

**NextGrid
Stakeholder Advisory Council Meeting
Monday, March 5, 2018**

The meeting was opened and attendees introduced themselves.

Overview of NextGrid (Chairman Brien Sheahan)

- Working group minutes will be released from each meeting.
- Working group agendas will be public.
- There will be three NextGrid public meeting updates around the state for public comments.

Review of NextGrid and SAC Roles and Responsibilities (Annette Beitel, NextGrid Senior Study Facilitator)

- The lead facilitators from the University of Illinois will ensure that the content of the report is technically correct and technically rigorous.
- There are seven working groups, covering key topics.
- Working group leaders were selected based on their expertise within their respective fields.
- Working group members were selected through their submission of an interest to participate on working groups.
- Stakeholder Advisory Council (SAC) – Thought leaders who will advise on the perspectives of their respective constituencies, to make sure the project has taken different views into account, particularly from the customer’s perspective. Meets periodically throughout the study. Meetings will focus on updates from working group discussions and open issues. SAC members will be asked to advise on how their constituencies might be impacted, including helping identify opportunities and challenges.
- Technical Advisory Group (TAG) – to advise on technical issues.
- Public meetings – to provide public comments and feedback on agendas, meeting summaries and the interim report. Three public meetings will be held throughout the state.

Questions

- When will working group participants be finalized?
 - Prior to the start of each working group; this will be an ongoing process.
- What is the work flow that will lead to development of the Final Report?
 - The current timing of the final report is December. The report is expected to include an executive summary; introduction; seven chapters from the individual working groups; and closing chapter. The report will consider questions that were asked but not answered due to time constraints or other reasons.

- The current concept is to include a summary of what was discussed in each working group, including any areas where there is consensus.
 - Suggestion - not labeling as consensus/non-consensus. If there is a focus on driving to consensus, people may get forced into positions.
 - NextGrid is not a process to mediate between different viewpoints or negotiate a consensus. The report will reflect a spectrum of views. If consensus emerges, it will be described in the report. The SAC can help frame the report.
- Can meeting information be shared for working groups so that interested participants can listen-in?
 - The first working group received 200 applications. A smaller list of people was selected for participation to ensure it is a collaborative discussion. Other information will be made public and will be available for comment, including agendas, meeting minutes, etc.
- Public comments
 - Each working group has an email address that comments can be sent to.
 - There is a public comment opportunity through the NextGrid website.

NextGrid Schedule and Process (Annette Beitel, NextGrid Senior Study Facilitator)

- ***Reviewed project calendar, meeting dates and key deadlines.***
- What is the role of the SAC in framing questions?
 - There will be a Working Group Project Plan for Working Groups 2-7. The Project Plan will frame the discussions of the working group, both procedurally and substantively. As the Project Plan is developed, the Working Group lead will consider whether the “Core Questions” are applicable to that working group so that there is consistency in approach across working groups.
 - Draft Reports will be produced by each Working Group Leader.
 - Parking lot issues/questions will be captured, and the group will try to find a place to address them. For example, issues/questions may move to different working groups, may be framed for the future, etc.

NextGrid Core Questions (Draft for Comment) (George Gross and Pete Sauer, NextGrid Lead Facilitators)

- ***Review core questions unifying the NextGrid 7 working groups***

*Note: The Core Questions that were circulated are still in draft.

- Question to the group – what are key issues that should be addressed?
 - Emphasis on communities and consumers is great. For public meetings, what type of information will people receive?
 - Energy insecurity / energy burden for low income customers. This refers to the volatility of a low-income family’s life. Their income and expenses may be

volatile. They can move in and out of energy insecurity. Elevate Energy can provide data on this burden in IL. This group should think about how this issue (energy insecurity) can be reduced for low-income customers through NextGrid. Elevate would like to provide information on the current issues facing low-income customers as it relates to energy insecurity.

- Diversity initiatives should be included – how can these be incorporated into the NextGrid project?
- One of the challenges will be the impacts of technologies on customers. Need to look at this from a holistic perspective. Everything that we set out as a policy objective will have impacts down the line for different types of customers, for utilities, etc.
 - i. These topics will be in at least 3 of the 7 working groups.
- Can the timing go beyond 18 months?
 - ii. No – we need to complete this by the end of the calendar year. However, there may be topics that merit additional investigation in the future.

Closing and Next Steps (Annette Beitel, NextGrid Senior Study Facilitator)

- *Reviewed meeting objectives and summarize key issues that SAC will be asked to comment on.*
- *Overview of next steps/objectives and topics for next meeting.*

Meeting Adjourned.