex Ante Team 2017 Workpaper Guidance Memo:

**Statewide Workpapers**: Only one workpaper may be submitted for each set of programs/measures which are adopted by more than one program administrator; such workpapers have been termed "statewide workpapers" and program administrators have been directed to collaborate on such efforts. (p.7)

Direct regulatory support is contained in the Phase 2A decision in the Rolling Portfolio proceeding

".. to improve the usability and transparency of all ex ante values... a common platform for all PAs to compose savings estimates transparently and consistent with Commission direction... should be focused on opportunities to facilitate transparency and collaboration."

# The Path Forward





- Critical Path for eTRM Approval and Acceptance:
  - Regulatory path
  - Measure consolidation
  - eTRM development, acceptance testing

# The Path Forward Regulatory





Motion to ALJ Seeking Approval to Consider Issues in Phase 3 of Rolling Portfolio Proceeding

- Substantive Request: Consider whether eTRM should be "database or record" for approved deemed values, including eTRM Data Specification as data specification for new and updated measures
- Procedural Request: Adopt process for considering whether eTRM should be the "Database of Record" for deemed ex ante measures
  - File eTRM with all consolidated measures and all documentation on Jan. 15, 2019
  - Conduct 4 demos/trainings throughout State to demo eTRM and review documentation: by Jan. 31, 2019
  - Joint CEC-CPUC Workshop (Full Day) comparing features/opportunities/challenges of continuing with DEER or switching to eTRM as Database or Record. (Mid-February 2019)
  - Joint CEC-CPUC Workshop (Full Day) on proposed eTRM Data Specification for deemed (new and updated) measures (mid-February 2019)
  - Briefing (no cross)
  - Opening Comments: March 15, 2019
  - Reply Comments: April 15, 2019
  - Commission Decision by June 1, 2019

# The Path Forward eTRM Development Schedule





- Phase 1 (June 2018): Testing and acceptance w/ first 75 consolidated measures.
  - Cal TF will receive a demo of Phase 1 in the June 2018 Cal TF meeting. This demo is open to the public.
- Phase 2 (October 2018): eTRM complete for 1-month testing and acceptance.
- Complete Measure Consolidation and Upload (December 2018):
  - Cal TF affirmation of consolidated measures
  - Measures submitted for Commission Staff approval beginning in September 2018

# The Path Forward Measure Consolidation





- 75 Measures Consolidated in 2017
- Complete Consolidation of Remaining Measures by Q3 2018
  - Roughly 100 remaining that were flagged to be statewide deemed measures will be consolidated through subcommittee process
  - Primarily lighting, HVAC, building envelope, process, pools, and miscellaneous measures
- Related Issues and Uncertainties
  - Deliberations with TF members and other experts to identify open source building modeling tool
  - Most lighting measures sunset

## **APPENDICES**





- TRM Best Practices
- Benefits of Electronic TRMs
- Measure Consolidation Benefits
- Graphical Comparison of DEER/READi and a Traditional TRM

#### **TRM Best Practices**





#### Best Practice Research

- Reviewed over 20 TRMs from jurisdictions across the country to identify best practices for measure development and measure repositories
- Interviewed developers and users in with strong TRMs, including MA, NY, PA and Mid-Atlantic, IL, TX.

#### Identified Best Practices for:

- Process Process for developing and updating EE measures.
- Structure Structure for maintaining measures and associated documentation.
- Content Technical guidelines, directives and practices for developing/updating EE measures.

### **TRM Best Practices: Process**





- Open Technical collaboratives open to the public
- Regular Updates Predictable and regular update processes
  - Existing measures must be updated regularly
- Regulatory Staff Participation is Key
  - Speeds issue resolution
  - Speeds regulatory review
  - Fosters technical understanding between regulators and other stakeholders
  - Builds regulator confidence in results
  - Results of collaborative consensus-building process generally adopted by decision makers with little change
- Regulatory Commissions (Not Staff) Approve Final Values
  - Regulators approve final value but depend on robust, public process to inform decision-making.

