



**California Technical Forum (Cal TF)
Policy Advisory Council (PAC) Meeting #10
May 2nd, 2016
Natural Resources Defense Council
San Francisco, CA**

I. Participants

Annette Beitel, Cal TF Facilitator
Alejandra Mejia, Cal TF Staff
Tim Melloch, Cal TF Staff

Peter Miller, Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC)
Rachel Huang, Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD)
Jessica Francisco, Pacific Gas & Electric (PG&E)
Margie Gardner, California Energy Efficiency Industry Council (CEEIC)
Mike Campbell, Office of Ratepayer Advocates (ORA)
Beckie Menten, MCE Clean Energy
Steve Galanter, Southern California Edison (SCE)
Jonathan Changus, Northern California Power Agency (NCPA)

On the Phone

Bryan Cope, Southern California Public Power Authority (SCPPA)
Mary Ann Piette, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory (LBNL)
Lisa Davidson, San Diego Gas & Electric (SDG&E)
Hanna Greene, Center for Sustainable Energy (CSE)
Donald Gilligan, National Association of Energy Services Companies (NAESCO)

II. Key Decisions and Action Items

Progress on 2016 Business Plan

- ACT: Cal TF Staff to follow up on NCPA, SCPPA, and LBNL “Beyond Widgets” project to identify possible connections with eTRM project and the work of the Cal TF, generally.
- ACT: As part of eTRM project, Cal TF staff to review public power calculators for inclusion in eTRM work.

“Next Steps” Memo for Collaborating with CPUC Staff



- ACT: Cal TF staff to create flow diagram to illustrate eTRM implementation, including measure consolidation, measure development, measure updating, eTRM adoption, and possible dispute resolution process.

TF Member Commitments Starting June 1st, 2016

- ACT: Beckie Menten, Rachel Huang, and Steve Galanter to make up selection committee, pending confirmation.

Updated Item 3b in 2016 Business Plan

- ACT: Cal TF staff to consider the likelihood that a measure will move towards normalized metered energy savings during eTRM measure prioritization. Project to focus less on measures whose savings likely to be determined through normalized metered energy savings rather than deemed estimates.

Open Discussion

- ACT: Cal TF staff to work with TF to determine guidelines for when it is appropriate for measure to be pulled from Cal TF review once it has started, for PAC review.
- ACT: Cal TF staff to draft boilerplate talking points to be agreed upon and used by both Cal TF staff and PAC members when talking to legislators about Cal TF work.

III. Opening

Annette Beitel, Cal TF Facilitator—

Run through of agenda.

Question about possible Cal TF role in AB 802 implementation. This will be discussed later on in the meeting.

Questions about what the future of the Cal TF is after the completion of the eTRM. Cal TF staff is confident that if the eTRM project is implemented and adopted by the CPUC, the CPUC will continue to value the new measure review work of the Technical Forum.

IV. Progress on 2016 Business Plan



Annette Beitel, Cal TF Facilitator—

PowerPoint Presentation

Discussion of “Beyond Widgets” collaboration between public power and LBNL. Project may eventually provide useful technical support for broader “systems” approach to deemed estimates.

- ACT: Cal TF Staff to follow up on NCPA, SCPPA, and LBNL “Beyond Widgets” project to identify possible connections with eTRM project and the work of the Cal TF, generally.

Cal TF staff has had difficulty implementing our goal to allow third parties to produce their own workpapers. Currently working with Program Administrators to figure out the best, most transparent process that ensures reviewed work is used and useful while also preventing unnecessary bottlenecks.

NCPA and SCPPA are developing new calculator tools to supplement their existing TRM.

- ACT: Cal TF staff to review public power calculators for inclusion in eTRM work.

Reducing Complexity and False Precision

Complexity has very real costs even in the age of “big data.” There is rarely enough data to support the current level of measure differentiation. Furthermore, many users are incapable of leveraging the current level of granularity and end up consolidating estimates anyways (CPUC EM&V contractors, utility portfolio planning). There is a lot of support at the regulatory agencies for these goals. Nonetheless, it will be very important to continue solidifying acceptance of that goal to prevent the eTRM from becoming obsolete.

