

## MES 2019 **Cultivating Collaboration** Wisconsin's Process for Continuous Improvement in **Evaluation and Programs** AMALIA HICKS, PH.D.

Unlocking the Key to EM&V

#### Agenda

Benefits of Working Together Wisconsin's Culture of Collaboration Focus on Energy Overview Stakeholder Potpourri Collaboration Process Specific Examples (Pilots, SEM) Summary and Conclusions

#### **Benefits of Collaboration**

## Why Work Together?

**Continuous Program Improvement** 

#### Take Full Advantage of Evaluation

Framework for Innovation

**Team Spirit** 

## Cultivating Collaboration in Wisconsin



## Focus on Energy Overview

Wisconsin utilities' statewide program for energy efficiency and renewable energy

Partnered with 108 utilities to offer utility customers opportunities to save energy and money

Funded by utility customers (\$100M annual budget), overseen by the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin



## Stakeholder Potpourri



Public Service Commission

Utilities

Administrators

Implementers

**Evaluators** 



## **Collaboration Process**



## Continuous Engagement

#### **Technical Reference Manual**

### **Evaluation Working Group**

#### **Regular Evaluation Updates**



## **Pilot Programs**

Evaluation team provides input during stage gating process

## Evaluation planning is a collaborative, versatile process tailored to each pilot

• midstream, behavioral, market transformation, new technologies

Close communication with implementers around data collection, timing

• Networked Lighting Controls Pilot



## Strategic Energy Management

Worked together to set up regression models in the beginning, address challenges in real time

Implementer looking to innovate and evolve traditional SEM into program that uses lighter touch

Learning together - numerous conversations about how to develop tailored evaluation approach



# Summary and Conclusions



## **Collaboration Summary**

Enables continuous program improvement

As programs evolve and become less traditional, need versatility

Strong lines of communication enable innovation

Team Spirit!



## Thank You

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# Thank You

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