

**3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Statewide Energy Efficiency Best Practices Forum**  
**State Overview – Table Discussion Questions**  
**July 19, 2012**

**1. Where do local governments see themselves 3-5 years down the road in relation to the energy and climate action planning goals discussed by the state panelists?**

**a. What do you anticipate being your top issue areas?**

- Codes
  - Code enforcement- getting people who are overworked to a new training
  - Code enforcement is reactive, not proactive
  - Helping all local builders be trained in T24 codes
- NZ buildings – have incentives and market but how to reach ZNE buildings. Need to be thinking at policy level at cities to drive markets. Point of reach codes with strong T24 – should focus shift to existing buildings and reaching ZNE buildings. Will these be requirements by the state? If so, cities need to start planning
- Funding
  - Without ARRA, no programs that were started will sustain. Lack of focused departments on energy efficiency sustainability
  - Some cities can do more (or less) based on staff resources, funding and constraints
  - Lack of funding for development and redevelopment
  - Mandates will force or guide; funding will be key
- Staff Training
  - Small cities represent 80% of all jurisdictions and they have unique concerns about building core competency of employees due to high staff turn-over
  - Smaller cities with smaller staffs will be trailing behind leaders
- Working to keep ordinances up to date
- Climate Action Plans and Energy Action Plans
  - Climate Action Plans are regional in nature and regional collaboration is key
  - How do we move from development into implementation, enforcement and tracking? Especially the non energy efficiency (utility) portions,
  - Implementing Climate Action Plans, strategic energy plans, linking to state plans, guidance
  - Adaptation plans
  - General plan updates with Sustainability Element and Climate Action Plan
- How to monitor and measure progress at the local and regional levels.
- Education and Outreach

- General public actually knows what the heck we're talking about
- Emphasizing economic/workforce and other "tangible" goals and achievements rather than greenhouse gas reductions
- Greenhouse gases from natural gas: Natural gas is going to be an ever-increasing share of the emissions as the RPS is implemented. As the cost of natural gas has decreased, that will challenge efforts in conservation.
- Engage with carbon markets to reap benefits of efficiency projects
- Actual reductions from Energy Upgrade California- what's the actual performance?
- Municipal and new buildings will be efficient but commercial and multi-family will continue to be a challenge. Overcoming market penetration in those areas is difficult. Getting businesses to retrofit to increase efficiency, and not just when their system has lived its life, is also a challenge.
- Utilizing solar energy beyond building operation – backup/emergency generation; electric vehicle charging
- Transportation and EV
  - Growth in transportation programs through fleet improvements
  - Downplay electric vehicle dangers
  - Industrial/commercial business fleet conversion; alternative fuels; EV infrastructure
- More government implementation to create a community example
  - Electric vehicle charging, renewable energy
  - Model of sustainability with projects such as Balboa Park

**b. What are your primary concerns, including any current or anticipated future challenges that will prevent you from being where you would like to be in 3-5 years?**

- Funding
  - Consistent, adequate funding
  - Staff funding
  - Funding from grants
  - Resources to implement: the general fund is not supporting these efforts
  - Creative ways to get by on less resources and opportunities for implementation
  - How to recognize and help cities that have laid off/cutback/redevelopment
  - Cap and trade money
- Staff Training
  - Management training/awareness of needs
  - Local government knowledge
  - Sustainability manager/staffing resources
  - Staff turn-over
- Collaboration and Partnerships
  - Aligning local and regional goals

- Higher collaboration is necessary to move forward
- Education and outreach
  - Understanding what it really mean for cities, individually
  - Reactive versus proactive. Which will it be?
  - Priorities are different for everyone. CAP and trade versus killing jobs
  - Marketing and education of businesses and residents. Identifying effective incentives (give tools and technical assistance)
  - Lack of public/private buy-in for Climate action plans and sustainability for General Plan updates
    - Public – still non-acceptance of greenhouse gases
  - Getting industries on board
    - Consistent and simple communication is necessary for successful program rollout; contractors need this
  - How we can better report back to citizens?
  - Shifting political will
  - Politicization of topic
- Programs and Implementation
  - Ability to do long term energy projects
  - Direct install for municipal facilities
  - Low-income, disadvantaged communities
  - Multifamily and mixed use development
  - The existing housing stock
  - Implementation
  - 2020 mandates will force discussions on how municipalities will implement
  - Implementation of development code and programs for efficiency
  - Outsourcing of implementation
  - How schools are built and operate; emphasis on energy efficiency and other renewables
- Transparent benchmarks/metrics between local governments so we can compare
- Evergreening partnerships – consistency 10 year plan
- Strategic Plan/PUC guidance
- Changes to overall dynamics
- Paperwork for grants

**c. What types of programs or projects do you anticipate focusing on in 2015-2017?**

- Implementation of a long-term energy efficiency strategy
- Title 24
- Implementation of climate action plan and reduction of greenhouse gases
- Solar water heating
- Energy Upgrade California – an incremental approach

- Field verification
- QAQC
- Data
- Multi-family and low-income projects
- Annually updating Climate Action Plan, ideally semi annually
- Capital improvement plan needs to include Climate action Plan and EAP
- Contracts and technical assistance
- Electric vehicle infrastructure support
- Have benchmarking without greenhouse focus
- Regional efforts with cities/counties
- Coordinating with local contractors
- Education, Outreach and Marketing
  - Teaching the residents and development community to remain focused on energy efficiency
  - Education programs, focus on existing facilities
  - Lowering residential outreach
  - Change focus from “global warming” to “energy efficiency, cost-savings, leadership”
  - Potential focus on education/training related to efficiency/renewables → right now about budget. More education in the future
  - Behavioral change

**2. What tools and resources will you need to address these priority areas? What is on your wish list besides staff and resources?**

- Messaging, Education, Outreach and Program Support
  - Political will, community will and more collaborative efforts. Everything has to be translated to economic savings
  - A message or tag line regarding energy and efficiency. The message should be focused on economics, jobs, and health, and not just be about “being green”
  - Consumer outreach and education
  - Education is necessary to get people to understand the benefits of greenhouse gas reduction partnered with economic savings, overall economic analysis of long term plans
  - Education for decision makers/political leaders
  - Consistent outreach materials that are ready for implementation, recognize the needs of diverse communities
  - Better branding
  - Local BIAs don’t want new Title 24 standards. If the state BAI does, they should reach out to the local branches to educate them
  - Staff champions/advocate
  - State funded mandates reduce the volatility of changing local political will

- Programs and Program Administration
  - More adaptive programs and flexibility to innovate and manage risks
  - Integration support for energy, solar and other areas
  - Balance- infrastructure to accommodate growth
  - Direct Install for municipal facilities. Move from planning to implementation
  - Standard set of documents
  - Implementation guide for local governments
- Partnerships
  - Statewide local government partnership- leveraging resources through collaboration (ex. Purchasing)
  - More regional efforts and collaboration
    - How can IOUs help? WRELP is a good place to start
  - LGSEC partnerships (standards and outreach)
  - Partnerships between gas/electric/water utilities and businesses and residents
- City Staff Training and City Champions
  - Cross department influence
  - Staff training and information- what do we have to do and when does it have to be done
- Tool Development
  - Measure/project prioritization tools
  - Tools for tracking and monitoring progress
  - Analytical tools development
- Financing
  - Financial mechanisms need to be developed
  - Funding resources
- Amnesty program (Provide 180 days to reach compliance, then increase after that)
- State policy/local for code compliance (Title 24)
- Data from pilot participants in an excel format from any NDS agreements