

# CAEECC EMSWG Meeting #7 Summary

Date: Wednesday, February 21, 2024

Time: 9:00 am - 12:00 pm PT

On February 21, 2024, the Equity & Market Support Working Group (EMSWG) met for its seventh Meeting via Zoom. There were 26 attendees, including representatives from 14 EMSWG Member organizations and 3 representatives from Ex-Officio agencies, as well as 9 Members of the Public (see [Appendix A](#) for a full list of meeting attendees). This meeting was facilitated by Katie Wu (Wu) of Common Spark Consulting and supported by Sooji Yang (Yang) and Suhaila Sikand (Sikand) of Common Spark Consulting and Susan Rivo (Rivo) of Raab Associates.

Supporting meeting materials are available at:

<https://www.caeec.org/equity-and-market-support-wg-mtg-7>. Relevant materials include:

- Agenda (*02-21-2024 EMSWG Meeting #7 - Agenda (posted 02-14-24)*)
- Slide Deck (*02-21-2024 EMSWG Meeting #7 - Slide Deck (posted 02-14-24)*)
- Draft Report (*CAEECC EMSWG Report DRAFT (posted 02-14-24)*)

## Overview

Key Meeting Takeaways:

- Regarding general feedback on the Draft Report, Members recommended including a summary table of Indicator recommendations and coming to a greater conclusion on recommendations rather than “kicking the discussion down the road.”
- Members provided answers to the Facilitation Team's clarifying questions and noted high/low bay LED lighting as an example of an expired measure, and that challenges with reporting benefits for statewide programs currently only affect IOUs but BayREN will administer a statewide program in 2026.
- Members agreed that the purposes of Equity Indicators also fit Market Support Indicators and suggested replacing “ensuring” with “enabling” in Purpose 3.
- Members discussed as an initial phase of reporting, to report participants disaggregated by program and include details on how participants were counted so readers can understand the context. PAs can come to a different level of granularity at a later time.
- When polled, most respondents supported the recommendation that PAs should report Electric and Gas bill savings as two separate values.
- Members supported excluding nonclaimable savings from the Equity and Market Support Indicators.

- The issues surrounding reporting statewide program benefits remain mostly unresolved. The Report will leave the text as is.
- Members did not support adding PG&E’s suggestions to expand the definition of “partnership,” but the Final Report will include an indication that the suggestions were made and the WG did not agree to add them.
- Members did not oppose keeping the examples in the definition of “partner.”
- For the definition of “partnership,” Members supported removing “advocate” but maintaining the variety of examples so that PAs can specify in their reporting. There was support to consolidate the type of partnership to contracted and informal, and that contractor mostly refers to building/construction contractor.

*This meeting summary is intended to capture this meeting’s discussion of ideas, concerns, alternative options for proposals and consensus; it is a high-level summary and not a transcript.*

Key acronyms that may be used in this document include California Energy Efficiency Coordinating Committee (CAEECC), California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC), Energy Division (ED), energy efficiency (EE), working group (WG), disadvantaged communities (DAC) and hard-to-reach (HTR) communities, CPUC’s Environmental and Social Justice Action Plan (ESJ Action Plan), Program Administrator (PA), Investor-owned utilities (IOU), Regional Energy Network (REN), community-based organization (CBO), Disadvantaged Communities Advisory Group (DACAG), and Total System Benefits (TSB).

## Welcome & Introductions

Slides 1 - 5

Wu welcomed and introduced participants to the seventh meeting of the EMSWG. Wu presented the meeting objectives, which included:

1. Take Working Group member feedback on the Draft EMSWG Report
2. Address questions in the Draft EMSWG Report

To achieve meeting objectives, the Facilitation Team developed the following agenda:

- Welcome
- [Topic 1](#): Reactions to and General Feedback on Draft Report
- [Topic 2](#): Facilitator’s Clarifying Questions
- [Topic 3](#): Purposes of Indicators
- [Topic 4](#): Reporting Participant Counts
- [Topic 5](#): Reporting Bill Impacts
- [Topic 6](#): Nonclaimable Savings
- [Topic 7](#): Reporting on Statewide Programs
- [Topic 8](#): Other Feedback on the Recommendations for the Equity Indicators
- [Topic 9](#): Definition of “Partnership”

