

## Project Description - C20: Energy Conscious Blueprint (ECB) Evaluation December 6, 2013

### Objective and Priority Outcomes:

The overall objective of this research is to evaluate the energy savings impact of the ECB program, the effectiveness of its procedures and processes as they relate to meeting the program's goals, and customer reports of non-energy impacts. This expands to the following objectives:

- Evaluate the electric and natural gas energy savings impacts and realization rates of 2012<sup>1</sup> projects.
- Estimate the non-energy impacts as reported by participants.
- Calculate and recommend changes to the PSD (as needed) and “forward-looking” realization rates using the most current PSD at the time of this analysis task.
- Assess the accuracy of methods used by the engineering firms (vendors) in estimating savings for complex “custom” projects and recommend any changes.
- Identify the documented and undocumented goals of the program.
- Identify barriers or issues that will inhibit the PAs from achieving these goals.
- Provide recommendations for overcoming the identified barriers and improve program performance.

The evaluation is divided into two phases since developing the sample design and selecting impact evaluation methods depend upon the evaluation team's analysis of the program database. As the sample development and impact methods selection have a major impact on the final evaluation budget and timeline, the Phase 1 includes the work to develop these important parameters. The evaluation team will then provide a Phase 2 project description that includes the description of the sample design, impact evaluation methods, and all the remaining work to complete this ECB evaluation.

### Work Summary:

As described above, the first phase of this research consists of establishing the foundation of the evaluation by examining the current program participant data and conducting in-depth interview with program managers.

To complete the sample design, the evaluation team will aggregate and examine 2012<sup>1</sup> program participation data to identify the types of projects that were completed, their relative size, and what end use measures were included as part of the projects. By examining these three parameters, the evaluation team can determine the appropriate sample stratification needed to meet both program and ISO-NE requirements for impact evaluation and plan the needed M&V activities (*e.g.*, metering, building simulation) to complete the evaluation. Second, the evaluation team will use interviews with program managers to refine process evaluation objectives and issues for investigation, which will ultimately determine the data collection needs of the process evaluation research (and its corresponding sample design).

### Schedule:

This project is expected to begin December 19, 2013. The schedule for the final report will depend on the scope of Phase 2 research and will be provided in the Phase 2 project description.

### Budget (time and materials pricing):

The budget for the Phase 1 research is \$76,177. The final budget will depend on the scope of the Phase 2 research and will be provided in the Phase 2 project description.

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<sup>1</sup> The evaluation may also include projects in the first half of 2013. This is to be determined from the program database analysis.