# Energy Efficiency Accomplishments of Texas Investor-Owned Utilities Calendar Year 2013

#### **Frontier Associates LLC**

### 1 Accomplishments

In 2013, the majority of the Texas investor-owned utilities (IOUs) exceeded their statewide energy efficiency goals. The utilities achieved 548 gigawatt hours (GWh) of energy savings and 415 megawatts (MW) of peak demand reduction. In the past decade, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has recognized many of the utilities for their ENERGY STAR® programs, including being recognized for their Sustained Excellence and being named as Partners of the Year. Figure 1 illustrates the annual savings from 2003-2013.

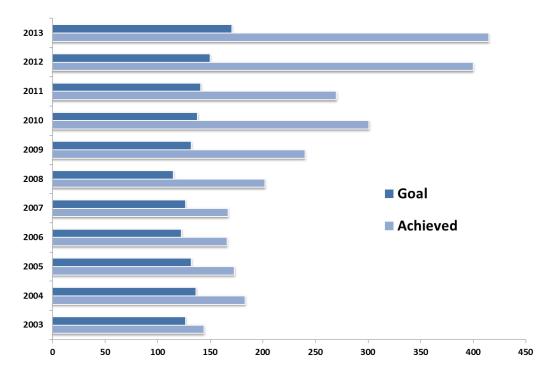


Figure 1. Demand Reduction by IOUs, 2003-2013

Most of the utilities' programs involve financial incentives which are paid to project sponsors to offset the costs of a variety of energy efficiency improvements. Combined, the

IOUs spent approximately \$136 million on energy efficiency programs in 2013 (including administrative expenses).

Across the lives of the installed measures, the IOUs have reduced energy consumption by approximately 55,627,544 MWh.<sup>1</sup>

### 2 Energy Efficiency Program Overview

The 76<sup>th</sup> Texas Legislature passed a law requiring IOUs to meet certain energy efficiency goals. To comply with this law, the IOUs contract with energy efficiency service providers (EESPs) to install energy efficiency measures that result in peak demand reduction and energy savings.

Both national and local EESPs contact consumers (residential and commercial) about performing work to save energy and reduce their electric bills. Customers select the EESP, decide what equipment will be installed, and choose what work the contractor will do. Price, warranty, financing, and other purchasing matters are entirely between the contractor and customer. Figure 2 depicts an overview of the Texas Energy Efficiency Process.

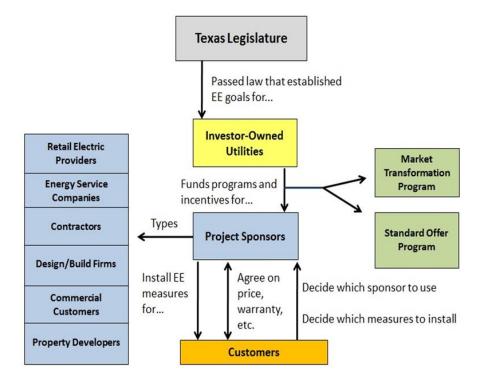


Figure 2. Overview of Texas Energy Efficiency Process

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Assuming all installed measures have a 10 year estimated useful life (EUL); load management has a EUL equal to one year.

Table 1 lists the Texas IOUs and respective acronyms used throughout this report.

**Table 1: Texas Investor Owned Utilities** 

Utility Name	Utility Acronym	
Southwestern Electric Power Company	SWEPCO	
American Electric Power-Texas Central Company	AEP-TCC	
American Electric Power-Texas North Company	AEP-TNC	
CenterPoint Energy Houston Electric LLC	CNP	
El Paso Electric Company	EPE	
Entergy Texas, Inc.	ETI	
Texas-New Mexico Power Company	TNMP	
Sharyland Utilities	Sharyland	
Oncor Electric Delivery Company, LLC	Oncor	
Xcel Energy Company	Xcel	

### 2.1 Legislative Background

In 1999 the Texas Legislature passed Senate Bill 7 (S.B. 7) which mandated that at least 10% of an IOU's annual growth in electricity demand be met through energy efficiency programs each year. Eight years later, the Legislature passed House Bill 3693 (H.B. 3693) which raised the goals for energy efficiency to 20% of each utility's annual growth in demand by 2009, superseding the goals set by S.B. 7. The Public Utility Commission of Texas (PUCT) Substantive Rule §25.181 ("energy efficiency rule" or "rule") was created to establish procedures for meeting this legislative mandate. In 2010 the PUCT approved a new rule, effective December 1, 2010, that ensured the continuation of energy efficiency programs and increased the goal to 30% reduction in demand growth by 2013.

