

Programmable Communicating Thermostat Workshop

Joint Statement by PG&E, SCE, SCG and SDGE

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Joint Utilities

- Very supportive of CEC's programs
- Development of a PCT building code standards can support the state's energy reliability objectives

PCT Program Coordination & Integration

New programs should effectively coordinate and integrate with:

- Existing state initiatives
 - Demand response (DR)
 - Energy efficiency
 - Advanced metering infrastructure (AMI)
- Ongoing business efforts
 - Leverage existing infrastructure
 - Internal programs
 - Avoid duplicate or cross-purpose outreach efforts

CEC Program Objectives

- One state-wide PCT systems integration interface
 - Owner installed and maintained
 - Self installing and configuring
- Common signaling throughout state
- Works with any minimum AMI system
- Compatible with legacy technologies

Fundamentally, these four PCT criteria are not policy objectives, but rather design objectives

Joint Utility Technology View

- Do not recommend a universal communication platform
 - Each utility may use differing AMI technologies
 - One universal technology limits individual utility benefits
- Leave PCT market and other energy management devices open
 - Operable by a wide variety of communication means
 - Ensure that the utilities can choose the most cost-effective and reliable communication method or combination of methods
- Design flexibility is essential for integrating this program with other programs. PCTs may provide additional uses
 - Grid reliability
 - Price response
 - Utility economic dispatch
- By designing for these uses, additional derived benefits to customers and the system

AMI

PCTs should be compatible with and leverage existing and future AMI investment

- Not a universal, one-way AM/FM medium
- Leverage existing powerline or RF solutions according to the utility business uses
- Manufacturers will meet individual utility requirements

Proposal

- CAISO sends message to each utility
- At their discretion, the utility translates the message into its specific communication network
- The Joint Utilities are actively engaged gathering PCT requirements leading to a technology solution
- Once established, invite comment on methodologies and reference designs
- Specifying a technology solution now, before the requirements gathering phase is complete leads to a disjointed and less cost effective result
- The Joint Utilities therefore encourage the CEC to specify policy goals and enable us to select solutions

Conclusion

- The Joint Utilities realize that the CEC has a very tight schedule to enable timely implementation of the 2008 new building code standards.
- The Joint Utilities are committed to working with all pertinent stakeholders during the first and second quarters of this year to fully address the communications requirements, options, costs and risks to facilitate the development of the Title 24 PCT requirements.
- Toward this commitment, the Joint Utilities have scheduled a planning session later this month to prepare a work plan that is intended to be compatible with the overall Title 24 timeline for the PCT.