

Notes from Energy Managers COP CDM & DSM Programs for Municipalities, June 11, 2024

Objective:

The webinar's objective was to highlight programs applicable to municipal energy efficiency and electrification efforts (for corporate buildings) and discuss potential suggestions for the upcoming Conservation and Demand Management (CDM) and Demand Side Management (DSM) Framework consultations.

Summary Notes

Vicki Gagnon, IESO Programs

Vicki discussed various government energy efficiency programs, including the Retrofit Program, Instant Discounts for Lighting, Existing Building Commissioning (EBCx), Energy Performance Program (EPP), Strategic Energy Management (SEM), and financial support for Training. She reported that over 80% of municipalities have applied for at least one project, resulting in 18 million dollars in incentives and 15 megawatts of demand savings since 2019, primarily in lighting. The largest incentive program is the Retrofit Program, offering various incentives for inefficient equipment upgrades. Vicki also introduced the Instant Discounts Program for lighting, which was launched in December, where incentives are paid directly to distributors. She stressed that participants can only choose one program, either the retrofit program or instant discounts, and cannot participate in both. Additional incentives are available in specific areas with electricity constraints. IESO is planning to survey municipalities on their energy data reporting, plans for electrification, and policies for green development standards.

Shivansh Singh, IESO Energy Performance Program

Shivansh presented the Energy Performance Program in detail, explaining its eligibility requirements, incentive structure, and how it compares energy savings from baseline models to actual usage after project implementation. Shivansh elaborated on the Updated Capital Projects Program and Incentives, emphasizing its flexibility and the potential for significant rewards. He clarified that eligible projects could include any operational improvement, with some exceptions, and encouraged creativity within the program's guidelines. He detailed new incentive structures, which offer more rewards based on peak demand, and introduced a streamlined portal for report submission and data analysis. Shivansh also shared a case study demonstrating the potential rewards, highlighting that the program was extended to a three-year term.

Andres Serrano, Enbridge Commercial Programs

Andres discussed the financial support provided by Enbridge through fixed and custom incentive offerings. The fixed incentive offer covers nine common energy efficiency measures, with

customers receiving up to 50% of project costs, up to \$100,000 per project. The custom incentive offer allows customers to receive year-round incentives for energy assessments and custom projects, with a rate of 25 cents per cubic meter of natural gas saved, up to 50% of upgrade costs.

Mark Wilson, Enbridge Municipal Energy Solution Offerings

Mark presented on the Municipal Energy Solutions (MES) team, which was established by Enbridge in 2020 to support municipal climate change action. He highlighted the team's objectives, current programs, and new initiatives, including a multi-year demand-side management plan, a municipal climate action offer, and a revamped home energy retrofit orientation workshop. He emphasized the MES team's role as a concierge service for municipal climate change action and their commitment to supporting municipalities in achieving their climate goals. Enbridge has already sent a survey to municipalities for input on how the DSM framework could be set up to serve their interests best.

Next steps

- Clean Air Partnership to schedule a meeting with energy managers in the summer to provide input on their needs for net zero roadmaps and how Enbridge and IESO programs can align with their goals.
- IESO will share the survey with municipalities to gather information on their electrification plans and policies.
- IESO to conduct structured stakeholder meetings in the fall to gather input on the new CDM framework.

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