During the 82<sup>nd</sup> Legislative Session, Texas passed S.B. 1125, codifying the goals and S.B. 1434 which mandated specific funding levels for low-income weatherization programs. As a result, the PUCT opened a rulemaking proceeding to amend the energy efficiency rules in August 2011 (Project No. 39674). The new rule also revised the energy efficiency goal for 2014 and future years, such that once a utility's calculated goal is equivalent to at least four-tenths of 1% of its peak demand, the utility shall acquire four-tenths of 1% of its peak demand to meet its goal in subsequent years. In essence, this shifted the goal from a percentage of load growth to a percentage of peak demand. This latest rule was approved in late 2012 and became effective January 1, 2013.

Utilities are required to administer energy savings incentive programs, which are implemented through EESPs. All programs are designed to reduce system peak demand, energy consumption, or energy costs. Utilities must achieve their energy efficiency goals through either

standard offer programs (SOPs), market transformation programs (MTPs), or direct to customer rebates. Programs are made available to all customers, giving each consumer a choice of a variety of energy efficiency alternatives.

Table 2 lists the types of SOPs and MTPs offered by each utility. Please note that this list does not include every program offered by each utility; complete lists including SOPs, MTPs, pilot projects, research and development, and other programs can be found in each utility's Energy Efficiency Plan and Report (EEPR).<sup>2</sup> Figure 3 is a map of Texas outlining the individual IOU service areas.

Table 2: Sub-set of Programs Offered per Utility in 2013<sup>3</sup>

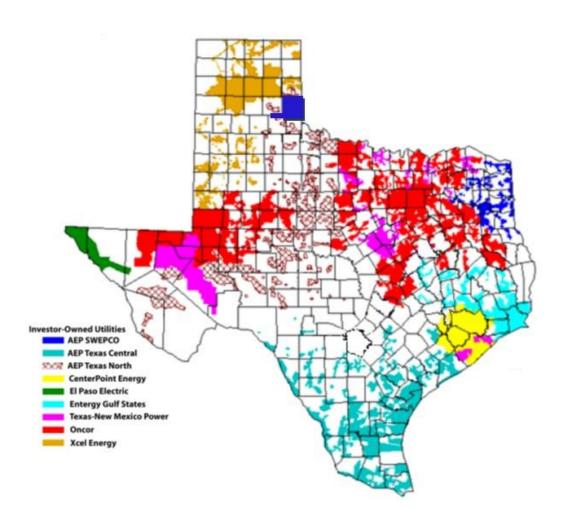
Program Type	Туре	AEP TCC	AEP TNC	SWEPCO	CNP	ETI	EPE	SU	TNMP	Oncor	Xcel
Commercial	SOP	•	•	•	•		•	•		•	•
Residential	SOP	•	•	•	•	•		•	•	•	•
Hard-to-Reach	SOP	•	•	•	•	•		•	•	•	•
Load Management	SOP	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
LI Weatherization	SOP	•	•	•				•	•	•	•
ENERGY STAR® New Homes	MTP	•			•	•			•		
A/C Distributor	MTP	•	•		•						
Home Performance with ENERGY STAR	МТР				•						
Small Business Direct Install Pilot MTP	МТР			•					•	•	
Retro- Commissioning	MTP				•						•
C&I Solutions	MTP	•	•	•		•	•		•		
Texas SCORE/CitySmart	MTP	•	•	•	•	•	•		•		
A/C Tune-Up	MTP	•		•							
Solar/PV	MTP	•	•	•			•			•	
Advanced Lighting	MTP				•						

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> EEPRs are filed with the PUCT on or before April 1 each year. The 2014 reports (detailing 2013 results) can be found on the PUCT site by searching for Project No. 42264.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> As mentioned, this list does not necessarily reflect all of the programs offered by each utility in 2013. Full program portfolios can be found in the respective EEPRs under Project No. 42264.





 $\frac{http://sharylandefficiency.com/residential/2014\%20SU\%20Service\%20Territory\%20and\%20Zip\%20Code\%20List\%2002252014.pdf.$ 

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> The map in Figure 3 does not display the territories served by Sharyland Utilities. A map of Sharyland Utilities' service territory can be accessed at:

Table 3 lists each utility's 2013 program savings and expenditures as reported to the PUCT.

