

30 August 2010

To: Working Group formerly known as Demand Forecast Energy Quantification Project (DFEEQP)
From: [Redacted] Working Group Project Manager
Subject: Proposed New Working Group Structure

The following proposal is based on a Working Group Executive Committee meeting on July 22. At this meeting we developed a proposed charter and structure for the group through the next Integrated Energy Policy Report (IEPR) cycle.

I. Mission

Contribute to California demand forecasts.

II. Objectives

1. Provide a forum for sharing information pertinent to demand forecasting in California, including inputs to and development of forecasts; models assumptions and techniques used to produce the forecasts; approaches for ensuring transparency; and, uses for demand forecast results.
2. Work to ensure that complete, accurate, and comparable information on the impacts of a) drivers of energy demand and b) programs, initiatives and policies designed to modify energy demand is collected and provided for demand forecasting purposes. Load modifying activities such as energy efficiency and distributed generation are of particular interest.
3. Facilitate inter-agency, inter-organizational and inter-disciplinary coordination to accomplish these goals.
4. Conduct special projects as necessary.

III. Committees

An important goal of the Working Group is to provide a forum for interaction between functional groups within and between organizations on topics related to demand forecasting, recognizing that in many cases these groups normally operate in separate arenas. While facilitating these interactions remains an important activity for the Working Group, it is also the case that details regarding certain topics are of more interest to some members than others. Thus, the Working Group will be implementing a committee-based structure with four committees to start. Meeting agendas will be developed with the committee structure in mind to facilitate participation; full Working Group meetings may also be convened as needed.

The four proposed committees are:

Demand Forecasting – Emphasis on modeling and forecasting issues including demand forecasting models, methods, techniques, assumptions, inputs, outputs and transparency.

Energy Efficiency – Emphasis on load impacts from energy efficiency, including historic, current and future accomplishments. Engage in particular with evaluation, measurement & verification (EM&V) activities wherein load impacts are reported and assembled. Programs implemented by investor-owned utilities and publicly owned utilities are of particular interest, as well as other statewide, federal and local initiatives likely to produce meaningful impacts. Work toward ensuring that a unit of load reduction in one venue is equivalent to a unit of load reduction from another venue and also comparable between energy efficiency and distributed generation.

Distributed Generation – Emphasis on load impacts from distributed generation, including historic, current and future accomplishments. Engage in particular with evaluation, measurement & verification (EM&V) activities wherein load impacts are reported and assembled. Combined heat and power, customer-side photo-voltaic and other small-scale self-generation programs implemented by investor-owned utilities and publicly owned utilities are of particular interest, as well as other customer driven, statewide, federal and local initiatives likely to produce meaningful impacts. Work toward ensuring that a unit of load reduction in one venue is equivalent to a unit of load reduction from another venue and also comparable between distributed generation and energy efficiency.

Potential and Goals – Emphasis on forecasting efforts aimed at estimating the impact or potential impact of load-modifying activities such as efforts to promote energy efficiency and distributed generation.

(See chart next page.)

IV. Meeting Schedule

Working Group meetings will be planned for the third Wednesday every other month; more frequently if needed, either for the full Working Group or, more likely, for particular Committees. Meeting agendas may focus on activity pertinent to particular Committees, the full Working Group or both.

Working Group Committees

Purpose: Contribute to CA demand forecasts

Demand Forecasting

- Methods
- Models
- Assumptions

Energy Efficiency

- Historic
- Current EM&V
- Forecasts

Distributed Generation

- CHP
- PV/DG
- Including CSI

Potential & Goals

- EE
- DG

All committees address IOU and POU programs, and other statewide and/or federal initiatives

V. New Working Group Name

As fond as we all are of the DFEEQP, a number of people have expressed over time that the acronym is difficult to conceptualize (and pronounce) and that furthermore, the group focuses on more than just energy efficiency. Therefore, a new name will be selected.

A number of candidates were suggested at the meeting, including:

Demand Forecast Working Group (DFWG)

Demand Forecast Working Group (DFoG)

Demand Analysis Working Group (DAWG)

Public Policy Forecasting Group (PPFG) and permutations thereof

Demand Quantification Working Group (D-Quant; DQ)

Demand Analysis Quantification Working Group (DA Quant; DAQ, D'Quant)

A final decision will be made during the full working group meeting on September 15.

VI. Next Steps

The next meeting will be held September 15 at the Energy Commission. The agenda will include a “round-up” of key activities and topics, discussion regarding the proposed new charter and committee structure, and selection of the new group name.