



Evaluation Project Updates

February 2022





Process Evaluation Activities

BPA has contracted with Evergreen Economics and Apex Analytics to conduct process evaluations of its energy efficiency programs. Process evaluations focus on identifying opportunities to streamline program processes, to make participation more convenient and more appealing for participants and to allow programs to deliver incentives and support more effectively and efficiently. This process evaluation effort has begun with an evaluation of the Strategic Energy Management offering. The study will review how the program is structured, how it is implemented, how it is received by utilities and participants, and what improvements may be possible.

The Evergreen Economics team has already completed a review of program information and interviews with BPA staff, contractors, and regional stakeholders. The contractor's next step is to interview a sample of utilities and end-customers. They plan to interview 17 utilities that offer the program (and a small number who do not), as well as 30-38 industrial customers who are in various stages of participation. We will notify utilities on the interview list or who have end-use customers in the interview sample. The interview request will be modest: the evaluators will ask for about an hour of respondents' time for a phone or Zoom conversation. Interviews will focus on respondents' experience with SEM broadly; little preparation, if any, will be required.

We will explain more in an email and upcoming webinar on March 17 for utilities selected for this phase of the study.

BPA, together with the Evergreen Economics team, will be planning future process evaluation activities for other BPA energy efficiency program offerings in 2022. Stay tuned for more information.



COVID-19 Coronavirus Considerations

We understand the difficulties utilities, utility staff, businesses and customers are experiencing during this pandemic. Please know that we continue to consider the current environment in all evaluation activities on an ongoing basis. We recognize that in-person customer contact needs to be avoided or thoroughly considered before undertaken. We are coordinating with utilities to ensure all evaluation activities are conducted in accordance with each utility's current operating procedures.

Do you have an idea of what you think needs evaluation?

Impact Evaluation Activities

BPA is currently in the reporting phase for our impact evaluation of custom industrial projects for Option 1 utilities.

BPA has two additional impact evaluations underway, both in the data collection phase: a persistence assessment of Strategic Energy Management (SEM) to inform measure life; and the second phase of impact evaluation of custom industrial projects, for Option 2 utilities.

In partnership with our evaluation consultants, we developed research plans for SEM persistence and Option 2 Custom Industrial, that can be found at

www.bpa.gov/goto/evaluation.

BPA is currently updating its impact evaluation plan, identifying additional evaluation opportunities and updating the schedule for future evaluation activities.

Schedule

Evaluation Activity	FY2022				FY2023			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Custom and C/I/Ag Lighting								
Option 1 Custom Industrial								
Option 2 Custom Industrial								
SEM Evaluation – Persistence								
SEM Evaluation – Process								
BPAQ Commercial HVAC – Completed								
(FY2019) Residential HVAC Evaluation – Completed								



Send your suggestions to evaluation@bpa.gov.