Table 3: Program Expenditures and Reported/Verified Savings for 2013<sup>5</sup>

Utility	Funds Expended (\$)	Demand Reduction (kW)	Energy Savings (kWh)	
SWEPCO	\$4,764,765	14,068	18,778,093	
AEP-TCC	\$13,054,810	34,136	48,954,281	
AEP-TNC	\$2,705,070	6,932	9,086,799	
CNP	\$37,326,761	195,540	160,497,327	
ETI	\$8,466,332	19,100	36,997,000	
EPE	\$4,457,214	14,188	23,394,000	
Oncor	\$58,194,352	112,735	224,666,447	
Sharyland	\$443,927	2,672	1,023,000	
TNMP	TNMP \$4,808,565		16,980,376	
Xcel	\$2,247,000	5,106	7,949,000	
Total	\$136,468,796	414,772	548,326,323	

## 3 Standard Offer Programs

An SOP is a type of energy efficiency program where parties enter into a contract with standard terms and conditions. Utilities offer standard incentives for a wide range of measures that are bundled together as a project. Incentive rates are set for each kW of demand reduction and each kWh of energy savings produced and are based on prescribed avoided costs. Payment is based on the measures installed and deemed savings values for each measure with random inspections to verify proper installation. The following sections describe the different types of SOPs offered by Texas IOUs. It is important to note that some utilities offer variations of "standard" SOPs.

Figure 4 illustrates the breakdown of demand reduction attributed to each SOP, while Figure 5 shows the breakdown of energy savings.

<sup>5</sup> As provided in each utility's Energy Efficiency Plan & Report (EEPR) for calendar year 2013; all savings are reported at the meter. Savings and spending may not total the exact amount as seen in the EEPRs due to rounding.

Figure 4. Demand Reduction by Standard Offer Programs in 2013

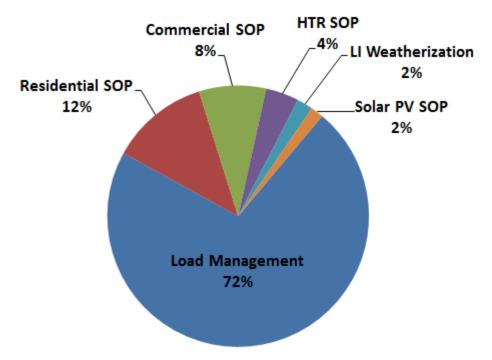
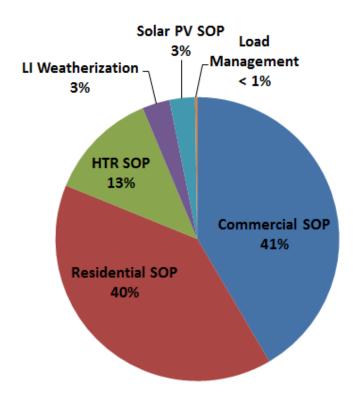


Figure 5. Energy Savings by Standard Offer Programs in 2013



## 3.1 Commercial & Qualifying Industrial<sup>6</sup>

The Commercial and Qualifying Industrial (C&I) program targets large commercial and industrial customers with a minimum demand requirement (this varies by utility). Utilities pay incentives to project sponsors for certain measures installed in new or retrofit applications that provide verifiable demand and energy savings. Typical projects include the replacement of existing chillers and lighting equipment with more efficient chillers and lighting, and industrial process retrofits.

#### 3.2 Residential & Small Commercial

The Residential and Small Commercial program targets residential and small commercial customers including multi-family, single-family, and mobile homes. The program provides incentives for the installation of a wide range of measures that reduce system peak demand, energy consumption and energy costs. Retrofits and efficient new construction of low-income housing may also be undertaken.

Utilities pay incentives to EESPs. These incentives are based on deemed savings when available. (Deemed savings estimates are predetermined, validated estimates of energy and peak demand savings attributable to an energy efficiency measure.) Otherwise, the EESPs set incentives based off actual peak demand reduction and energy savings as verified using the International Performance Measurement and Verification Protocol.

The primary objective of the Residential and Small Commercial SOP is to achieve cost-effective reduction in energy consumption during peak summer demand. There are five additional objectives of the program: (1) to encourage private sector delivery of energy efficiency products and services; (2) to achieve customer energy and cost savings; (3) to significantly reduce barriers to participation by streamlining program procedures and measurement and verification (M&V) requirements; (4) to encourage participation by a wide range of EESPs; and (5) to produce demand, energy, and bill savings in new single-family affordable housing projects and in new multifamily projects.

