

Energy Trust of Oregon

Request for Proposals:

Existing Buildings 2020 Impact Evaluation

Responses to Questions

1. *Question: We note from the RFP that ETO is interested in a sampling plan that produces “reliable, accurate, and significant estimates of 2020 electric and gas savings by major track and measure can be obtained, as well as estimates of overall annual program gas and electric savings.”*
 - a. *Does ETO have specific confidence and precision sampling expectations?*
 - b. *Are there different confidence and precision sampling targets by major track, fuel type, etc.?*
 - c. *Does ETO expect to follow RTF Guidelines to set confidence and precision sampling targets by measure and track (based on RTF Measure Category and other factors)?*
 - d. *Does ETO have guidance regarding the level of variability to be expected in the project realization rates, such as coefficients of variation?*

Answer: The RFP requests “reliable, accurate, and significant estimates of 2020 electric and gas savings by major track and measure”; Energy Trust staff typically use the industry standard definition of 90% confidence and 10% precision. It is critical to obtain estimates of electric and gas savings in 2020 with 90% confidence and 10% precision (or better) at the program level. While Energy Trust is interested in seeing results broken down by track (e.g., custom, lighting, standard and SEM) there is no specific confidence/precision requirement for results at the track level. Previous impact evaluations of the Existing Buildings program (available [here](#)) demonstrate that variability of measure performance is lowest for the lighting track, moderate for the standard track and higher for the custom and SEM tracks.

2. *Question: What was the site-level savings rate cap for the SEM Winter cohort participants in their first year of engagement? What adjustments, if any, will be made to true these savings claims up? Or is that a part of the impact evaluation?*

Answer: The site-level savings rate cap varied by market sector, from a low of 3% for hospitals to a high of 20% for offices. The program is not planning to make any further adjustments to these savings claims on its own, but will look to the results of this impact evaluation for guidance on future savings claims where models are not used.

3. *Question: Any COVID related restrictions on proposing and conducting onsite EM&V visits? Does the ETO prefer virtual EM&V visits to in-person site visits due to the ongoing pandemic implications?*

Answer: Energy Trust sees pros and cons to both onsite and virtual customer visits. Given the savings on travel costs and likely improved convenience to customers of virtual visits in addition to the health and safety benefits, Energy Trust encourages their use where possible. That said, there may be cases where the required data collection can be accomplished more effectively with an onsite visit; proposals should articulate the bidder's criteria for using onsite visits.

4. *Question: For SEM projects, what is the anticipated duration of verification of savings persistence - does the time period need to be limited to just PY2020? What, if any, normalization would the ETO recommend for COVID related closures, etc.?*

Answer: Commercial SEM measures have a measure life of 5 years, so savings claimed in 2020 are expected to persist through 2024. Energy Trust is seeking guidance from the

evaluator on adjustments to savings for COVID-related disruptions to operations. Proposals may contain suggested methods; final methods will be determined after discussions with program staff to ensure all relevant factors have been considered.

5. *Question: What are ETO's insurance policy requirements – both the breadth of policies and coverage limits?*

Answer: Energy Trust includes the following language around insurance requirements in its evaluation contracts:

1. Contractor shall obtain the following minimum insurance coverages ("Required Insurances") at its expense, and keep the Required Insurances in effect during the Term:
 - a. Workers' Compensation Insurance in compliance with statutory requirements;
 - b. Commercial General Liability Insurance (including contractual liability), on an occurrence basis, with not less than \$1,000,000 per occurrence for bodily injury and property damage liability, with an annual aggregate limit of \$2,000,000; and
 - c. Commercial Automobile Liability Insurance, with a combined single limit, or the equivalent of not less than \$1,000,000 per occurrence, for bodily injury and property damage with respect to Contractor's vehicles, whether owned, hired, or non-owned, assigned to, or used by Contractor in connection with the Services.
2. The Required Insurances shall be (i) with insurance companies admitted to do business in the state of Oregon and rated A or better by Best's Insurance Rating, and (ii) acceptable to Energy Trust. Contractor shall furnish Energy Trust with certificates of insurance for each of the Required Insurances upon execution of this Agreement and upon all insurance renewal dates.
3. The Commercial General Liability Insurance shall (i) name Energy Trust, its directors, officers, and employees, as additional insureds, (ii) provide that it is primary insurance with respect to the interests of Energy Trust and that any insurance maintained by Energy Trust is excess and not contributory, and (iii) include a cross-liability and severability of interest clause.
4. The Parties agree that Contractor's coverage will be primary in the event of loss. Contractor shall not cancel or make any material change in any Required Insurance, or decide not to renew any Required Insurance, without 30 days' prior written notice to Energy Trust. Should it appear that aggregate limits may be exhausted with respect to any Required Insurance, Contractor will immediately provide written notice thereof to Energy Trust.