Implications of AB 802 and the move to Normalized Metered Savings on Ex Ante

There will still be a need for ex ante estimates. Electronic TRM tools will enable estimates to be calculated with different baselines in accordance to the expected variety of end users and Program Administrators.

eTRM Development Schedule



While it will be important to collaborate closely with CPUC Staff and their consultants during eTRM implementation, the process should not be unduly delayed as we wait for any one individual's input. All efforts at collaboration should be documented appropriately.

Cost Reduction Opportunities

There is a significant amount of resources currently being spent by the utilities on updating workpaper formatting. CPUC staff is very supportive of Cal TF staff efforts to streamline current data requirements. They also strongly support the inclusion of POU needs in this effort.

V. Observations on Measures Reviewed

Tim Melloch, Cal TF staff—

PowerPoint Presentation

Cal TF review of workpapers has not reduced the time for EAR team workpaper review or number of comments received from the EAR team. Cal TF staff analyzed the comments it has received on Cal TF-reviewed WPs. The types of comments the EAR team made could either have been provided during advance consultation or could have been addressed much faster and more effectively if CPUC staff and their consultants had participated in the collaborative discussions rather than engaging in the current after-the-fact back and forth with workpaper developers. Without changes to the process, as set forth in the "Next Steps" memo that Cal TF staff is working on with CPUC staff, Cal TF's efforts will not be able to improve the ex ante review process.

VI. "Next Steps" Memo for Collaboration with CPUC Staff

Annette Beitel, Cal TF Facilitator—

Discussion of "Next Steps" memo: Cal TF staff is working on this document with Commission staff to improve process going forward. The memo covers three main areas:

1. Common areas of agreement
2. Process improvement recommendations for current measure review process
3. eTRM implementation



Dispute Resolution Process

The process of creating a comparison exhibit tends to significantly narrow differing perspectives and eliminate disputes. There will need to be a transparent, trustworthy dispute resolution process where a Commission entity is the final arbiter.

Errors

Errors will occur. The goal here is to set up a workable, transparent system where real errors can be identified and corrected. Measure and system simplification will also allow participants to focus most resources on the parameters and other items that have greatest impact on TRC and savings.

- ACT: Cal TF staff to create flow diagram to illustrate eTRM implementation, including measure consolidation, measure development, measure updating, eTRM adoption, and possible dispute resolution process.

VII. TF Member Commitments Starting June 1st, 2016

Alejandra Mejia, Cal TF Staff—

PowerPoint Presentation

Given the new in-person participation.

- ACT: Beckie Menten, Rachel Huang, and Steve Galanter to make up selection committee, pending confirmation.

VIII. Updated Item 3b in 2016 Business Plan

Annette Beitel, Cal TF Facilitator—

PowerPoint Presentation

In prioritizing measures for inclusion in the eTRM, one other factor to consider in addition to the factors that Cal TF staff presented in its presentation is whether the measure will be a deemed measure in the future or whether savings from the measure will be determined through normalized metered energy consumption.



Acknowledgement that not all measure parameters will be supported by the highest quality of data after initial review and eTRM population. However, as less robust, but “good enough,” data is tracked, it can be flagged to be revisited once the first round of data source improvement has been completed.

- ACT: Cal TF staff to consider the likelihood that a measure will move towards normalized metered energy savings during eTRM measure prioritization. Project to focus less on measures whose savings likely to be determined through normalized metered energy savings rather than deemed estimates.

III. Open Discussion

Cal TF staff to work with Cal TF to identify guidelines for when measures can be pulled from Cal TF review once review has started. In some cases, it makes sense to not complete review of a measure that has initial Cal TF review, for example if the measure becomes non-cost-effective. In other cases, if a measure is pulled part-way through the measure review process, it might appear that the workpaper developer is “forum shopping.” Cal TF staff to work with TF to determine guidelines for when it is appropriate for measure to be pulled from Cal TF review once it has started, for PAC review.

- ACT: Cal TF staff to work with TF to determine guidelines for when it is appropriate for measure to be pulled from Cal TF review once it has started, for PAC review.

Future Legislative Outreach

If Cal TF staff or PAC members are going to be discussing Cal TF work with legislators or in legislative information hearings, the comments and remarks should be based on talking points that the PAC has agreed to in advance.

- ACT: Cal TF staff to draft boilerplate talking points to be agreed upon and used by both Cal TF staff and PAC members when talking to legislators about Cal TF work.