Energy Efficiency Implications in the Biden Administration

Midwest Energy Efficiency Alliance February 16, 2021

What AEE is watching in 2021

- Potential Federal Clean Energy Stimulus
- Action at the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
- Even More Executive Action



Clean Energy Stimulus

Federal Clean Energy Stimulus

- One of Biden's top campaign promises with an uncertain future
 - Does clean energy move separately or with infrastructure
 - Budget reconciliation is only viable pathway if standalone
- AEE's Energy Efficiency Priorities
 - Increased funding for State Energy Program or Energy Efficiency Conservation Block Grants
 - Increased funding for Weatherization Assistance Program and remove barriers to entry
 - Inclusion of Hopes for Homes Act
 - If any package includes utility assistance to offset customer arrears require utility to expand data access



Action at FERC

Action at FERC

Current Makeup:

- 2 Democrats and 3 Republicans with Democratic Chair and Republican swing-vote
- Functional majority (2 Dems and Chatterjee) who we suspect are supportive of efficiency in wholesale markets
- A Brighter Day for Energy Efficiency
 - Implementation of Order 2222 will allow efficiency to be aggregated in RTOs
 - Metered and measured efficiency resources
 - Demand reductions facilitated by smart meters and technology
 - Efficiency paired with other technologies at customer sites
 - New opportunities in RTOs without centralized capacity markets
 - Questions on the future of capacity markets as this FERC seeks reform



Executive Actions

Potential for Executive and Administrative Action

Dept. of Energy

- A renewed focus on energy efficiency within the department
- Appliance standards return from four years in the wilderness with a question of how this could tie into building decarbonization

Federal Procurement

 Expect to see efficiency goals included as part of current EO directing CEQ, GSA, and OMB to develop government wide plan for clean energy procurements, which could include increased efficiency and building decarbonization

Potential Clean Energy Standard

- Congressional action seems unlikely and intel indicates Admin is trying to figure a path forward
 - EE is often left behind in CES policy discussions meaning we have to make a strong case



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