

Non-Energy Impacts of Energy Efficiency Measures and Programs

> Chrissi Antonopoulos, PhD Senior Building Scientist



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Session Agenda

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Non-Energy Benefits: Understanding the Imperative and the Opportunity Skip Laitner, Economic and Human Dimensions Research Associates **Incorporating Non-energy Benefits and Community Goals into Utility Cost Effectiveness Framework** Brian Tholl, Fort Collins Utilities









What is a Non-Energy Impact?

- Impacts not directly, or commonly recognized as associated with energy production, transmission and distribution
- Impacts not easily quantified as cost or energy savings





How Do NEIs Benefit Industry?

Utility

Shutoffs/Reconnects, Emergency service calls, transmission/distribution savings, power quality, etc.

Comfort, noise, health/safety, resilience, aesthetics, etc.

Participant







Society

Economic development, tax effects, emissions, waste, national security, healthcare costs, etc.



Industry Uses NEIs, Not Home Technologies

















Utility Programs Use NEIs Too...

Feel good, California

We're working together to bring efficient heating and cooling statewide. Comfortably CA supports contractors and distributors so homes and buildings across California can enjoy the benefits of efficient HVAC solutions.

Get Started Now

NEW JERSEY'S Energy Efficiency Program

2025 WHOLE HOME INCENTIVE PROGRAM **Bigger Incentives, Greater Comfort**



Comfort Home

For Homeowners

ine enjoying a comfortable home and saving up to 20% or more on utility bills Ath low-interest financing, and guides you from initial assessment to project completion

ENERGYWORKSNOWCON



 Increased Incentives Increased Financing Expanded Options







How Do Programs Value NEIs?

Technical Resource Manuals (TRMs) are the typical standard for valuing improvements to systems and materials. They typically include:

- 1. Energy Savings Calculations: Methods for determining energy savings, demand reductions, and environmental impacts for different types of efficiency measures.
- 2. Program Design Guidelines: Best practices and approaches for designing and implementing energy efficiency programs.
- 3. Data Collection and Evaluation Methods: Standardized processes for gathering data, monitoring, and assessing program performance.
- 4. Technical Assumptions: Pre-established assumptions about equipment performance, energy usage, and savings based on industry standards.
- 5. Quality Assurance: Protocols for ensuring accuracy and consistency in program implementation and reporting.



Program Benefits & Monetization

- TRM values are used to monetize upgrade benefits and justify program costs
- Typical approaches include cost/benefit analysis and return on investment (ROI) to value retrofit benefits.
- NEIs don't fit "nicely" into these types of assessments.

y program costs n investment



An Example: Air Sealing in New York

heat. Annual Electric Energy Savings, Summer Peak Coincident Demand Savings and Annual Fossil Fuel Energy Savings are calculated as below.

$$\Delta kWh = units \times \left(\frac{\Delta CFM_{50}}{F_n \times F_h}\right) \times \left(\Delta kWh/CFM\right)$$

$$\Delta kW = units \times \left(\frac{\Delta CFM_{50}}{F_n \times F_h}\right) \times \left(\Delta kW/CFM\right) \times CF$$

$$\Delta MMBtu = units \times \left(\frac{\Delta CFM_{50}}{F_n \times F_h}\right) \times \frac{(\Delta therms/CFM)}{10}$$

units = 1, from application

 $\Delta CFM_{50} = 1,300$, from application

F_n = 19, from Summary of Variables and Data Sources table

F_h = 0.81, from Summary of Variables and Data Sources table based on building type from application

 $\Delta kWh/CFM = 1.5$, from Appendix E based on HVAC type and city from application ∆kW/CFM = 0.004, from Appendix E based on HVAC type and city from application ∆therms/CFM = 2.4, from Appendix E based on HVAC type and city from application CF = 0.69, from Summary of Variables and Data Sources table

$$\Delta kWh = 1 \times \left(\frac{1,300}{19 \times 0.81}\right) \times 1.5 = 126.71 \, kWh$$
$$\Delta kW = 1 \times \left(\frac{1,300}{19 \times 0.81}\right) \times 0.004 \times 0.69 = 0.34 \, kW$$
$$\Delta MMBtu = 1 \times \left(\frac{1,300}{19 \times 0.81}\right) \times \frac{2.4}{10} = 20.27 \, MMBtu$$

Calculations provide basis for valuing Air Sealing based on only two parameters:

- Energy savings
- Fossil fuel energy savings

No method for estimating NEIs.

