

State of Hawaii Public Utilities Commission (HPUC)
Public Benefits Fee (PBF) Technical Advisory Group (TAG)

Meeting Summary

October 27, 2023

9:00 to 10:20am Hawaii Standard Time

Hawai'i Energy Offices with Teams Web Conference Option

9:00 – Welcome

- Attendees (13 in person and 31 virtual) were welcomed.
- Commissioner Naomi Kuwaye welcomed all attendees, thanked the attendees for their continued participation, and encouraged attendees to actively engage in the meeting.

9:05 – Agenda

- The Energy Efficiency Manager Team (EEM) provided an overview of the meeting agenda and objectives. Each attendee introduced themselves by name and organization.

9:10 – Program Year 2022 (PY22) Results

- The Hawai'i Energy Executive Director presented PY22 review of results and key takeaways
 - Residential programs maintained steady performance with program adjustments and levers along the way. Maintain focus on tailored customer engagement for pipeline development for PY23. Power Move remains an attractive offering for customers.
 - Despite progress, PY22 was the most challenging year for the commercial portfolio in Hawai'i Energy history. Both prescriptive and custom participation were well below. External factors like economic pressures and staffing shortages slow project development for both customers and trade allies. Continuing to focus on customer engagement and treasure hunts to drive pipeline development.
 - Continued focus on partnership development in the A&A space to more robustly serve customers. Program enhancements for EmPOWER and Energy Advantage launched, initial review indicates uptick in participation.
 - Allies showing increasing interest in more extensive certification offerings for professional development and technical trainings.
 - Continue with comprehensive marketing campaigns continue to drive program engagement. Prioritizing communications and resource accessibility across all ratepayers.
 - Updates for PY23 will include:

- Custom project development - 80 significant engagements (meetings, site visits, conference calls) in the last 6 months.
 - Revisiting retro-commissioning and chiller optimization program requirements.
 - Streamlining paperwork, limiting time to reimbursement. Finding solutions for challenges to reimbursement rebate model.
 - Maui recovery and rebuild – focus on energy efficiency and distributed energy resources for reconstruction.
 - Coordination with HPUC, HSEO and other stakeholder to plan and deploy federal IRA funding.
 - Marketing and outreach targeted at specific business sectors.
 - Additional technical training and certification opportunities for Clean Energy Allies.
- *Question: Have you seen enhancements in permitting time in Hawaii County?*
 - *Answer: Timing has improved. Some movement in county council right now to improve further. Looking at expedited approval permitting for systems under 10k but not sure if it includes anything from battery side.*

9:35 – Evaluation, Measurement & Verification (EM&V)

- Applied Energy Group (AEG) presented final PY21 findings and discussed PY22 verification report scope and timeline.
 - *Question: Can you define the dual baseline issue?*
 - *Answer: At some point in the near future or within the full measure life of equipment, there is an anticipated change in standards that would affect the baseline of that measure. We will have a first baseline period with one set of savings however, due to change in the federal baseline there will be a change in savings due to a change in baseline.*
- PY22 verification process will take same approach as PY21.
 - There are some additional metrics we will look at. Just getting started but moving quickly to get going.

10:00 – Technical Reference Manual (TRM)

- Applied Energy Group (AEG) provided an update on new measures for PY24 and mid-year PY23 changes.
 - AEG reviewed what the TRM is used for. Essentially, it is the rule book for applying savings that are specific to Hawai'i Energy programs.
 - For EV, load shape may look low in magnitude relative to other measures. This is because it is averaged across customers in this class and based on a few years ago.

- We do not use the EV load shape as an appropriate proxy for the savings load shape. The savings only occur during standby mode when the vehicle is not charging. Savings are occurring during the standby mode.
- *Question: Is the AEG group aware of all the work we (HECO) are doing for data sharing and sharing data to the cloud?*
 - *Answer: This has been a part of our [Hawai'i Energy] planning. Our direct verifications meetings are just getting underway, and we will weave that in. We are working right now with several public research entities, to enable access to smart meter data that is available and put it into a cloud platform that has computer power and tools to share. We want to make sure AEG team has access to that. Data will eventually include all consumers. Currently, the data collection is high for residential and commercial should be finished off next year.*

10:15 – Wrap Up

- The EEM thanked all the speakers and adjourned the meeting.