- [Topic 10](#): Definition of “Partner”
- [Topic 11](#): Definition of “Type”
- [Topic 12](#): Definition of “Non-ratepayer in-kind funds/contributions”
- Wrap Up and Next Steps

## Topic 1: Reactions to and General Feedback on Draft Report

Slides 6 - 7

Wu presented the first draft of the EMSWG Final Report and asked for general feedback about surprises and disappointments. These included the following:

### Summary of Discussion on Topic #1

*What surprised you about the report? What disappointed you about the report?*

- A Member noted that there’s a lot of information in the report and that the structure needed some orientation. Recommended to include a summary table of Indicators with their relevant recommendations. Several Members agreed with this suggestion and added that the table could be attached to the report as a spreadsheet. A PA Member suggested the Executive Summary be leveraged for the high-level overview, and that the table includes whether each Indicator reached a resolved conclusion, any identified next steps, which Indicators discussed the “What, Why, How”, and what venue would be appropriate for further discussion.
- A PA Member expressed gratitude for completing the report and disappointment that some recommendations were to continue the discussion at a later time. Expressed preference to see clear recommendations (or even options of non-consensus) of the Indicators rather than delaying the recommendation.
- A Member of the Public noted they would like to see suggestions on how Indicators should be reported moving forward. Suggested it would also be helpful to have some clarity around some of the non-consensus topics to have an understanding of how to help disaggregate the Indicators.
- Wu asked how information should be presented about the Indicators that the WG didn’t get to.
  - A Member noted that 19 out of 38 Indicators weren’t mentioned in the report. Suggested describing them as the 9 Indicators the WG decided not to talk about/prioritize and the remaining 10 indicators as ones not discussed due to bandwidth. A Member of the Public agreed.
  - A Member suggested that unclarified Indicators have descriptions of why they weren’t discussed (time, resources, etc). Highlighted that this is a fast-tracked effort compared to other WGs and that transparency about the timeline and scope density should be noted, given that this WG had many meetings, high engagement, and good intentions from participants. Noted that this WG is far from getting deadlocked as they’ve uncovered and addressed tough issues to the maximum extent possible. Suggested

- to get closure wherever the WG can, but acknowledge if there are any outstanding issues that must be addressed.
- A PA Member agreed with the previous sentiments. Asked Facilitation Team what key insights popped out and what decisions did the Facilitation Team feel they had to make.
    - *The Facilitation Team did not respond in the meeting but offers this response after:* While drafting the report, it became apparent that there are very few Indicators where the "what, why, and how" have been clarified to an extent that we would expect the PAs to be consistently reporting data. We did our best not to make assumptions about how the WG should resolve non-consensus recommendations or approach Indicators that were not addressed, as it is our perspective that the WG should be the decision-makers.
  - A PA Member questioned if the PAs should be adding details to their Advice Letters in areas where the WG didn't converse about it. Suggested that the PAs don't fill in gaps and if there's no time for further discussion, a plan needs to be discussed.
    - Wu asked how Members would like to approach issues that the WG did not discuss. Noted that her interpretation was that PAs would address anything this WG didn't discuss because there was an understanding from the beginning that the scope was too big for this WG to complete.
    - A non-PA Member commented that PAs discussing items amongst themselves for inclusion in the Advice Letter is okay with them. Highlighted that the WG report helps inform a filing that is, ultimately, the PAs' responsibility. Suggested that if any non-PA is concerned that certain topics will be decided without their input, they should convey their preference and/or ideas to PAs directly. A Member of the Public agreed.
  - Members from ED expressed that a missing piece of the report is a "framework" (for each Indicator) with the method to quantify each of the Indicators and related details. Clarified that this "framework" concept is derived from the September 2022 Ad-Hoc Workshop on Metrics where SoCalREN's methodology for their Bi-Annual Budget Advice Letter (BBAL) in 2021. Explained that the "framework" was meant to be a template for the PAs to include in their reporting for each Indicator, and could be helpful to show consensus and non-consensus on specific aspects of the Indicators.
    - Sikand provided context via the chat, recalling that a sample "framework" was presented back in [Sept 2022](#) and the outcome of the discussion was that there was no definitive position of whether or not to leverage it in any capacity.
    - A Member raised concern that ED is seeking a deliverable introduced at a late time in the WG. Noted that the WG has been mostly working on creating a shared understanding of terminology, rather than on the

