



June 2012

Frequently Asked Questions

Emerging Technology Field Test

General Questions

How do ET Field Tests differ from larger pilots or demonstrations?

ET Field Tests are intended to answer specific research questions, and may be followed by larger pilots or demonstrations to answer other questions.

How are technologies prioritized for ET Field Tests?

The technologies were initially screened by E3T Technical Advisory Groups. Then BPA evaluated them for their robustness, technical potential and fit into BPA Programs. The ET Field Tests are designed to answer specific research questions about the technologies.

Are these really emerging technologies?

No; most ET Field Tests will include commercially available products, answering energy or program related questions.

Are Option 2 Custom Project Proposals eligible for ET Field Tests?

Yes; BPA funded research can be provided for Option 2 Custom Project Proposals.

How will E3T incorporate customer utility feedback into ET Field Tests?

Brief online forms will be developed to capture customer and utility feedback.

Do you have product descriptions for people who are not familiar with the technologies? Technology briefs will be available on the ET Field Test web-page.

How are requests processed?

Once the ET Field Test request has been submitted, the E3T Project manager will determine how the project fits into the research plan. A decision will be emailed to requester within a few days of the request. The available number of ET Field Tests each technology will be updated monthly on the ET Field Test web-page.

What happens after approval?

Once the ET Field Test request has been approved, the Custom Project Proposal (CPP) needs to be submitted. A CPP template for the project will be sent to the requester. Most ET Field Test CPP's will be based on Engineering Calculation with Verification, with additional E3T-funded measurement and verification (M&V), so the incentive payment can be before the research is complete. BPA will finalize the measurement and verification plan for each site prior to CPP approval; pre-installation metering may be required.

Once the technology has been installed and the Completion Report is approved, the CPP incentive can be paid. A Completion Report template for the project will be sent to the requester. The E3T-funded research and analysis will be shared on Energy Smart Awareness calls. BPA will not publish the customer name without prior approval.



Research Plan

Will installations across a range of climates be required for ET Field Tests?

Depending on the research plan and how climate sensitive the savings are, a broad range of installations may be required.

Reimbursement levels/Funding

Do we expect the EEI reimbursement to move the market?

Since ET Field Tests are very limited, we don't expect them to move the market. Most technologies have non-energy benefits, which may motivate early adopters' more than monetary incentives.

Can the utility use either EEI or self funding for ET Field Tests?

Yes

Utility Involvement

How will BPA alert utilities that manufacturer's representatives or contractors may be coming to them with projects?

New ET Field Tests will be announced in BPA Energy Efficiency Weekly Announcements, described on the ET Field Test web-page and on Energy Smart Awareness calls.

What does utility staff have to do on ET Field Tests?

Utility staff need to coordinate with their customers, explaining the ET Field Test intent and requirements. Beyond the customer coordination, CPP and the brief survey, additional involvement is optional.