



ENERGY CENTER
OF WISCONSIN

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What's Up in Weatherization Evaluation?

Ingo Bensch

Energy Center of Wisconsin / Weatherization Evaluation Team

LIFE Conference

May 18, 2010

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When it rains, it pours

\$5 billion in ARRA funding

Much higher production targets

Increased eligibility

Higher spending allowances

Reporting requirements

Paperwork

Evaluation

Why evaluate? Why now?

- demonstrate program impacts to policymakers (energy & non-energy, PY08)
- learn what works, what doesn't
- improve the program
- inform post-ARRA program
- answer WX community's questions
- last national evaluation in 1989
- timing is somewhat circumstantial

Two evaluations

- **Pre-ARRA (aka Retrospective Evaluation) happening now through 2012**
 - managed by ORNL for DOE
 - conducted by a team led by APPRISE, Inc.
- **ARRA era evaluation being planned**
 - will be managed by ORNL for DOE
 - focus on ARRA issues identified by weatherization community
 - evaluation team not yet determined

Retrospective Evaluation

- **Impact Evaluation**

- **billing analysis**
- **technical & field studies (delivered fuels, IAQ, heating measures, maybe refrigerator, maybe AC)**

- **Process Evaluation**

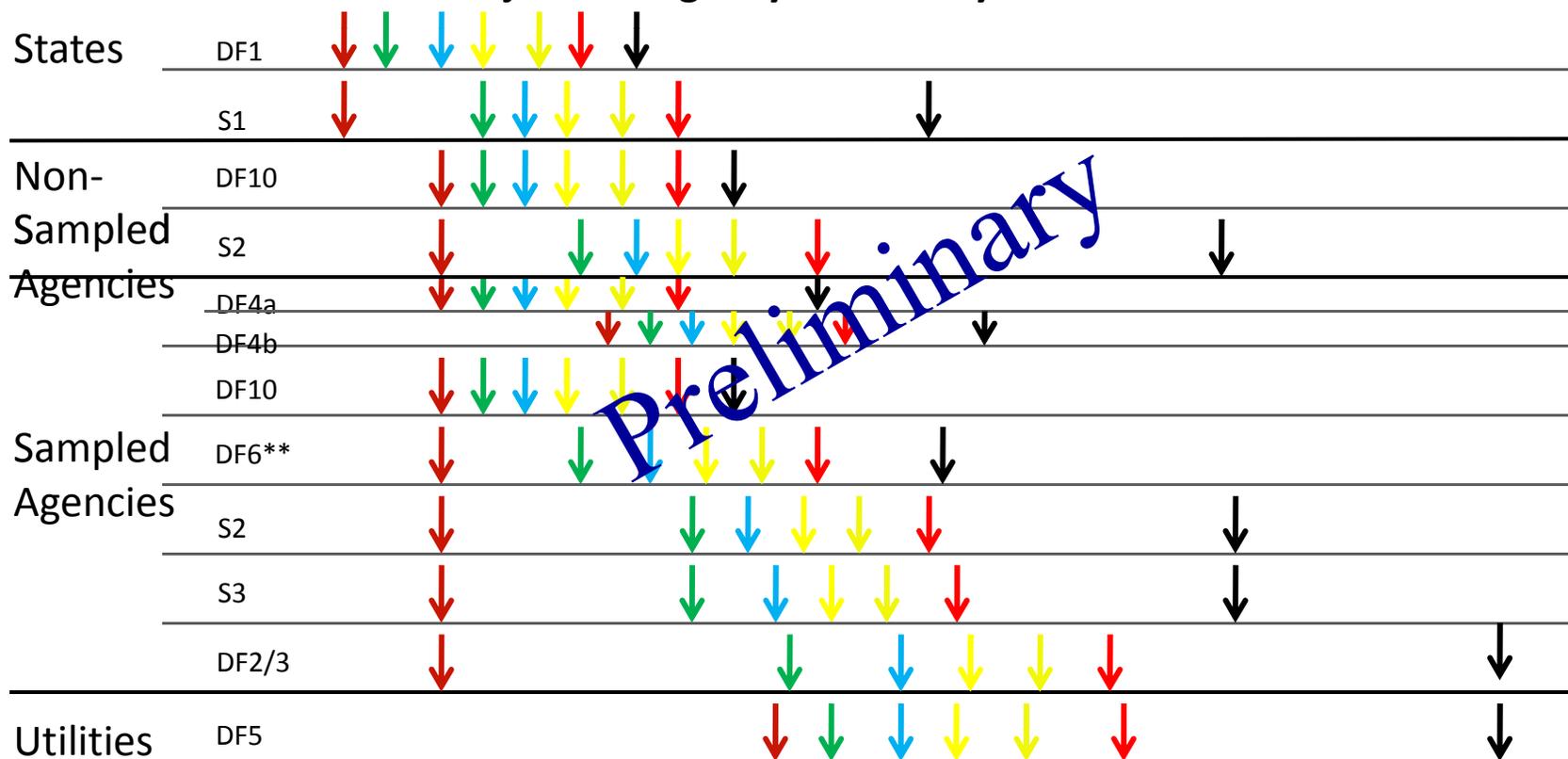
- **surveys**
- **observations**

State & Agency Data Collection

- 50 state weatherization agencies + DC
- all local subgrantees (local agencies)
- subsample of 400 local agencies
- ~1,000 utilities
- sample of occupants
- sample of weatherization staff
- various field studies

Complicated Data Collection System

WAP Evaluation Project Emergency ICR Survey and Data Form Timeline*



What does this mean for weatherization agencies?

All NY PY08 agencies

- Surveys about program operations
- Requests for detailed information about weatherized units (PY08)

Some Agencies

- clients recruited for bulk fuel studies
- clients asked to complete occupant survey
- some auditors, crew chiefs, and crew asked to complete staff survey
- possible involvement in process field study (200 homes, 25 agencies nationwide)

What kind of data are we requesting?

- **program structure, organization**
- **production (statistics & actual units)**
- **funding**
- **procedures & practices**
- **unit & project data**
- **billing account info**

A Case Management Approach

- **dedicated case manager for each state & local agency**
- **single point of contact**
- **makes data requests**
- **answers questions**
- **guides respondents through the process**
- **follows up with non-respondents**

New York's Data Collection Team



Claire Cowan

Outreach Coordinator
Eastern and Southern States



Cheryl Schmidt

Case Manager
NY, NJ, and New England