- "framework." Raised concern that the "framework" elements are ambiguous. Noted that the remaining challenge of clarifying how to obtain and present data for the Indicators cannot be addressed by PAs using the same or a similar type of framework. Raised that how to standardize and normalize Indicator information should be a PA decision with the CPUC, not a discussion for non-PA entities.
- Wu recalled that the WG began discussions with this "framework" as PAs provided a PA Starting Point for the Table of Adopted Indicators (see "Materials Posted Before the Meeting" on the [EMSWG Meeting #1 website](#)) but stepped away from the detailed discussions about methodology to have broader discussions about terminology first. Noted that a Facilitator follow-up is to put together a table to synthesize the recommendations from the WG, which could address parts (but not all) of the "framework."
  - A Member of the Public noted appreciation for the detail in the "framework" but that a spreadsheet would be more useful than individual tables as it could be sorted, etc. A Member and a Member of the Public agreed.
  - A Member of the Public noted that several of the "framework" fields will be specific to the reporting PA (i.e. core values) and therefore the WG might not be the best venue for discussion.
  - PA Members asked the ED to clarify why the WG needs to abide by the "framework" when all the other programs like Resource Acquisition, have some type of CPUC guidance or pre-determinants on the format and methodology of the report.
    - A Member of ED clarified that the "framework" is not used for the actual reporting, but rather a descriptor for all the Indicators. Synonymized it to the Common Metrics worksheet. Recalled that there was a significant amount of conversation around Common Metrics and its reporting structure in previous years. Raised that it's likely convenient to follow a similar methodology because of how much thought went into the Common Metrics reporting structure.
    - A PA Member recalled that there is a current effort to reduce the burden of reporting on Common Metrics. Suggested that whatever occurs in that process can apply here.

## Topic 2: Facilitator's Clarifying Questions

Slides 8 - 10

Wu directed EMSWG to the topic of Nonclaimable Savings on page 16 of the [Draft Report](#). Wu then guided the group with discussion questions (*italicized below*).

## Summary of Discussion on Topic #2

*What is an example of an expired measure?*

- A Member of the Public commented that there is an important nuance between a measure that could be fully retired from the eTRM versus an individual work paper that is expired because it had been updated – in the second case, the measure is still valid as there have just been updates to the work paper.
  - A PA Member agreed with the nuance. Assumed that an expired measure means that it can no longer be incentivized in the EE portfolio, not that it has been replaced by another measure. Provided an example of the high/low bay LED lighting that was recently expired because it is assumed to be a baseline technology.
  - A PA Member added that oftentimes a measure becomes expired not just because it became standard practice but because there is very little savings between what is required by code or industry standards and the measured case. Added that if the measure is deemed to not have a lot of savings and is not cost-effective, it may be retired. Noted that this standard practice is usually taken across a wide swath of customers but there are certain groups with different baselines (e.g., customers that have been slower adopt energy efficiency technologies), so a measure may be deemed appropriate to offer to one subset of customers but not to another.
  - A PA Member added that when you have a deemed measure that has been retired because it doesn't provide enough savings, there's a gray area when someone wants to still use the savings values that have been retired. Assumed that the high/low bay LED lighting has been retired because the baseline is that LEDs are used everywhere. Raised concern about taking a blanket approach to expiring measures because it may be useful to some groups of customers.

*Do issues with reporting benefits for statewide programs affect only IOUs or all PAs?*

- A PA Member replied that these issues only affect the IOUs for now; however, this may change over time as BayREN will be administering a statewide program in the future.
- A Member of ED commented that attribution of benefits needs to be figured out for the Equity and Market Support segments but that doesn't necessarily have to apply universally.
- A PA Member commented that this is an existing issue with the Common Metrics as well.
- A PA Member commented that BayREN is planning to be an administrator for a statewide program in 2026, and noted that the Market Support program will be funded 100% by BayREN, thus benefits will not be attributed based on budget contributions. Noted that all statewide programs have to be third-party

implemented so they are funded across the IOUs. Raised that certain Indicators around statewide programs affect BayREN and should be considered while other Indicators like funding would not.