#### CALIFORNIA TECHNICAL FORUM

## TRM Best Practices: Structure



- Standard Format for Each Measure Characterization
  - Narrative explanation of measure
  - Base and measure case technical specifications
  - Energy and demand savings algorithms
  - Other key parameters (measure life, costs, etc.)
  - Pertinent implementation details (e.g. exclusions)
- All Measure Parameters Clearly Linked to Measure
- Measure is Well-Documented, Values are Reproducible
  - Citations to <u>primary sources</u>, not other TRMs
  - Primary sources maintained and readily available
  - Measure values linked to embedded calculators, look up tables, and simulation models that are used to generate savings, other values.
- Appendices Contain Additional Relevant Information
  - Detail descriptions of building prototypes, interactive effects, non-energy benefits, etc.

#### CALIFORNIA TECHNICAL FORUM

### **TRM Best Practices: Content**



- Written Guidelines to Ensure Consistent Measure Development
  - NW RTF and Mid-Atlantic state use process language
    - Use of reproducible methods, diligent review of all sources...
  - PA and IL identify what data will receive greater weight (e.g. local data superior from data that is not local/regional)
  - NW RTF has several guidelines on measure complexity, statistical significance, other
- Careful Consideration of Modeling vs. Engineering Equations vs. Field Data
  - No "one size fits all"; consider pros and cons of different approaches
- Key Parameters (from Modeling or Engineering Equations) Should Be Validated With Real Data!
  - Field conditions and human behavior may alter forecasted savings
  - Collect data through implementation or early EM&V
  - Identify and implement use of AMI data (e.g. EnergySavvy) and other tools (DOE Building Performance Database)

#### Benefits of Electronic TRMs





- Key Benefits :
  - Improves Documentation and Transparency
    - Ability to embed tools and supporting documents
    - Enables more detailed revision histories
  - Reduces Cost and Increases Efficiency of Data Management
    - Through APIs, automatic download of values into utility tracking and planning databases
  - Highly Transparent Workflow Management for New and Updated Measures
  - Keyword Searchable
- Current Examples:
  - VEIC
  - Nexant iEnergy Technical Reference Library (TRL)
  - Energy Platforms
  - Frontier Associates
  - U.S. DOE "Open Studio" Platform

# Appendix Measure Consolidation Benefits



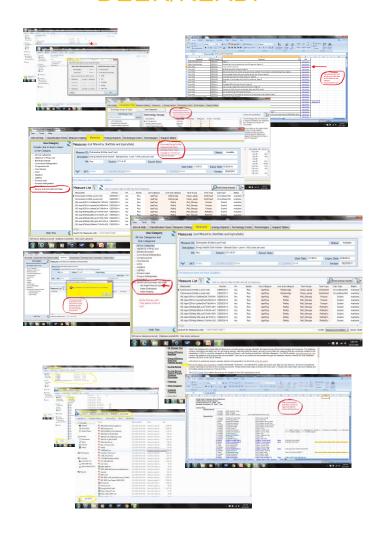
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- Extension of measures across all utility territories
- Buildout of missing permutations
- Consistent treatment of climate zones
- Harmonization of parameters
  - Units of measurement, baselines, measure costs, building types & vintages, etc.
- Issue resolution
- Correction of errors
- Text consolidation:
  - Improved readability, flow & continuity
  - Accessible to a non-engineer, broader audience
- Reference library contains the actual source document
  - Adds transparency to measures and underlying assumptions

