

# **RTF POLICY ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Background Presentation

July 28, 2011

# Background on the Regional Technical Forum (RTF)

- ▣ Initiated by Congressional report language to develop “consistent standards and protocols for verification and evaluation of energy savings...”
- ▣ Also charged by the Northwest Governor’s Comprehensive Review with tracking savings and progress toward goals

# RTF Develops Estimates that Utilities & Regulators Can Rely On

- ▣ Efficiently provides Centralized & Unbiased Technical Peer Review
  - Energy Savings Data & Assumptions
  - Cost-Effectiveness Methodology & Assumptions
  - Measurement & Verification Protocols & Guidelines
- ▣ Builds on Empirical Data & Historic Experience
- ▣ Provides Open Public Forum
  - Vetting Claims, Identifying Uncertainties
  - Keeping Up with Changes
  - Establish Standards of Proof

# NEET RTF Review Committee

- ▣ To elaborate on NEET recommended changes to RTF that would allow it to meet expanding work load
- ▣ Review committee hired a contractor to develop recommendations
  - Contractor survey found 71% considered the RTF very important or essential to the attainment of energy efficiency goals of the region
  - But report recommended a number of other changes to structure, operations, and funding to meet growing demand for efficiency

# Review Committee Recommendations

- ▣ Better define stakeholders and their needs
- ▣ Define the role of the RTF
- ▣ Develop long-term funding agreement and process
- ▣ Develop multi-year work plans
- ▣ Seek input on work plan priorities and funding levels
- ▣ Improve the transparency of procedures
- ▣ Create an RTF Policy Advisory Committee

# Actions Already Taken by RTF

## ▣ Operational changes

- Subcommittee structure to increase productivity
- Operations subcommittee to define procedures
- Conflict of interest policy implemented
- Developing RTF by-laws
- Added an additional half-time staff

## ▣ Transparency improvements

- Quarterly newsletter
- Annual report
- Developing explicit Guidelines for verifying measure efficiency savings, cost, life, and non-energy benefits
- Enhanced on-line data base of measure savings, status, decision documentation, meetings, etc.

# Actions Taken (Continued)

- ▣ Budgeting and work plan
  - Developed a 5-year business plan
  - Developed a detailed work plan and budget to 2011
  
- ▣ Defining role of RTF
  - Council is developing a revised charter for RTF
  
- ▣ RTF Policy Advisory Committee established

# Purpose of this Committee

- ▣ Charter identifies areas where Council seeks advice from the RTF PAC
  - Organization of operating procedures of the RTF
  - RTF work plan priorities
  - Policy implications of RTF technical recommendations
  - Long-term funding structure and commitments from funders
  - Review RTF progress in accomplishing its objectives and fulfilling its work plan priorities