### Topic 3: Purposes of Indicators

Slides 11 - 12

Wu directed EMSWG to the topic of Purposes of Indicators on page 11 of the [Draft Report](#). Wu then guided the group with discussion questions (*italicized below*).

#### Summary of Discussion on Topic #3

*Are these same purposes applicable to Market Support Indicators? Are any additional purposes appropriate for the Market Support Indicators? Should the report include a separate section on purposes of Market Support Indicators?*

- A PA Member agreed that the purposes would fit for Market Support and did not suggest an additional purpose.
- A PA Member agreed with the first comment and suggested replacing “ensuring” with “enabling” in bullet point 3. Multiple Members supported this suggestion.

Wu summarized that there is no need to create a new set of purposes for Market Support Indicators and the language on purposes will be updated to include Market Support.

### Topic 4: Reporting Participant Counts

Slides 13 - 14

Wu directed EMSWG to the topic of Reporting Participant Counts on page 14 of the [Draft Report](#). Wu then guided the group with a discussion question (*italicized below*).

#### Summary of Discussion on Topic #4

*Anything to add to this recommendation: “PAs, in consultation with the EMSWG or in another venue, should continue to discuss how to count multi-family and public sector participants to clarify who and/or what is meant to be captured and how to report. Any conversations about adjusting CEDARS should include Energy Division staff involved in overseeing CEDARS”?*

- A Member of the Public noted wanting more clarity around the reporting vehicle, such as using a spreadsheet where PAs can disaggregate the data in the way their programs are operated and in the way they count participation.
- A Member commented that the issue of counting multifamily dwellings applies to Resource Acquisition programs as well and remains unresolved. Asked for

clarification about how CBOs and the populations they serve translate to participant units in the residential sector.

- Wu noted that PAs currently report multifamily participants by individual units. Shared that the WG had some discussion about the challenges of leveraging the existing CEDARS reporting process for participant counts and noted that there may be programs within the Equity and Market Support segments that don't get reported on via CEDARS because they don't result in savings.
- A Member from ED commented that there is currently no reporting vehicle for Indicators as CEDARS is not adequate at the moment. Suggested to look at this in phases – as phase 1, initially report Indicators in a spreadsheet, and then in phase 2 use something more sophisticated. Noted that this will need to be figured out over time and that ED will work with PAs after the Advice Letter is filed to come up with a reporting template. Suggested including recommendations about reporting in the Final Report.
- Wu asked Members to consider two options on reporting: (1) aggregated information reported via spreadsheet or workbook, (2) disaggregated information reported via the Annual Report, and (3) an alternative.
  - A PA Member asked if PAs have a good sense of how PAs are already collecting and reporting on the multifamily and public sectors and suggested identifying the overlap (lowest granularity) to then narrow down the reporting options as a way forward. A Member supported this suggestion.
  - A PA Member supported an earlier suggestion that each PA has a spreadsheet with the units and accounts to meet the purposes of the Indicators. Noted that units in CEDARS don't match what the count should be for a household, so assumptions would need to be made.
  - A PA Member did not support disaggregating the data as there will be 1000s of sub-Indicators.
    - Wu recalled that in previous discussions that sub-Indicators would not be preferred for this Indicator; however, the different options and perspectives heard today will be noted in the report.

Wu summarized that the PAs should report participants disaggregated by program and include details on how participants were counted so readers can understand the context. This could serve as an initial phase 1 of reporting PAs will take as a first step to share how they already report on multifamily and public sector participants, and as a phase 2, PAs can come to a consistent and/or different level of granularity over time. As an initial reporting process, PAs can start with disaggregated data.