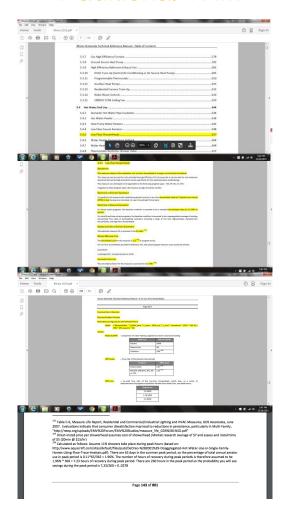
# Appendix Comparison



#### DEER/READi

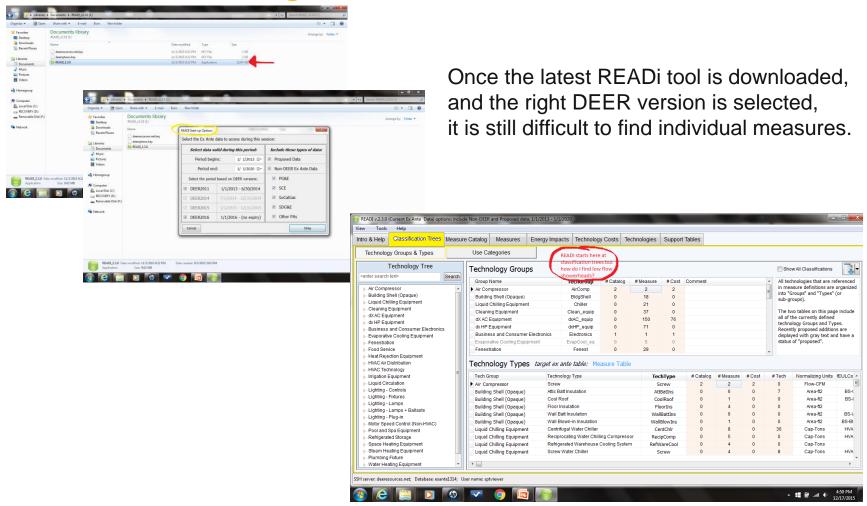


#### **Traditional TRM**



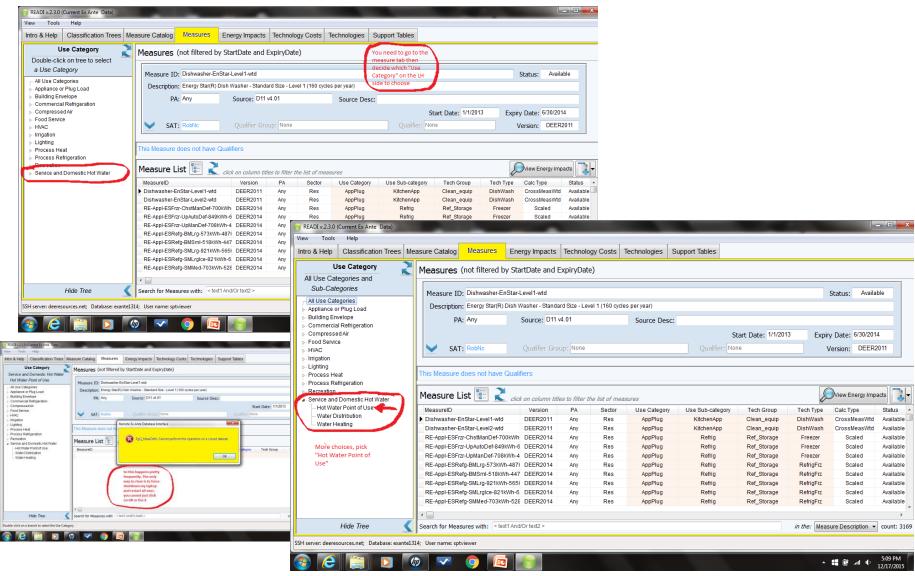
# Appendix Comparison Finding a Measure in READi





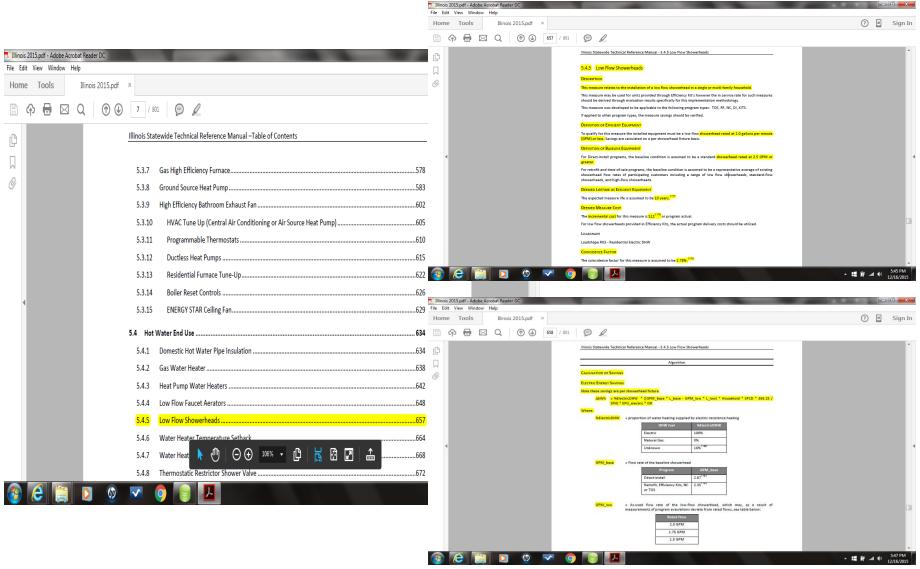
## Comparison: Finding a Measure in READi





