

# Innovative Utility Energy Efficiency Programs from the Southwest

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# Noteworthy Program Innovations in the Southwest

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- 1) Evolution of LED lighting programs
- 2) Communicating smart thermostats
- 3) More focus on MF housing
- 4) Strategic Energy Management
- 5) Continued shift to midstream incentives
- 6) Utilization of smart meter data
- 7) Geo-blitzing and geo-targeting

# LED Lighting



## □ Residential programs

- Most utilities continuing LED lamp buydowns in retail stores, reducing incentive amounts but adding more products and stores
- But, APS proposing to end its res. lighting program

## □ C&I programs

- Some utilities shifting to midstream incentives with lighting distributors for a wide range of LED lamps
- RMP (Utah) offering tiered incentives for LED fixtures, fixtures with basic controls, and fixtures with advanced controls
- Xcel Energy incentivizing T12 to LED replacements through 2018

# Communicating Smart Thermostats



## □ NV Energy EE/DR program

- Free smart thermostat that optimizes HVAC system performance but also allows consumer control
- DR includes home pre-cooling and individualized thermostat control tailored to each home
- M&V showing ~500 kWh/yr cooling energy savings and ~3 kW peak reduction per home on average
- Benefit-cost ratio > 3.0

## □ Xcel Energy comprehensive program

- Free basic smart thermostat, or rebate on consumer-installed thermostat meeting program specs
- Incentive for DR enrollment, including for BYOT
- Testing optimization software

# Multifamily Housing



## □ Turnkey ESCO approach (ICAST)

- Program administrator:
  - Engages with property owners
  - Conducts audits
  - Installs EE equipment (using local contractors)
  - Arranges financing if necessary
  - Reduces project cost by utility incentives
  - Accesses other grants or tax credits
  - Provides data analytics and energy savings M&V
- Targets both low income and market rate properties
- Program administrator strives for deep energy savings, uses pay-for-performance approach with utility sponsors, and attempts to work with both gas and electric utilities
- Underway in NM, rolling out in UT

# Strategic Energy Management and EMC



## □ Strategic Energy Management

- Xcel Energy Process Efficiency program works with energy management teams to develop and implement multi-year energy efficiency plans, including co-funding for studies
- Offers incentives for energy management and info. systems (EMIS) to facilitate behavioral and O&M savings
- Offerings for both large and medium size companies
- Energy savings of ~15 GWh/yr on average

## □ Energy Manager Co-Funding

- RMP (Utah) providing co-funding for 7 energy managers (30 cumulatively); funding level based on energy savings realized through implemented projects (\$0.025/kWh first year savings), incremental to normal rebates
- Annual energy savings of > 125 GWh to date

# Shift to Midstream Incentives



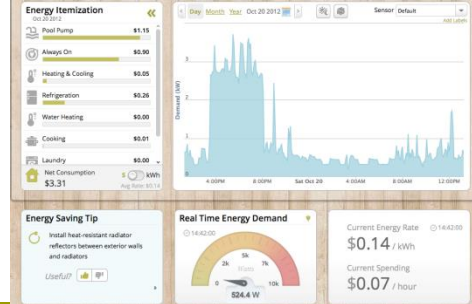
## □ Residential Market

- RMP has moved high efficiency CACs, evaporative coolers and furnace ECMs to distributor or contractor incentives, with incentive passed on to consumer at time of purchase
- NV Energy also providing rebates directly to HVAC contractors, with incentive passed on at time of purchase
- Xcel Energy participating in the EPA's Retail Products Platform Pilot—gaining traction with sales of over 5,000 qualifying products per month

## □ Commercial Market

- Xcel Energy, RMP and PNM have greatly increased market penetration by moving incentives for LED lamps (all types) and/or unitary AC products to the midstream (distributor) level

# Utilization of Smart Meter Data



## □ Home Energy Assessments

- NV Energy offering on-line or in-home home energy assessments using a software tool that utilizes smart meter data to disaggregate electricity use by end use, thereby providing more accurate home-specific energy savings recommendations
- Tool can estimate post-assessment energy savings in real time
- Tool also has customer service representative and field service components
- In-home assessments include direct install measures



# Geo-blitzing and Geo-targeting



## □ Rocky Mountain Power Small Business Direct Install Geo-blitz program

- Targets underserved small towns and rural areas in UT and WY
- Intensive short-term marketing and project implementation in each targeted area
- Expects to complete 2,300 projects in 2017, with relatively high savings per project

## ➤ Xcel Energy Geo-targeting

- Proposing to increase marketing and incentives for DSM programs with significant peak demand reduction potential on distribution feeders nearing capacity, to defer distribution system upgrades
- Demonstrate cost effectiveness first, by feeder

# SWEEP:

*Dedicated to More Efficient Energy Use in the Southwest*

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Resources available online at:

[www.swenergy.org](http://www.swenergy.org)

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