## Topic 5: Reporting Bill Impacts

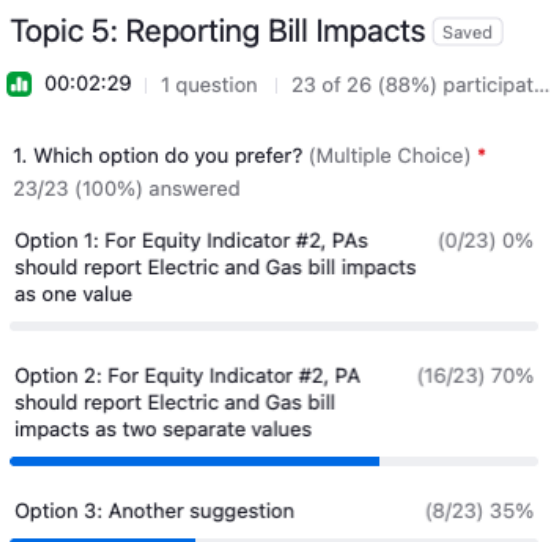
*Slides 15 - 16*



Wu directed EMSWG to the topic of Reporting Bill Impacts on pages 15-16 of the [Draft Report](#). Wu then opened a Zoom poll to ask EMSWG Members which option they would prefer on how PAs should report bill impacts:

1. Option 1: For Equity Indicator #2, PAs should report Electric and Gas bill impacts as one value.
2. Option 2: For Equity Indicator #2, PAs should report Electric and Gas bill impacts as two separate values
3. Option 3: Another suggestion

Most respondents (sixteen out of twenty-three respondents) chose Option 2 while three out of the eight respondents who chose Option 3 indicated they had no preference.



## Summary of Discussion on Topic 5

Wu then asked Members to share the reason behind their vote in the poll.

- A Member voted for Option 2 because it is easier to see reporting challenges when the values are reported separately than as one value.
  - A PA Member agreed and shared that the PA recently put in a metric for a newly launched program to separate the bill impacts between gas and electric. Preferred to be consistent with reporting as the PA already has a system of separating the values in place.
- A Member of the Public voted for Option 3 because of concerns about whether RENs are able to accurately report on these Indicators as they don't have access to customer billing information. Asked if this exercise should be conducted by an evaluator or consultant team and use numbers available to everyone.

- A PA Member noted that rate information is public and proposed that PAs use a standard assumption when they do not know the specific customer rate, e.g. using the E1 rate as a standard assumption for a residential customer. Noted that if PAs do not know bill impacts for a customer, then it is irresponsible to install EE measures in that customer's home.
  - Wu clarified that bill impacts will only be calculated for any programs that result in claimable energy savings, so it would only be the energy savings number multiplied by a PA-specific rate.
- A PA Member suggested that the Final Report include a recommendation that the PAs determine the methodology, and shared that simple is better for RENs who serve customers in multiple CCA territories, each with their own rates. Suggested that RENs use a bundled IOU rate instead of finding rate data for each CCA. Also suggested including in the Final Report further discussion needed on whether the methodology should include a bundled flat rate or TOU. A Member of the Public agreed.
- A Member from ED agreed that simplicity is the best option as CPUC intends to use the Indicator to gauge a high-level understanding of bill impacts, which does not require detailed specificity.
- A PA Member asked for clarification on what is meant by “bill impacts” as the Indicator language says “bill savings.”
  - Wu clarified that the WG had previously framed the Indicator as bill impacts because there wasn't clarity about whether potential increases in energy use would be captured. However, the WG did note that fuel-switching bill impacts are captured, but if there are any increases in energy use due to fixed or new energy end use, then those are not captured.

## Topic 6: Nonclaimable Savings

Slides 17 - 18

Wu directed EMSWG to the topic of Nonclaimable Savings on page 16 of the [Draft Report](#). Wu then guided the group with a discussion question (*italicized below*).

### Summary of Discussion on Topic 6

*Should the following recommendation be included in the report? “The PAs, in consultation with the EMSWG or in another venue, should continue to discuss nonclaimable savings to develop a shared definition and explore options to understand the extent to which nonclaimable savings are occurring within the Equity Segment.”*

- A PA Member asked why the concept of nonclaimable savings is being raised. Acknowledged that there are a lot of different circumstances in which an Equity segment program is valid but doesn't have claimable savings. Noted that there are other ways to represent the value other than using nonclaimable energy savings. Added that trying to calculate nonclaimable energy savings undermines

the value of ex ante values used across the portfolio and there is an administrative burden associated with producing the number. Recommended to not include nonclaimable savings. Several Members agreed.

