



City of Tacoma

Questions and Answers

CONSERVATION AND DEMAND RESPONSE POTENTIAL ASSESSMENT RFP Specification No. PM23-0237F

All interested parties had the opportunity to submit questions on the Ariba event message board by date questions were due. The answers to the questions received are provided below. This information IS NOT considered an addendum. Respondents should consider this information when submitting their proposals.

Question 1: The RFP seems to indicate a preference for end use-based conservation potential modeling (e.g., the requirement for an end use load forecast, separate from Tacoma Power’s own load forecast). Is Tacoma Power open to units-based conservation potential model that builds up estimates of conservation potential from counts of homes, equipment, commercial floor area, etc. without developing an end-use forecast first? If it is helpful background, the NW Power Council considered the pros and cons of the various approaches before developing the 2021 Plan, the resulting discussion is available [here](#) and [here](#).

Answer 1:

In general, we prefer a methodology that reduces over or under-estimation of the potential as much as possible. Our understanding is that the end-use approach can improve accuracy. Tacoma Power is open to alternative approaches as long as accuracy can be demonstrated.

Question 2: Can Tacoma Power provide more detail on the sample “ECM inputs and output workbook” requested in Item 2 of section 9.4, on page 12? What inputs and outputs would Tacoma Power like to see?

Answer 2:

In item 2 of section 9.4, we want to understand the depth and breadth of detail provided for each measure analyzed and how it is organized. To some extent this might be “customizable” once under contract and if so, that could be helpful to have noted in the proposal. By asking for a sample of energy conservation measures of specific end-uses, we hope to better understand the deliverables you provide. For example, inputs typically include per unit details, baselines, costs, O&M, ramp etc. Outputs typically include; T&D average percent losses assumption, sources of measure cost/savings/life assumptions, per year baseline and efficient case assumptions, savings, per year potentials by multiple categories (TRC and UCT), per year levelized cost by multiple categories etc.

Question 3: Can you confirm that “other resource opportunities that do not meet WAC criteria but still provide low-cost resources (utility cost test) to the utility” in the second bullet of the objectives list in Appendix A means measures that do not pass a TRC cost effectiveness test but are cost effective from a UCT perspective?

Answer 3:

Correct. In addition to measures which pass a TRC effectiveness test, we also want to identify measures which pass a Utility Cost Test perspective.



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Question 4: Under the “Use of Studies” bullet point in the list of objectives in Appendix A, what information, beyond annual savings values, does Tacoma Power envision using to develop estimated budgets?

Answer 4:

There is a great deal more that goes into program implementation plan budgeting than is provided by the potential study. Said another way, the cost data in the potential study will not be used to develop program implementation budgets. However, the “estimated budgets” referenced in the RFP are intended to provide high level insights into conservation resource acquisition cost drivers.