USE CASE: ENERGY EFFICIENCY PROGRAM SAVINGS AND PARTICIPATION

Helps local governments understand trends in energy efficiency program uptake, identify under-represented neighborhoods that could benefit from efficiency, and assess trends in costs related to the implementation of particular measures, which may make them more or less likely to be acted upon by building owners.

DESCRIPTION

A request for energy efficiency program data will likely ask for energy savings and program participation by the utility’s customers within the city’s geographic boundaries. It may include the following variations, depending on the city’s policy purpose:

• A temporal component, such as a request for one or more calendar years so that a city can compare progress to a baseline, or a request for monthly data so a city can weather-normalize.

• A geographic component, such as a request for data to be provided based on zip codes or zip+4, Census blocks, neighborhoods, or another attribute to allow for visualization.

• An industry component, such as a request that usage be split out based on customer class (residential, commercial, industrial), rate class, or industry code (e.g., NAICS).

• A programmatic component, such as a request that savings or participation be divided by measure or product.

• A product-specific component, such as information about the average deemed savings associated with a particular measure.

ROLE MODELS

→ EFFICIENCY AND RENEWABLE PROGRAM ADMINISTRATORS PRODUCE ANONYMIZED DATA TO HELP TRACK AND ASSESS CLEAN ENERGY MARKET CONDITIONS

→ COLORADO AND MASSACHUSETTS MAKE COMMUNITY ENERGY USAGE DATA PUBLICLY AVAILABLE FOR CLIMATE ACTION PLANNING
BEST DATA PRACTICES

Cities have identified the following practices as useful:

• Providing breakdowns by industry segment, customer class, and program or service.

POOR DATA PRACTICES

Cities have found the following practices impede the usefulness of energy efficiency program participation data:

• Applying aggregation standards like “15/15” which requires there be at least 15 customers and no one customer comprise more than 15% of the data, to derived metrics, such as deemed energy savings from energy efficiency upgrades, that do not reflect actual usage information.

BEST DATA PRACTICES

Cities have identified the following practices as industry-leading:

• Releasing data publicly at least annually.

• Providing sub-city geographic breakdowns to help understand equity of program access within communities.

• Releasing anonymized metrics on typical energy savings associated with energy conservation measures.

• Providing customer-specific data where available, with customer consent.