DSMSpotlight

ieadsm

Regulatory Assistance Project Joins IEA DSM Programme

In August 2011, the Regulatory Assistance Project officially joined the DSM Programme as a Sponsor. RAP, as it is more familiarly known, has been working with the Programme since April 2009, when it was invited to attend an Executive Committee meeting in Vienna. Thus began what we hope will be a continuing, productive collaboration. RAP's participation is led by Richard Cowart, Programme Director for RAP-Europe, and Rick Weston, RAP's Programme Director for China, who both agree *"We're honored and happy to be part of the Programme, and love learning from and with the Members and Operating Agents."*

RAP is a global, non-profit team of experts focused on the long-term economic and environmental sustainability of the power and natural gas sectors. Most of RAP's work is providing technical and policy assistance directly to policymakers and regulators, and as a grant-funded organization is often able to deliver that assistance at little or no cost. All of RAP's Principals and Senior Associates are former regulators or government officials, with expertise in regulatory and market policies that promote economic efficiency, environmental protection, system reliability, and consumer welfare. They are assisted by a team of internationally-recognized power system and DSM experts, including some, like David Crossley and Eoin Lees, who are well-known

RAP

NOTE FROM THE CHAIRMAN
Where Do We Go From Here?

Do we know what we have to do to reduce energy use in a really drastic way? Frankly, the answer is yes.

That's why it's so disappointing when we don't get there as fast as we need to and when politicians give up on the topic all together. There are many reasons, but one of the more pressing reasons is that we don't get the technology and efficiency improving strategies across to the end-user.

Well, those of us working in the field won't go down without a fight. Having said that, we have to realise that everybody develops blind spots in their work.

The IEA Demand Side Management Programme has been in existence for about two decades and has produced an impressive amount of work. But time moves on and so every five years the members of the DSM Programme take a step back to recognize what has been accomplished over the past five years and a look forward to what needs to be accomplished over the next five years.

Now this will be done in the usual thorough manner. The IEA DSM Executive Committee members will consult their governments, friends and allies to come with directions of where to head and what work should be undertaken. The result – another challenging five year programme.

During this process, it is necessary to look for all the input we can find. For instance, are there readers of this newsletter and

to the DSM Programme. RAP has worked extensively in the US since 1992 and in China since 1999. It began work in the European Union in 2009, and opened offices in Brussels the next year.It has just added an office in Berlin, and is currently establishing a programme in India.

After getting its feet wet in Vienna, RAP jumped headfirst into the Programme's work by joining *DSM Task XXII, Energy Efficiency Portfolio Standards*, to provide in-kind research and analysis. The Task will survey a cross-section of jurisdictions that impose energy efficiency obligations on energy companies and summarize best practices in this field. The report will be completed this spring and presented during the ExCo meeting in Trondheim in April. The subject matter is particularly timely, as the European Union is advancing legislation for an Energy Supplier Obligation, and a number of countries, including Australia, Poland and China, have recently adopted or are considering adoption of such obligations.

> **"We're honored and happy to be part of the Programme, and love learning from and with the Members and Operating Agents."**
>
> RICHARD COWART, DIRECTOR
> EUROPEAN PROGRAMMES

Beyond direct DSM policies such as supplier obligations, RAP has produced numerous research reports and has delivered analysis and policy assistance on a host of related issues across the power and gas sectors. RAP's extensive library of reports and training materials covers such topics as grid expansion and renewables integration, power market reform, tariff structures and rate design, regulatory procedures, carbon cap-and-trade and emissions reduction strategies, and policies to get the most out of smart grids. (All of these materials are available online for free at www.raponline.org).

RAP brings to the partnership with the IEA DSM Programme a worldwide network of expertise in energy efficiency and power sector regulation and increased access to policymakers in non-member countries, such as China. Meanwhile, the DSM Programme offers RAP and its partners its own treasury of know-how and lessons learned, culled from the research and experience of many years. Participation in the IDSM Programme is a valuable opportunity and natural link for RAP's growing international practice.

This article was contributed by Richard Cowart rcowart@raponline.org and Rick Weston rweston@raponline.org.

participants in our social networks that have ideas that are fresh and new? Are there methods that could help us speed up processes we're working on? Is there work that is hidden by our blind spots?

I would like to challenge all our readers and followers to look at our material on the website www.ieadsm.org and in the 2011 Annual Report under **Latest Reports** and tell us what to add to our work.

So please add to your "To Do" list for this week, go to:

- Facebook group IEA-DSM
- LinkedIn group IEADSM – Demand Side Management Technologies and Programmes
- www.ieadsm.org

And then drop a line to Anne Bengtson, Executive Secretary, anne.bengtson@telia.com.

Rob Kool
Chair, IEA DSM Programme

Follow us on:

Facebook　　　**LinkedIn**