Energy Trust of Oregon

Prospects for West Coast Wide Coordination

Conservation Advisory Committee
March 19, 2008

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Disclaimer: ET participation in this activity is still hypothetical

- But if it happens it's a big change.
- We thought it was time to brief you and get your thoughts.

The question:

- Are there opportunities where NW states should coordinate with California to radically accelerate efficiency and on-site renewables through multiyear, higher risk, higher-bang efforts?

Who asked?

- Oregon and Washington commissioners, after consulting with California commissioner, NEEA, and ET.

Status:

- OR/WA commissioners reviewed and suggested revisions. Proposal not yet sent to California.

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Options Selected by Commissioners, ET, and NEEA for examination

Zero Net Energy Homes by 2020

- California is already committed to this goal
- Project planning underway in California
- Criticized by many in the technical community as unrealistic.

Zero Net Energy Commercial Buildings by 2030.

- California has committed and project planning is underway.

Influence Federal appliance standards

- Through accelerated innovation and sales and state standards.
- There is already looser coordination**.**

Coordinate work on **LED lighting introduction**

- National-level coordination is just beginning

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Still Under Consideration

Zero Net Energy Commercial Buildings.

- Coordinated support to the leading designers and developers go further.
- Help the "green wannabees" learn how to implement more advanced buildings.
- Focus on developers and designers who work across state boundaries.
- Bring together those things that CA and NW do best.

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Still Under Consideration

Appliances and Electronics

- Coordinated systematic process to research opportunities, establish baselines, and propose program actions.
- Joint marketing to manufacturers.
- Lead bloc of states to help leverage coordinated national programs through the Consortium for Energy Efficiency.
- Coordinated action on State standards and on getting technical people to Federal standard hearings.

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Why Are the Others Lower Priority?

Zero net energy existing homes.

- The volume home development process is resistant to change and not well organized for training.
- It's not clear whether pushing for zero or near-zero will create more "drag" from coordination or "lift" from improved effectiveness.

LEDs

- Less formal coordination thru Pacific NW Labs should work to some extent.
- Incremental advantage of more elaborate coordination may not be big enough to justify the complications.

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Who Might Do The Work?

Unclear. OR/WA could use a "point entity" for coordination of our many utilities and state agencies

- NEEA comes to mind, but is 4-state.
- ETO could take the point, but
  - Resources would be required. This is pure added work
  - Unclear what Washington regulators and utilities would think of ET in the lead

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Deeper Changes Needed to Make This Work

- Leading toward a world with no, or possibly negative load growth. How to structure regulated profits for utilities?
- How to govern ET and utilities whereby they are asked to invest long-term, take higher risks, but are accountable for results?
  - Annual targets discourages this
  - Already a problem for NEEA-
  - As investment in long term is greater, problem is more significant.
- How to coordinate without bogging things down?
- How to make coordination both nimble and binding?
  - Will require direction and attention from the top.

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