

Energy Efficiency Implementation Assistance for Energy Foundation Grantees

The Regulatory Assistance Project (RAP) is offering technical assistance to Energy Foundation grantees on energy efficiency (EE) program design and implementation topics. Energy Foundation is providing funding for this assistance so that advocates acquire additional tools to engage successfully in regulatory proceedings and other forums where EE efficiency program proposals are being presented and evaluated.

Types of Technical Assistance: Direct (One-on-One) and Capacity Building/Training

Assistance provided under this project would be both **direct technical assistance** on program design and implementation as well as assistance more **capacity-building** in nature:

Direct Technical Assistance: RAP will engage a small cadre of experts on EE program design and implementation to assist grantees one-on-one through phone consultations or other means. This type of assistance will be short-term, hands-on to help grantees respond and engage in regulatory proceedings and other decision-making venues in the strongest way possible.

Capacity Building: Technical assistance of a capacity-building nature will be made available to Energy Foundation grantees through a variety of means, including webinars, workshops and written materials. RAP is developing a direct “portal” to the toolbox resources on our website that grantees (and others) will be able to easily access on-line. The trainings and materials will be designed to enhance your organization’s capability to 1) critically evaluate EE and related proposals, 2) make constructive proposals and suggestions, 3) direct the work of consultants that you may engage for a particular regulatory proceeding, and 4) sustain your staff’s efforts to identify and address key EE implementation issues in a variety of forums. Based on your responses to a recent survey, we are developing core trainings on EE topics in which grantees were most interested.

Examples of EE design and implementation topics where we can provide assistance include:

- EE program design basics and innovations, including ways to create a whole-building focus



- Incorporating market transformation programs and policy initiatives^[1] into the development of program plans
- Screening EE programs for cost-effectiveness and other criteria prior to approval of ratepayer funding
- Establishing evaluation, measurement and verification methods for EE programs and portfolios
- Integrating building codes and standards into EE program design
- Evaluating alternative delivery approaches for EE that will deliver “deep” savings at each premise.

Criteria for Receiving Technical Assistance

With respect to providing direct, customized technical assistance to you, **we plan to prioritize requests based on the following criteria and considerations:**

- The assistance will meet a *discrete, short term* requirement for technical assistance (long term needs¹ should be filled through organizational staff or grantees’ own contractors)
- The need requires a custom-tailored approach, and cannot easily be met by other offerings in the “toolkit” —e.g., webinars, handbooks or templates, upcoming workshops or trainings available to Energy Foundation grantees, etc.
- The environment for change in which the grantee will be working on EE program design and implementation issues is highly promising, that is:
 - The grantee is working in venues that will have a direct and timely impact on these issues² and

^[1] Instead of saving energy building-by-building, a market transformation approach seeks to change the entire market for particular products or services so that efficient products or services are the norm and do not need to be promoted with incentives over the long-term.

¹ Including the preparation and presentation of expert witness testimony or pleadings before regulatory agencies.

² For example, as a stakeholder in a regulatory proceeding leading to a Commission decision or at the request of regulatory staff for assistance in framing the issues or developing a position paper for public comment on EE implementation. Legislative activity might also hit the “highly promising” threshold.

- A commitment of project resources to assist the grantee in these venues is likely to result in a meaningful increase in the quantity and quality of EE investments and energy savings.
- The work the grantee is undertaking (for which technical assistance is requested) is linked explicitly or implicitly to the objective of substantially reducing the carbon footprint of the power sector within a particular geographic area.
- Budget and resource considerations-- including the availability of individuals with the requisite expertise that RAP can deploy to provide customized assistance for the timeframe requested by the grantee

How To Request Technical Assistance

Please contact us (below) by email, and we will send you a short application form.

We look forward to working with many of you on your energy efficiency and clean energy objectives.

Sincerely,

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