### 3.3 Hard-to-Reach

The Hard-to-Reach program encourages energy efficiency improvements in households with annual incomes at or below 200% of the federal poverty guideline. It is designed to be a comprehensive program by emphasizing building shell improvements and end uses. It is a retrofit program that targets multi-family, single-family, and mobile homes.

Incentives are paid to project sponsors for eligible measures that provide verifiable demand and energy savings. Special measures include the replacement of incandescent light bulbs with compact fluorescent lighting and water savers.

<sup>6</sup> Generally, industrial facilities served at transmission voltage are not eligible to participate in the programs described here. However, exceptions may be made for non-profit facilities or other situations dictated by regulatory orders.

### 3.4 Load Management

Load Management programs encourage electric load control or shifting of electric loads in C&I facilities. Participating project sponsors provide on-call, voluntary curtailment of electric consumption during peak demand periods in return for incentive payments. The program is designed to assist businesses to reduce their on-peak energy demand and help meet the state's energy efficiency goals. Targeting a mix of industrial, office, and hospital facilities, program requirements differ on a utility-by-utility basis.

#### 3.5 Low Income Weatherization

Low Income Weatherization programs are designed to reduce the energy consumption and energy costs for low-income residential customers in a cost-effective manner. Program implementers provide eligible weatherization and energy efficiency measures to residential customers who meet the current Department of Energy (DOE) income eligibility guidelines. Program cost-effectiveness is evaluated based on a whole-house audit utilizing the DOE-approved Savings-to-Investment Ratio (SIR). Implementation of this Senate Bill 712 Weatherization Program also provides targeted eligible residential customers with basic onsite energy education to satisfy the requirements of Substantive Rule 25.181(p).<sup>7</sup>

## 4 Market Transformation Programs<sup>8</sup>

A MTP is a strategic effort to make lasting changes in the market that result in increased adoption of energy efficient technologies, services, and practices. MTPs are designed to overcome specific market barriers that prevent energy efficient technologies from being accepted.

Figures 6 and 7 show the demand reduction and energy savings, respectively, which result from MTPs as reported to the PUCT. The most common MTPs offered by the IOUs are described below.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Low Income values include CenterPoint's Agencies in Action Low Income Weatherization Program, which is technically considered a Market Transformation Program.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Not all programs are covered by the six labeled programs in the charts. The programs making up the "other" section can be found within the EEPRs of each of the utilities; these can be accessed at <a href="www.TexasEfficiency.com">www.TexasEfficiency.com</a>.



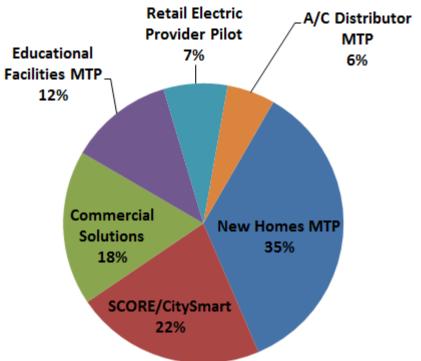
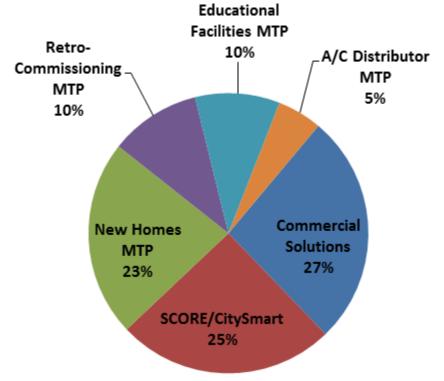


Figure 7. Energy Savings by Market Transformation Programs in 2013



### 4.1 ENERGY STAR® New Homes Construction

The ENERGY STAR® New Homes Construction program targets residential new construction. It promotes the construction of energy efficient ENERGY STAR® new homes. To qualify, homes must be 15% more efficient than the energy requirements of the locally adopted International Energy Conservation Code. The program provides education and technical assistance to builders and subcontractors. In addition, the program is supported by training, education, and advertising components.

### 4.2 Retro-Commissioning

The Retro-Commissioning program helps energy end users reduce their peak demand and energy usage. The program provides expert analysis and systematic evaluation of building systems. By implementing low-cost and no-cost measures that improve system operation, customers reduce energy and peak demand while maintaining or improving customer comfort.

