

Interim 2019-2021 Work Plan Progress Report – Q2 2019
Clean Energy Partnership Q2 EVAC Meeting
April 24, 2019

2019-2021 Partnership Activity	2019 Q1 Progress Description
EE.1 REDUCE NATURAL GAS USE FOR RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMERS	CenterPoint Energy assembled an internal project team and outlined a project scope of work to develop an automated process to identify community-level areas of residential high natural gas savings potential. CenterPoint is in the process of acquiring necessary resources and funding to execute the scope of work. Next steps include engaging EVAC to provide input on data collection and resources.
EE.2 REDUCE ENERGY USE FOR HIGH ENERGY SAVING POTENTIAL COMMERCIAL CUSTOMERS	Partners met in early 2019 to discuss approaches to customer identification and integration of both electric and gas customer engagement strategies. Partners will continue to meet in Spring to develop and implement engagement strategy.
EE.3 PURSUE ENERGY EFFICIENCY “PERFORMANCE PATH” AT CITY FACILITIES	Xcel Energy developed an EE pilot program that will help the City of Minneapolis reach its 10% energy use reduction goal for City facilities by 2020. City Energy Manager has asked to focus on building automation optimization and identified sites. Xcel Energy also recommends specific building operator certification training for City building managers. Next step is to set up site visits and building operator training. CenterPoint Energy conducted site visits to evaluate over 70 gas meters at City facilities for possible upgrades for automated daily meter reads. City Facilities staff is reviewing the information on meter upgrade potential and costs to determine next steps.
EE.4 FIELD TEST ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND CARBON CAPTURE TECHNOLOGY	The City of Minneapolis has identified two potential sites to host and test the Clean O2 carbon capture technology at City facilities. CenterPoint Energy has identified an additional 6 sites within the city of Minneapolis and 9 sites outside of Minneapolis for possible project host sites. CenterPoint Energy has engaged State and local building code officials to ensure the carbon capture technology is installed according to code. Site visits to evaluate the potential host sites for pilot participation are scheduled for May. The pilot schedule has been refined to reflect external factors that caused delays for the pilot implementer to make site visits. CenterPoint Energy anticipates that the technology will be installed in Q3 2019.

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<p>EE.5 SUPPORT RESIDENTIAL ENERGY DISCLOSURE POLICIES BY MAKING DATA ACCESSIBLE WITH TOOLS</p>	<p>The Minneapolis City Council passed a slate of residential energy disclosure ordinances on February 15 by a 13-0 vote. These policies included: Multifamily Residential Energy and Water Benchmarking (Phased in beginning 2019), Truth in Sale of Housing (TISH) time-of-sale energy report (Anticipated start: 2020), and Time-of-Rent energy disclosure (Anticipated start: 2021), thereby completing CEP 2017-2018 Work Plan Items No. 5 and 7. Xcel Energy and CenterPoint Energy have each established an internal cross-functional team to review options for the 2021 time-of-rent energy disclosure compliance roll-out and consideration of the TISH seller report requirements.</p>
<p>RE.1 INSTALL ELECTRIC VEHICLE INFRASTRUCTURE FOR CITY FLEET</p>	<p>Xcel Energy received approval from the MPUC of their EV infrastructure pilot on 4/11. City of Minneapolis filed supportive comments. Xcel Energy and City will begin work on detailed planning of charger's and locations.</p>
<p>RE.2 ACHIEVE 100% RENEWABLE ELECTRICITY FOR CITY ENTERPRISE AND COMMUNITY PATHWAY</p>	<p>The City of Minneapolis is developing an update to Council's PECE Committee for May 2019 regarding the creation of a blueprint for the 100% community-wide renewable electricity goal. Xcel Energy is developing a product called Certified Renewable Percentage to retire system renewable energy credits on behalf of its customers that will allow them to claim the percentage of system renewable generation equivalent to their consumption.</p>
<p>RE.3 PROVIDE SOLAR GARDEN AND ENERGY EFFICIENCY OPPORTUNITIES FOR LOW-INCOME COMMUNITIES</p>	<p>Xcel Energy RDF grant was approved by PUC. Grant recipient and City of Minneapolis have determined a Low-Income Community Solar Garden site. Lease agreement needs to be signed. Adjusted MRES contract with Xcel Energy needs to be signed once the array specs are finalized. PUC filing with amended contract must be submitted. Project extension may be necessary to meet original PUC allotted timeline. Xcel Energy, grant recipient and City met on 4/22 to discuss next steps of energy efficiency roll-out plan.</p>
<p>WD.1 IMPROVE EQUITABLE ACCESS TO CLEAN ENERGY JOBS</p>	<p>A Minneapolis Renewable Electricity and Energy Efficiency Workforce Assessment is currently being compiled under City contract by the National Association of State Energy Officials, Energy Futures Initiative, and BW Research. Multiple task force meetings have been held which have included representatives from CenterPoint Energy and Xcel Energy. The utilities have also been engaged during the stakeholder interview process, in addition to other organizations.</p>

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<p>IF.1 IMPROVE ACCESS TO ENERGY EFFICIENCY BY PROVIDING INCLUSIVE FINANCING</p>	<p>The Inclusive Financing (IF) Working Group, which includes representatives from each partner and EVAC, have met formally six times, since October 2018, to define key features of a pilot program. Additionally, numerous ad hoc meetings amongst the partners have taken place to collaborate on addressing project barriers. In February, CenterPoint hired Winthrop & Weinstein (W&W) to provide an external legal analysis of the regulatory and legislative considerations presented to the Board in Q3 2018. Given W&W's legal opinion, CenterPoint has outlined potential legislation to address legislative barriers. The U of M Energy Transitions Lab's Feasibility Study is underway, and a separate legal analysis will investigate options that avoid proposing legislation. A legal and regulatory analysis funded by the DOC's State Energy Office and prepared by Cadmus is anticipated prior to the Q2 Board meeting on June 17. At the Q1 Board meeting on March 25, the Board received an update on Inclusive Financing and directed the Planning Team to: a.) outline options and steps to pursue inclusive financing, b.) provide a decision-making tool prior to the Q2 Board Meeting, and c.) present Cadmus' feasibility study and separate legal/regulatory analysis.</p>