

Energy-Efficient Product Procurement Working Group
June 16, 2010 Meeting Report

INTRODUCTION

The Federal Energy-Efficient Product Procurement Working Group held a meeting on Wednesday, June 16, 2010. The working group is chaired by the Department of Energy's (DOE) Federal Energy Management Program (FEMP). The Federal Energy-Efficient Product Procurement Working Group is composed of members representing major Federal departments. This meeting was held at 901 D Street, SW, in the LBNL Conference Room in Washington, D.C.

The next meeting is scheduled for October 13, 2010.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Charter: This group is technically a sub group of the Federal Interagency Energy Management Task Force (IATF), but currently has no charter. Christopher Payne and Brad Gustafson will send out a draft charter for the group to review. The charter will then be submitted to the IATF for its approval.
- IATF: The IATF's next meeting is in September. This group can meet briefly by phone before that to prepare an update to present to the IATF.
- GovEnergy: There will be sessions on green procurement at GovEnergy, which is August 15-18 in Dallas, Texas. Encourage interested parties to attend. A presentation on Procurement of Energy Efficient Products is scheduled for August 16, 2010.

PRESENTATIONS

- *Energy Star Program Update* – Una Song, EPA ENERGY STAR®
- *FEMP-Designated Products Update*
 - Results of the IG Audit – Brad Gustafson, DOE/FEMP
 - FEMP's Response to the Audit – Stephen Walder, DOE/FEMP
 - Purchasing Specifications – Donald Mauritz, LBNL
 - Product Lists - Christopher Payne, LBNL
- *Compliance Initiatives*
 - 2008 Compliance Report Update – Jeff Harris and Graziella Siciliano, ASE
 - Energy-Efficient Procurement Efforts – Linda Mesaros, Energetics

The PowerPoint presentations from the meeting are available on the FEMP website at www.femp.energy.gov/procurement/.

MEETING NOTES AND PRESENTATIONS

ENERGY STAR Program Update

Una Song, with EPA, briefed the working group on progress related to the ENERGY STAR label, with a focus on new products and the proposal for testing and verification. Testing and verification is a priority this year, with new product categories to be developed as resources allow. ENERGY STAR will begin to require test data from each product to be approved and accredited by a lab or third party certification system. In 2009 ENERGY STAR created specifications for four new products and revised the specifications for eight products.

Additionally, ENERGY STAR has consolidated their energy savings calculators. You can enter all of the information for a whole office to get an idea of total facility impact.

Una has also been working with the GSA Advantage program for purchasing energy efficient products. There has been a problem with products' ENERGY STAR qualification being incorrect, so they have developed a protocol by which to correct mistakes.

The working group discussed appropriate channels for distributing information about new developments within ENERGY STAR. Suggestions included preparing updates on ENERGY STAR qualified products similar to the BioPreferred Program updates on their list serve, highlighting new developments on ENERGY STAR's website, and distributing information at various other working groups.

FEMP-Designated Product Update

Results of the IG Audit – Brad Gustafson, DOE/FEMP

Brad Gustafson of FEMP, briefed the group on the recent Inspector General (IG) report on "The Department of Energy's Program to Assist Federal Buyers in the Purchasing of Energy Efficient Products." The report suggests opportunities to improve FEMP's standard setting and maintenance efforts. Suggestions included developing consistent policies and procedures for Federal procurement of energy efficient products, ensuring compliance with Federal mandates, coordinating with ENERGY STAR, and keeping more meticulous records of FEMP's procurement-related activities.

FEMP will improve DOE's ability to provide accurate information about green products to the procurement community. FEMP will begin to update information on FEMP-designated products on a two-year cycle, discontinue some product specifications and add others, and perform an assessment of Federal compliance with procurement mandates.

Full Text of IG Report: <http://www.ig.energy.gov/documents/OAS-RA-10-08.pdf>

FEMP's Response to the Audit – Stephen Walder, DOE/FEMP

Stephen Walder of FEMP, provided additional details on the recommendations included in the IG report and EERE response actions. The IG suggested that FEMP ensures that the program has the resources necessary to fulfill its mission objectives, and

EERE has received extra funding and resources for the energy efficient product procurement activity. FEMP will gain a better understanding of Federal procurement patterns through a planned pilot at Federal facilities and updated DLA and GSA supply schedules.

FEMP is currently working on a Procurement Program Overview document, which will outline the process for energy-efficient product procurement, and include information on FEMP designated, ENERGY STAR qualified, low standby power, and water-conservation products. Stephen would welcome input from anyone able to provide feedback. There is also a draft web posting on which FEMP would appreciate comments and feedback.

Purchasing Specifications – Donald Mauritz, LBNL

Don Mauritz, LBNL, updated the group on FEMP designated product developments. Six purchasing specifications will be updated this year including dish washers, clothes washers, air-cooled ice machines, commercial griddles, gas tankless water heaters, electric storage water heaters. Now, all electric water heaters must be heat pump.

There will also be two new FEMP designated product categories: commercial water heaters and water-cooled ice machines.

Product Lists, Christopher Payne – LBNL

Christopher Payne, LBNL, gave the group more information on Federal procurement of energy efficient products. If the type of product to be procured is covered by the ENERGY STAR program, federal buyers must purchase an ENERGY STAR qualified product. There are some types of products that are important energy consumers in the federal sector but are not covered by the ENERGY STAR program. These products categories are covered under the FEMP designated program. To be FEMP designated, a product must meet certain performance requirements. Federal buyers must buy products that meet these FEMP designated performance requirements.

FEMP is working with manufactures to put together lists of qualifying products, rather than just performance requirements, to make it easier for procurement officials to comply with green procurement mandates. Collecting this data is difficult, but FEMP is attempting to meet the desires expressed by federal procurement officials for these lists.

Compliance Initiatives

2008 Compliance Report Update – Jeff Harris and Graziella Siciliano, ASE

ASE is executing a survey of procurement contracts and procurement officials to gauge their level of awareness of green product procurement requirements. Of the solicitations examined by ASE, only 12 out of 146 have been compliant. Only two out of 25 procurement officials interviewed said they were fully aware of energy efficient product requirements. ASE will examine the results from this survey to understand what barriers there are to agency compliance, and what is needed to help agencies comply –

guidelines, training, etc. A procurement official from DOE suggests that a list of compliant projects would be most effective.

Energy-Efficient Procurement Efforts – Linda Mesaros, Energetics

Linda Mesaros updated the working group on new efforts promoting Federal procurement of energy efficient products.

She emphasized that education is key. She developed a standard PowerPoint that can be used by anyone wanting to talk or learn about the benefits of energy efficient product procurement, tools, mandates, etc. Linda also emphasized that finding and publicizing compelling examples of successful procurement of green products is key.

Model contracting language for information technology and new construction has also been created. The language is based on ENERGY STAR qualified, FEMP designated, low standby power products, and EPEAT language. The model contracting language also includes evaluation factors. The model language will make it easier for busy procurement officials to incorporate green products by simply dropping the language into contracts. Both the contracting language and the PowerPoint presentation will be available by August on the FEMP procurement website.

Linda also elaborated on the coordinated effort with the Alliance to Save Energy, which includes analyzing all DOE, DOD, DOI, GSA, HHS, and HUD contracts to evaluate the extent to which they contain ENERGY STAR and FEMP-designated clauses and language.

ISWG PARTICIPANTS LIST
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