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NEIs are Missing from the Program Valuation Picture







Standard TRM valuation methods often don't "pencil" out. Cost/benefit ratios or ROI is often not favorable for supporting the measure. Leaves a gap in "true" value of the upgrade



Households Place Significant Value on NEIs

- When buying new technologies, NEIs are more important than cost to average consumers, especially:
 - Durability/repairability
 - Safety
 - Low maintenance
 - Health
 - Superior performance

How important are the following factors when buying appliances or home technology?

Durable and Can Repair	3%		23
Safety Certified	3%		25
Low Maintenance	4%		29
Fewer Health Risks	5%		28
Low Install and/or Maintain Cost	4%		30
Superior Performance	4%		30
Low Cost	6%		31
ENERGYSTAR	6%		32
Easy To Find Retail	6%		36
Easy To Find Contractor	8%		36
Safe Around Children and Pets	13%		31
Trusted Brand	7%		40
Low Cost to Replace	8%		39
Operates During Power Failure	8%		38
Accessible for Seniors/Disabled People	14%		34
Less Enviro Impact	12%		39
Aesthetics/Match Other Appliances	10%		- 41
Familiar	9%		44
Can DIY	16%		41
Latest Features	19%		43
Nostalgia	40%		37
	100	50	(
		% of 7	7.019
F	Response	Not Impor	tant





NEIs Can Be Big Motivators for Home Upgrades

Motivations for Making Changes in their Home



- The most important changes in homes:
 - Comfort & safety
 - Repairs



motivators for making

Improving appearance Reducing energy bills



Households and Contractors are Misaligned







Consortium for Energy Efficiency Focus on NEIs

NEI Category	Definition
Comfort	Includes thermal comfort, noise reduction, improved light
Health and Safety	Includes improved well-being due to reduced incidence of illness, med deaths and insurance costs (e.g., from reduced fire risk)
Asset Value	Includes equipment functionality/performance improvement, equipmer in building value, change in ease of selling building
Productivity	Included changes in labor costs and productivity, waste streams, spoil and maintenance, and changes in product sales as a result of change etc.
Increased Reliability	Value of reduced probability and/or likely duration of customer service efficiency, which lowers loads on the grid
Environmental Impacts	The range of environmental costs and benefits that result from efficien
Public Health	The range of public health impacts resulting from efficiency resources

dical costs, sick days,

nt life extension, change

lage/defects, operations es in aesthetics, comfort,

interruptions from

ncy resources





The good news:

• Programs work! More people make modifications when they participate in energy efficiency programs compared to those that don't.

The bad news:

• Only 9% of occupants participate in programs nationally. Some regional variation is observed.

The opportunity:

• Develop consistent, market-facing NEI quantification methods to inform Americans about the benefits of resilient housing.



Percent of Residents Who Made Modifications



Why Develop NEI Calculation Metrics?

- Individual analyses are expensive
- Methods and data are often kept in a black box
- Methods are not necessarily replicable between entities/organizations
- Many outcomes end up as apples-and-orange comparisons
- Lack of standard approaches for Technical Resource Manuals (TRMs) and other important programmatic and technical documentation
- Energy savings alone does not "sell" EE need better quantification methods





Initial NEIs of Interest:

- 1. Thermal Comfort
- 2. Noise
- 3. Health
- 4. Resiliency

Prioritization Criteria:

- Transferability
- Quantification
- Driver of Program Participation
- Magnitude
- Evaluation Cost
- Transferability
- Data/Research Availability
- Time Horizon of Impact



Adapt Metrics/Methods for Industry Use

Test and Revise

Run Scenarios

Example Workflow: Noise



Pacific

Northwest

Outputs

Noise Attenuation (dB)

Disability-Adjusted Life Years (DALY) Due To Noise Exposure



Thank you

