



NMEC WORKING GROUP MEETING 1/12/22

Agenda

1. Review key issues on population NMEC rules
2. Next steps

Meeting Notes

1. Review key issues on population NMEC rules

On 1/7, Katie Wu (who works for Common-Spark Consulting and is supporting the CPUC on the current NMEC stakeholder process) sent the following email to participants of the working group:

Happy New Year! Thank you all so much for the extensive and detailed work you put into the collaborative documents. We are incredibly grateful for your efforts and input.

I reviewed each of the docs and added a high-level note and next step under each recommendation in suggestion mode. **Please check the issues you led (and/or that you care about) and respond where you can.**

There are also a number of issues that have not yet been populated - if these are priorities for the Working Group, I would like to have draft language by the end of next week (January 14). Please see the bullets below for which issues are not yet populated.

A high level summary of next steps is below, but please check the documents for specifics. I'll follow up on the documents next week to see where we are at - this will determine the specific agenda for the January 26 working meeting.

Thank you again for all of your efforts. Please also don't hesitate to reach out if you have any questions.

- [Technical Issues](#): Clarification is needed for several issues. Additionally, a couple of issues seem to be related to, or the same as, others that are not yet populated (e.g., Issue 7 - Goodness of Fit, and Issue 8 - Monitoring Periods). If these are the same, we should consolidate
- [Policy and Process Issues](#): Issues that have been populated are generally complete (e.g., NMEC vs Custom, Measure Application Type), but clarification might be needed for NMEC project eligibility.
 - **Issues that have no content include:** *Early Opinions/Dispositions, PA Project approval timeline, and Incentive Layering - are these priority issues for stakeholders?*

- [Population NMEC Issues](#): Issues that have been populated are generally complete (e.g., Comparison Groups, Disaggregating EE Savings). *For Data Access, Energy Savings Program Impact, Qualification, and the Savings Results issues - the Common Spark team needs some input on whether the issue is specific to population-level NMEC or if it applies to site-level too.*
 - **Issues that have no content include:** *Accounting for EVs and on-site generation; Test suite to develop and run models on new NMEC tools - are these priority issues for stakeholders?*

Notes from today are organized according to the issues as they are presented in the linked stakeholder document:

1. Comparison Groups

- We need to make sure that the right data is available and accessible to properly do the work.
- Proponents of this language addition in the Rulebook indicate that a lot has changed (i.e., COVID has changed the baseline landscape) since the rules were initially developed.
- Pushback for inclusion of the proposed additional language regarding control groups hasn't been significant.
- Synthetic control groups (note that PG&E commissioned a study done by Demand Science Analytics) have thus far produced inconclusive results.
- Data access is foundational to making NMEC work, and this is the essential issue.
- There is language in the Rulebook about building type similarities, and this has caused some problems for implementers since IOUs are interpreting this language quite literally which was not the original intention.

2. EVs and Onsite Solar

- It is important to be able to identify rooftop solar and/or EV loads so that the normalization process is more accurate; right now these customers are excluded from the cohort which is a huge problem for implementers.
- There needs to be a requirement for rooftop solar and EV customers to be included in the cohort.
- It should be possible to carefully develop deemed values for these customer types.
- This issue raises a broader point that customers who have done other efficiency actions (either DERs or other EE measures) should not be excluded from participating in NMEC efforts.

3. Disaggregating EE and DR Savings

- This is important since the Rulebook doesn't allow co-mingling; making accommodations along these lines could be a very positive step forward.
- This is particularly important for the new programs emerging from emergency reliability (MAP, ELRP).

4. Test Suite

- Some are questioning why would want to support this effort.
- More discussion needs to happen at the stakeholder level on this issue.

5. Data Access

- Data sharing is a huge problem and stands as an enormous barrier for NMEC programs.
 - Addressing this concern in the Rulebook can help drive our broader concerns about the lack of data access for demand-side resources (which arguably needs to be litigated through other venues like the Click Through proceeding); however having specific data access provisions in Rulebook might help drive the IOUs toward being more accommodating and flexible around this issue.
6. Customer Qualifications and Model Fit
- This requirement creates a huge problem to scale NMEC projects; there needs to be a faster way for IOUs to qualify customers (e.g., determine eligibility and identify quickly whether the customer is a good fit).
7. **Withdrawal Criteria**
- 25% withdrawal rate is unacceptable and makes NMEC not viable for many providers.
 - The criteria need to be relaxed.
8. **Savings Results**
- This issue can definitely roll into a few of the above issues.

2. Next Steps

Attempt to gain some traction on these issues through the stakeholder process that Common Spark is managing.

There will be a full session at the EM&V Forum dedicated to NMEC issues. Michelle Vigen has agreed to facilitate that session, and it will be an opportunity to address many of the issues and solutions proposed thus far as part of the working group process. Please be sure to register for the EM&V Forum. Here is the [link](#) to register.

Next Scheduled Working Group Meeting

Our next NMEC MWG meeting (scheduled for Wednesday February 2nd at 2:00 pm) will be canceled as this time overlaps with our EM&V Forum on 2/2. We will resume our regularly scheduled NMEC Working Group call on March 2nd at 2-3pm. The call-in coordinates are below.

[Zoom link](#)

Call-in: +13126266799,,87073939377#

Passcode: cedmc2022