# Smart Grid Implementation Workshop Breakout Group Report

# Enabling Active Informed Participation by Consumers Customers

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## **Major Findings / Caveats**

- Design options to optimize system resources
- Provide customers with options, capability and information to manage energy usage
- Diversity of options may be unique to regions, utility, delivery point
- Design rates to reflect appropriate economic signals
- Informed rather than "active"
  - Let customers make their own economic decisions and manage their use and bills
- Feedback loop to improve coordination between utility and consumers and to minimize customer disruptions and improve customer service

### **Assumptions**

- Smart Grid investments are appropriate and will receive regulators' and legislators' support when the value exceeds consumer costs
- Too early to presume targets for metrics
- Technology will become available to fill needs
- Customer education will be accomplished
- New entrants will enter the market

### **Metrics for Measuring Progress**

- Percent of customers/premises capable of receiving information from the grid (Potential)
- Percent of customers opting to make decisions and/or delegate decision-making authority (Actual)
- Number of communication-enabled, customer-side of the meter devices sold (Cumulative / Potential)
- Number of customer-side of the meter devices sending or receiving grid related signals (Actual)
- Amount of load managed
- Measurable energy savings by customers

# Percent of customers / premises capable of receiving information from the grid — Percent of customers opting to make decisions and/or delegate decision-making authority

- ISSUES
  - Utility communication signaling infrastructure to customer or end use device
  - Acknowledgment of signals
  - Customer's actual response (technical penetration and standards development)
- SOURCES AND METHODS
  - FERC form 1
  - Trade groups
- BASELINE & TRACKING QUESTIONS
  - % of customers that already have information
  - % of enabled customers

# Number of communication – enabled, customer-side devices sold (cumulative)

#### ISSUES

- Definition of "communication enabled"
- Varying product lifecycles distort cumulative data (some last longer)
- What types of devices to include

#### SOURCES AND METHODS

- Define device label (e.g., energy star/saving label)
- Data on sales from manufacturing trade groups and utilities data
- End use customer statistical sampling

#### BASELINE & TRACKING QUESTIONS

- Assume baseline to be zero
- Track progress quarterly with adjustments for product life cycles

# Number of customer devices sending or receiving grid related signals

#### ISSUES

- Who is responsible for providing the data?
- Define "devices"
- Relate device data to demographic information

#### SOURCES AND METHODS

- Need additional consumer demographic information
- Obtain count from entity responsible for device enrollment
- Actual count vs statistical sampling

#### BASELINE & TRACKING QUESTIONS

- Demographic breakdown of results
- Type of devices
- Quality of data

#### Amount of Load Managed

- ISSUES
  - Forecasted business as usual (weather normalized), expected impact, actual DR
  - Expected impact of providing info to customers
  - Measure actual demand response
- SOURCES AND METHODS
  - Utility, RTO, FERC data
- BASELINE & TRACKING QUESTIONS
  - Necessary accuracy?
  - Effect attributable to smart grid vs other forces (Public Service Announcement, TOU vs. dynamic price signal)

#### Measurable Customer Energy Savings

- ISSUES
  - Define savings to customer (\$, KWh, \$/KWh)
  - Account for new load additions
  - Energy Efficiency vs Smart Grid savings
- SOURCES AND METHODS
  - Gross average utility / customer segment / gas and electric
  - DMV on PHEV stats
  - Regulators
- BASELINE & TRACKING QUESTIONS
  - Determine best unit metric
  - How do you measure what SG delivers vs. energy efficiency
  - How does DG get factored in PV, PHEV, Storage

### Path(s) Forward

- Educate regulators, legislators and others on the opportunities provided by the smart grid, and the costs and benefits of smart grid investments
- Support timely cost recovery of prudently incurred regulated utility smart grid expenditures including accelerated recovery of investments in existing grid infrastructure being replaced by smart grid investments
- Support appropriate deployment of the infrastructure for the communication of information necessary for informed decisions
- Lobby Congress to appropriate funds to support EISA '07 programs
- Encourage service providers and others to develop interoperable devices, programs and other services that enable customers
- Encourage timely development for interoperability

### **Suggestions for DOE**

- Add FCC to DOE Task Force
- SG work shop part 2