



Overview of SEE Action Guidance & Other Energy Efficiency Resources for Delaware

Compiled by NEEP, February 2016

About SEE Action: The State and Local Energy Efficiency Action Network ([SEE Action](#)) is a project of the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) that advances state and local investment in energy efficiency. Topical working groups include stakeholders and experts from across the country representing state and local governments, associations, business leaders, non-government organizations, and others.

NEEP's Role: The Northeast Energy Efficiency Partnerships is a non-profit organization designated by the U.S. Department of Energy¹ to provide policy and programmatic support, share best practices and link states in the Northeast/Mid-Atlantic region with DOE guidance and materials.

Help for Delaware's EE Policymaking Efforts: SEE Action, NEEP, the Regulatory Assistance Project (RAP) and others groups have a number of online resources that can help Delaware as it establishes the first statewide efficiency programs, per [SB 150](#). We encourage policymakers, utility program administrators, Energy Efficiency Advisory Council members and interested parties to review these documents as you shape the policies and programs that will enable Delaware to deliver cost-effective energy efficiency to all customers in the years to come. NEEP is available to provide additional assistance as needed.

Following are links to resources and brief descriptions on program design, implementation and evaluation, measurement and verification (EM&V) topics including:

- **How to analyze program cost-effectiveness**
- **How to consistently collect and report data**
- **Understanding bill impacts of efficiency programs**
- **Financing options to complement ratepayer-funded programs**
- **Guidance for shared efficiency program administration**

EM&V Resources

[SEE Action's Evaluation, Measurement, and Verification \(EM&V\) Resource Portal](#) is a compendium for energy efficiency program administrators and project managers. The resources focus on tools and approaches that can be applied nationwide, address EM&V consistency, and are recognized by the industry. The SEE Action [Energy Efficiency Program Impact Evaluation Guide](#) includes definitions, concepts, and steps for calculating savings, avoided emissions, and other impacts.

One of the issues under consideration in Delaware is whether to maintain a state specific Technical Reference Manual (TRM) or join the Mid-Atlantic TRM curated by NEEP. Regional consistency in EM&V protocols is a general theme of the SEE Action portal, with NEEP's [EM&V Forum](#) and [Regional Energy Efficiency Database](#) (REED) highlighted as resources. Since Delaware is [statutorily](#) obligated to develop an EM&V framework, these resources are germane to current and ongoing work being overseen by DNREC.

¹ NEEP is funded in part by the U.S. DOE Office of Weatherization and Intergovernmental Programs to support programs, policies and technologies that advance energy efficiency in states and local communities.



⌚ *The creation of new programs is the time to establish consistency with data collection, particularly as there will be multiple program administrators in Delaware. We recommend [model EM&V standardized reporting forms](#) as a starting place. These tools developed by NEEP's EM&V Forum have been used in Massachusetts and will be piloted in New Hampshire in 2014.*

Cost-Effectiveness Testing

How to determine whether individual measures or programs are cost-effective is a major topic for efficiency program administrators and regulators. Currently, many states are evolving or adding to the ways they determine cost-effectiveness. NEEP's EM&V Forum created new [Cost-Effectiveness Screening Guidelines](#) after surveying states and best practices. NEEP is presenting at the [February 2016 EEAC meeting](#) on this topic. We also recommend the Regulatory Assistance Project's paper, [A Layer Cake of Benefits: Recognizing the Full Value of Energy Efficiency](#).

Customer Bill Impacts of Efficiency Programs

[Analyzing and Managing Bill Impacts of Energy Efficiency Programs: Principles and Recommendations](#) – is a SEE Action paper that provides policymakers with principles and recommendations to understand and manage concerns about bill and rate impacts resulting from requiring utilities to provide efficiency programs. The paper recommends an approach based on first thoroughly assessing and understanding the rate and bill impacts expected from a proposed set of efficiency programs — then managing energy efficiency programs and budgets to mitigate rate increases. In analyzing rate and bill impacts of energy efficiency programs, it is important to account for the long-term savings as well as the short-term costs. We also recommend this presentation by a former Massachusetts utility regulator: [Energy Efficiency: Rate, Bill and Participation Impacts](#).

Complementary Financing

[SEE Action Energy Efficiency Financing Materials](#) – There are six papers online, including the newest: “[Making it Count: Understanding the Value of Energy Efficiency Financing Programs Funded by Utility Customers](#).” The finance resources help state think about how to: improve data access, improve program design, support effective financing tools, and clarify regulatory treatment of financing. For information about Property Assessed Clean Energy Financing (PACE), a topic being explored in Delaware, we suggest: www.pacenation.us.

Other SEE Action Topics of Interest

[Industrial Efficiency: Designing Programs and Case Studies](#)
[The Demand Reduction Induced Price Effect: How Efficiency Can Lower Prices for All](#)
[Setting Energy Savings Targets for Utilities](#)
[Energy Efficiency Collaboratives](#)

The [SEE Action Network](#) website has many valuable policy and program resources including case studies, technical guidance and webinars. Please also visit DOE's [State and Local Solution Center](#).

More from NEEP

Please visit our blog and our [policy pages](#) at neep.org or our [Delaware specific](#) materials, where you'll find our 2015 Policy Brief: [Best Practices for Shared Energy Efficiency Program Administration](#).

For further assistance on any of these materials, please contact Natalie Treat, NEEP's Public Policy Outreach Manager at ntreat@neep.org or 781/860-9177 x121.