### 4.3 Texas Schools Conserving Resources (SCORE)/CitySmart

The Texas SCORE Program promotes a structured process to K-12 school districts to identify opportunities and implement energy efficiency measures. Incentives to school districts encourage these installations. Non-cash incentives promote best business practices. The Texas CitySmart Program promotes a similar program to a targeted audience of local and state government entities and municipalities.

## 4.4 Large Commercial & Industrial (C&I) Solutions<sup>9</sup>

The Large C&I Solutions program offers customers both cash and non-cash incentives. The cash incentives are at a lower \$/kW than SOPs, with the difference used to provide non-cash incentives that include technical assistance, education on financing energy efficiency projects, and communications services. The Solutions program helps companies that do not have the inhouse capacity or expertise to 1) identify, evaluate, and undertake efficiency improvements; 2) properly evaluate energy efficiency proposals from vendors; and/or 3) understand how to leverage their energy savings to finance projects.

### 4.5 Residential and Small Commercial Solutions

The Residential and Small Commercial Solutions Pilot MTP offers customers both cash and non-cash incentives. The cash incentives are at a lower \$/kW than the SOPs, with the difference used to provide non-cash incentives for technical assistance, education on financing energy efficiency projects, and communications services. The program focuses on improving the efficiency and installation practices of products and services that residential

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Generally, industrial facilities served at transmission voltage are not eligible to participate in the programs described here. However, exceptions may be made for non-profit facilities or other situations dictated by regulatory orders.

consumers purchase and that local contractors install. In addition to capturing kW reductions, the implementer helps residential and small commercial contractors improve their ability to identify, evaluate, and sell efficiency improvements to home and small business owners and assist consumers in evaluating energy efficiency proposals from vendors.

#### 4.6 Hard-to-Reach Solutions

This program mirrors the Residential and Small Commercial Solutions Pilot MTPs described above.

### 4.7 LivingWise Education

The LivingWise Program uses a school-based method that builds student knowledge, provides high efficiency devices to families, and serves as an effective community outreach program. The Program identifies and enrolls students and teachers within a utility's service territory. The enrolled participants receive educational materials designed to build participant knowledge and demonstrate simple ways to save energy by not only changing habits but also changing devices.

### 4.8 Small Distributed Renewable Generation Pilot

The Small Distributed Renewable Generation (Solar Photovoltaic (PV)) Pilot Program is designed to help customers meet a portion of their energy needs with solar electric systems. Through market development and financial incentives, the program will increase the number of installations of photovoltaic systems among utility customers, while also creating a foundation for a self-sustaining market.

### 4.9 Premium Lighting Program

The Premium Lighting Program is designed to promote the installation of higher efficiency compact fluorescent bulbs (<13 watts) and LED lights. Through incentives to large lighting manufacturers, costs to large retailers are reduced and those reduced costs are passed on to consumers.

## 5 Research & Development

Research and Development (R&D) activities are undertaken by Texas utilities in order to study new technologies, analyze the potential for new programs, and increase efficiencies in the administration of current programs. The energy efficiency rule does not require utilities to conduct R&D; however, the PUCT does limit spending on such activities to 10% of a utility's total program costs.<sup>10</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> PUCT Substantive Rule 25.181(i) states that the cost of administration shall not exceed 15% of a utility's total program costs. The cost of R&D shall not exceed 10% of a utility's total program costs. The cumulative cost of administration and R&D shall not exceed 20% of a utility's total program costs.

In 2013, the Texas IOUs spent \$2.6 million on R&D projects. These projects ranged from utility-scale efforts such as developing and implementing educational programs for teachers and elementary students, to larger efforts, such as the Electric Utility Marketing Managers of Texas (EUMMOT) project to assess the baseline for commercial HVAC equipment. Other projects carried out by the Center for Commercialization of Electric Technologies (CCET) involved promoting smart-charging infrastructure enhancements and Smart Grid demonstration projects supporting wind integration in ERCOT.

Details on these and other R&D projects can be found in the EEPRs.

### 6 Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reductions

Table 4 shows the emissions reductions of all Texas IOUs implementing SOPs and MTPs as part of the Texas Energy Efficiency Program. Specifically, the table lists the carbon dioxide  $(CO_2)$  emissions avoided as a result of the energy efficiency programs in 2013.