Multiple Ways of Providing Data

- online data forms
- template files with FTP transfer (snail mail, e-mail)
- telephone or paper
- prepopulating with statewide databases wherever feasible



Keeping Stakeholders Informed

- **introductory mailing to all agencies**
- **dedicated project web site**
 - **portal to online data forms**
 - **active Q&A page**
- **updates to ORNL for its web site**
- **possible “newsletter” updates by e-mail to stakeholders**



NATIONAL WEATHERIZATION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM EVALUATION

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 POWERED BY ENERGY CENTER OF WISCONSIN

Welcome!

This site has been created to help our evaluation team communicate with state weatherization offices, local weatherization agencies and utilities during the data gathering stage of the national retrospective evaluation of the Weatherization Assistance Program.

Our team consists of APPRISE, Blasnik & Associates, Dalhoff Associates and the Energy Center of Wisconsin. The Energy Center will serve as the team's single point of contact for state offices and local agencies in an effort to make the evaluation process as smooth as possible.

Oak Ridge National Laboratory is managing the national evaluation on behalf of the U.S. Department of Energy. Visit their [weatherization website](#).

Please visit the [contact us](#) page to submit questions, ideas or other feedback to the evaluation team.

What's new

[Federal Register Notice 2010-5800 \(PDF\)](#)

Archived materials

[DOE Weatherization Program Notice 10-11 \(PDF\)](#)

Submit data

If you are a state weatherization office or a local weatherization agency and you would like to complete a survey or submit data online, please visit the [submit data](#) page.

www.ecw.org/weatherization

Dissemination of Findings

- **Preliminary/interim results communicated to network committee starting in Spring 2011**
 - (NY represented by Patrick Costello)
- **Formal Reports will be published by ORNL on a schedule TBD**
- **Conferences – Specific topics as findings are published by ORNL**

ARRA Era Evaluation

- **Estimate impact on energy savings and cost effectiveness on change in investment level**
- **Estimate impact on non-energy benefits of the expanded program**
- **Document challenges faced and met by weatherization community**
 - **Davis-Bacon**
 - **Workforce expansion and training**
 - **Changes to weatherization network community**

ARRA Era Evaluation

- **Energy Savings – PYs 2009, 2010, 2011**
- **Process Evaluation – PY 2010**
- **Inputs for this evaluation were provided by a National Weatherization Network Committee, January 26-27, 2010.**

Questions? Answers? Comments?

Ingo Bensch

Energy Center of Wisconsin

ibensch@ecw.org

608-238-8276 x145