## Comparison: Finding a Measure in a TRM





# Comparison: Measure Documentation in a TRM



#### **DEFINITION OF EFFICIENT EQUIPMENT**

To qualify for this measure the installed equipment must be an energy efficient showerhead rated at 2.0 gallons per minute (GPM) or less. Savings are calculated on a per showerhead fixture basis.

#### **DEFINITION OF BASELINE EQUIPMENT**

The baseline condition is assumed to be a standard showerhead rated at 2.5 GPM.

#### **DEEMED LIFETIME OF EFFICIENT EQUIPMENT**

The expected measure life is assumed to be 10 years. 192

#### **DEEMED MEASURE COST**

The incremental cost for this measure is \$12<sup>193</sup> or program actual.

#### LOADSHAPE

Loadshape C02 - Commercial Electric DHW

#### **COINCIDENCE FACTOR**

The coincidence factor for this measure is assumed to be 2.78% <sup>194</sup>.

Electronic TRMs also host source documents—no risk of broken links

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>192</sup> Table C-6, Measure Life Report, Residential and Commercial/Industrial Lighting and HVAC Measures, GDS Associates, June 2007. Evaluations indicate that consumer dissatisfaction may lead to reductions in persistence, particularly in Multi-Family, "http://neep.org/uploads/EMV%20Forum/EMV%20Studies/measure\_life\_GDS%5B1%5D.pdf"

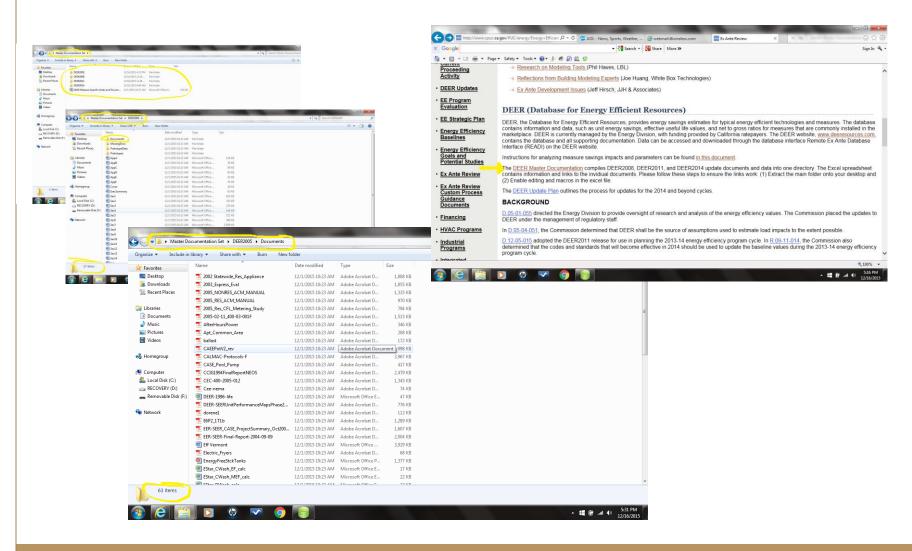
<sup>193</sup> Direct-install price per showerhead assumes cost of showerhead (Market research average of \$7 and assess and install time of \$5 (20min @ \$15/hr)

<sup>194</sup> Calculated as follows: Assume 11% showers take place during peak hours (based on:

http://www.aquacraft.com/sites/default/files/pub/DeOreo-%282001%29-Disaggregated-Hot-Water-Use-in-Single-Family-Homes-Using-Flow-Trace-Analysis.pdf). There are 65 days in the summer peak period, so the percentage of total annual aerator use in peak period is 0.11\*65/365 = 1.96%. The number of hours of recovery during peak periods is therefore assumed to be 1.96% \* 369 = 7.23 hours of recovery during peak period. There are 260 hours in the peak period so the probability you will see savings during the peak period is 7,23/260 = 0.0278

### Comparison: Measure Documentation for DEER





## Comparison: Measure Documentation for DEER



