Integrating EE/RE Into Air Quality Planning: Methods and Tools for Quantifying Benefits

Panel Introduction

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EE/RE: Quantifying the benefits

- Several reasons to know the benefits
- Determining the AQ – and other – benefits can be challenging
- EPA, and others, are very engaged
- Many opportunities on the horizon

Value of knowing the benefits

- Air Quality Planning – helps to know all possible measures of reductions
  - Texas – comprehensive EE and RE Programs
  - Maryland – Wind Power Purchase
  - Shreveport, LA – Performance contracting
  - Western states regional haze – Renewable Portfolio Standard, and other EE/RE measures
- Program analysis
  - WI – Public benefit fund program
  - NY – Energy efficiency programs
  - GA – Energy portfolio planning
  - Tribal Efforts – CO2 planning
- Legislative reports
- Other emission programs

Key considerations for calculating the benefits

- Level of precision needed
- Resources – $ and time
- Interaction with cap and trade programs
- Different ways to approach the analysis
  - Prospective and retrospective
  - Short term
  - Long term
- Appreciation for full range of benefits

Many players are involved

- States
  - Innovative policies
- EPA
  - Technical support and direction
    - Policy development, analyses & methodologies
  - Regulatory Approvals - proposed and final SIPs
    - MD, LA, TX
  - Guidance
  - Communications/Information
    - Tech forum conference calls
- DOE
  - Pilot Projects - IL, NJ, GA, TX
  - National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) analyses
- NGOs/others
  - Developing new methodologies and tools
  - Advising states

What's on the horizon?

- Ongoing investment to identify best approaches
  - Refining methodologies
  - Provide dedicated technical support
- Assessing lessons learned
- Providing information & communicating
  - clean energy website http://www.epa.gov/cleanenergy