Table 4: Annual Emission Reductions by Utility for Activities Completed in 2013<sup>11</sup>

Utility	Energy Savings (MWh)	CO <sub>2</sub> (lb/MWh)	CO <sub>2</sub> (lb)
SWEPCO	18,778	1,436	26,965,208
AEP-TCC	48,954	1,182	57,863,628
AEP-TNC	9,087	1,182	10,740,834
CNP	160,497	1,182	189,707,454
ETI	36,997	1,222	45,210,334
EPE	23,394	1,210	28,306,740
Oncor	224,666	1,182	265,555,212
Sharyland	1,023	1,182	1,209,186
TNMP	16,980	1,182	20,070,360
Xcel	7,949	1,436	11,414,764
Total	548,325		657,043,720

### 7 National Awards

In 2013, AEP Texas Central Company received the ENERGY STAR® Sustained Excellence award for continued leadership in protecting the environment through its high performance New Homes program. ETI was awarded the Innovation Award by American Carbon Registry in

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> Emission rates are based on the EPA's eGRID database 9<sup>th</sup> edition Version 1.0. Annual non-baseload output emission rates for each eGrid subregion (ERCOT, SPP South, WECC Southwest, and SERC Mississippi Valley) were used for each utility as appropriate. For more details, see the Year 2010 eGRID Subregion Output Emission Rates – Greenhouse Gases table here: <a href="http://www.epa.gov/cleanenergy/documents/egridzips/eGRID">http://www.epa.gov/cleanenergy/documents/egridzips/eGRID</a> 9th edition V1-0 year 2010 Summary Tables.pdf

recognition for the organization's guiding principles of innovation, quality and excellence in making possible the development and piloting of a revolutionary U.S. carbon offset methodology for deltaic wetland restoration. ETI was also named to the 2013 Sustainable Utility Leaders Index by Target Rock Advisors, which is a stock index for guiding sustainable and socially responsible investment decisions while recognizing utilities that have excelled as socially responsible corporate citizens. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has recognized El Paso Electric with a 2013 ENERGY STAR Partner of the Year Award for its outstanding contributions to reducing greenhouse gas emissions by delivering energy efficiency information and services to its customers. The American Wind Energy Association (AWEA) has named Xcel Energy its "Utility of the Year" for 2013, recognizing our commitment to expanding the use of wind power and progressive wind integration efforts. Xcel Energy was also recognized with a 2013 Annual Achievement Award from the Utility Variable-Generation Integration Group for innovative wind procurement, forecasting, system integration and development efforts.

## 8 Summary & Conclusion

The majority of the ten Texas investor-owned utilities exceeded the legislature's statewide goals for energy efficiency. The utilities achieved 243% of their 2013 demand reduction goal of 171 MW by accomplishing 415 MW of demand reduction. Furthermore, 548 GWh of energy savings were achieved, effectively reducing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by 657 million pounds for the year.

## 9 Appendices

### 9.1 Acronyms & Abbreviations

A/C Air Conditioning

C&I Commercial & Industrial

DOE Department of Energy

EESP Energy Efficiency Service Provider

EPA Environmental Protection Agency

GW Gigawatt=one billion watts

GWh Gigawatt-hour

IOU Investor-Owned Utility

kW Kilowatt = one thousand watts

kWh Kilowatt-hour

LED Light emitting diode

MTP Market Transformation Program

M&V Measurement & Verification

MW Megawatt = one million watts

MWh Megawatt-hour

NOx Nitrogen Oxides

PUCT Public Utility Commission of Texas

SEER Seasonal Energy Efficiency Ratio

SOP Standard Offer Program

TDHCA Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs

### 9.2 Key Terms

**Deemed savings estimate:** a predetermined, validated estimate of energy and peak demand savings attributable to an energy efficiency measure. Deemed savings estimates may be used instead of determining energy and peak demand savings by measurement and verification activities.

**Energy efficiency measure:** systems, pieces of equipment, or materials that result in either reduced electric energy consumption, reduced peak demand, or both.

**Nitrogen oxides:** gases consisting of one molecule of nitrogen and one or more molecules of oxygen. Power plants and gasoline-powered vehicles typically emit NOx. When NOx molecules reach the atmosphere, they often contribute to the formation of smog. NOx are thus considered pollutants and are recognized as such by the EPA.

**Market transformation program:** strategic efforts to induce lasting structural or behavioral changes in the market that result in increased adoption of energy efficient technologies, services, and practices.

**Measurement & verification:** all necessary equipment surveys, metering and monitoring, statistical estimation and analysis, and reporting used to quantify the energy savings and demand reduction resulting from the installation of energy efficiency measures.

**Standard offer program:** a type of energy efficiency program where parties enter into a contract with standard terms and conditions, and utilities offer standard incentives for a wide range of installed energy efficient measures bundled together as a project.