

NASEO Webinar

NYSERDA Approach to Emission Benefits

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NYSERDA

NY's Hybrid "Footprint" Approach

- CO₂ factor = 820 lb per gWh
- Based on NY's average emissions smoothed over 3 years including
 - gas, coal, oil, hydro, nuclear, and wind
 - imports from Mid-Atlantic States, New England, and Canada
- Cap and trade in place in NY for CO₂, NO_x, and SO₂
 - Total number of emission allowances is determined by regulation. Regulated entities can purchase allowances and collectively emit up to the cap.
 - In the near term, electric efficiency projects may not decrease the overall amount of emissions going into the atmosphere.
 - Electric energy efficiency projects will reduce end-users' responsibility or environmental footprint associated with electricity production.

Method for CO₂ Factor : NY Criteria

- Simple enough to be useful—but recognize that the electricity system is complex.
- Send the right directional signal that energy efficiency is good for the environment.
- Recognize that each project makes a valuable contribution to a cleaner environment.
- Recognize that electricity comes from a wide variety of sources over 8,760 hours of the year, and that emissions vary widely depending on technology, location, hours of use and constantly changing market, system, and weather conditions.
- Recognize that significant emissions are associated with electricity imported to New York from other regions.

Application of Emission Factors

- Emission factors are applied to program energy savings
- Independent impact evaluation ensures accuracy and additionality of program energy savings
- Range of impact evaluation methods
 - Gross energy savings realization rates - baseline
 - Energy savings attribution (net-to-gross) adjustments – freeridership and spillover
 - No emissions source testing
- Approaches also applied to fuel switching and on-site generation

Use of Results

- **Program Planning and Tracking**
 - RGGI program \$/ton is an important planning criteria
 - NYSERDA corporate goal to reduce the environmental impacts of energy production and use
- **Informing Program Decisions**
 - Regulatory guidance to use \$15/ton carbon adder in benefit-cost analysis (some sensitivity analyses)
 - Energy Efficiency Deployment Programs, Renewable Portfolio Standard, Solar Study, Off Shore Wind Study
- **State Implementation Plans**

Questions?

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