

Issues List for CRAC

Summary of Issues Raised via Mid-Term Assessment & Other Comments

Draft of 10 November 2012

I. Resource Cost Effectiveness

A. How do updated forecasts of wholesale power prices affect conservation cost-effectiveness thresholds? Does the market price adder for conservation cost-effectiveness still make sense with lower market prices, lower natural gas costs and no carbon taxes?

B. How do Council conservation cost estimates compare to actual program costs? Does the mix of measures from recent conservation acquisitions differ significantly from that assumed by the Council in its economic analysis? If so how much does that change the cost of conservation acquired?

C. What is the value to the region of accelerating or retarding the recent pace of conservation acquisitions?

D. The revenue impacts of conservation are cited by some as a significant economic barrier to continued acquisition. Should revenues lost due to reduced sales from conservation be added to the cost of conservation for cost-effectiveness purposes?

E. How do the economics on conservation look for utilities that are energy and capacity surplus versus those that are looking at near-term deficits?

F. How do economics compare for utilities with high load growth versus utilities with declining loads?

G. Are the capacity benefits of energy efficiency adequately picked up in the economic analysis of conservation?

II. Resource Potential

A. With lower wholesale market prices, are there significant conservation measures or initiatives that may no longer be cost-effective? If so, how should programs adjust?

B. How has the economic recession affected the mix of lost-opportunity and retrofit potential?

C. How is technology development influencing resource potential? How will the pace of commercialization of new technology and practices influence future potential?

D. How much savings will result from recent improvements to state building codes and federal appliance efficiency standards?

III. Resource Acquisition

- A. How should utility program goals be adjusted for changes to and savings expected from codes and standards?
- B. Are there significant gaps in accomplishments for particular measures, technologies, or sectors? If so, what are the reasons? Are there subsequent adjustments needed in programs or in conservation potential estimates?
- C. How do prospective efficiency budgets compare to Sixth Plan expectations?
- D. Can the region maintain or accelerate current pace? What would be needed to do that?
- E. Has the fast pace of conservation accomplishments in 2010-2011 reduced the available low-cost potential remaining in the near term?
- F. Are there significant shifts occurring between retrofit and lost-opportunity acquisitions?

IV. Process

- A. How can the Council facilitate interaction with stakeholders' comments in the development of the 7th Power Plan?