- A Member agreed and added that the Equity and Market Support segments, inclusive of lower cost-effectiveness standards, were explicitly created to deliver different types of EE interventions than the more traditional "install a measure, reduce your energy consumption, and lower your electric/gas bill." Suggested that nonclaimable savings can be different than nonresource interventions (e.g., outreach, capacity-building, workforce development) and that these types of interventions can be reported in program-specific annual reports.
- A Member of the Public asked for clarification on why the statement "Ultimately, the Working Group agreed that it is premature to include nonclaimable savings in the calculation of Equity Indicators #2 and 5-9 until, at least, a shared definition is adopted for nonclaimable savings" does not show up as a consensus item on page 16 of the Draft Report.
  - Wu noted to make the edit in the draft and asked for confirmation about whether there is an agreement that nonclaimable savings should not be included within Indicator data.
  - A PA Member suggested that the Final Report could include a passing sentence that it is not included because it was not asked of the WG.
- A Member asked for clarification about whether this discussion is a reflection of any resource claimable savings and raised that there could be a misunderstanding that bill savings from Equity programs are coming from nonclaimable savings.
  - Wu clarified that bill impacts would be calculated using ex ante data so the calculation would only include claimable savings.
  - A PA Member commented on seeing bill savings as based on ex ante claimable savings and that the WG discussions do not preclude any PA from reporting additional data if a PA chooses to do so.

Wu summarized that the recommendation is to exclude nonclaimable savings from the Equity and Market Support Indicators.

## Topic 7: Reporting on Statewide Programs

Slides 20 - 21

Wu directed EMSWG to the topic of Reporting on Statewide Programs on page 17 of the [Draft Report](#). Wu then guided the group with a discussion question (*italicized below*).

### Summary of Discussion on Topic 7

*"The challenge of reporting on Statewide Programs are not unique to Equity and Market Support Indicators. Possible solutions considered by the Working Group include:*

1. *Provide a single, aggregated statewide value or count that is not separated by PA (5/12)*
2. *Leverage annual reports and impact evaluations to ensure that benefits are distributed across the state (3/12)*
3. *Consider how reporting aggregated values for statewide programs would impact goal development and accountability for statewide program goals (6/12)*
4. *None of the above. Further discussion is needed to clarify Indicators applied to Statewide Programs (3/12)*

*One Working Group member recommended providing data disaggregated by PA to see which areas of the state are being served.”*

***What else should be added to the following recommendation? Is there a conversation about reporting on statewide programs happening anywhere else?***

- A Member from ED asked if Possible Solution 2 is sufficient to get a sense of what’s going on around the state in different places.
- A PA Member commented that there seem to be two different questions here: 1) Given the way the IOUs are taking credit for things that occur in the statewide programs – as a percentage of the budget the IOUs contributed to the programs versus where those interventions took place – how is this compatible and comparable to local reporting accomplishments? (i.e. The PA is claiming a fraction of every statewide program they contribute to regardless of where the intervention occurs in the state). 2) Is it appropriate for a PA to claim a fraction of the intervention in another IOU service territory and count it toward one of the Indicators or would this create an apples-to-oranges situation of what that value means relative to a local program in the PA’s service territory?
  - A Member from ED replied that it doesn’t seem appropriate to attribute benefits based on contributions to the budget and that ED is interested in understanding what’s happening in different places but wants to be mindful of reporting pains.
  - A PA Member suggested that the distribution of statewide program benefits be tackled outside the scope of Equity and Market Support Indicators because PAs are not providing program-level details for the Equity and Market Support Indicators. Raised the question of whether it makes sense for PAs to be claiming benefits that are occurring in another PA territory and what the implications are of then comparing theoretical benefits based on budget versus impacts that occurred in their PA service territory.
- Wu asked for clarification about whether the statewide programs are administered by third-parties.
  - A PA Member replied that all statewide programs are required to be administered by third parties rather than the IOUs. Added that a lot of the attribution is only on the actual energy savings side, that all the other metrics are not attributed in that way, and that IOUs are aware of which

statewide program participant is in their territory. Noted that if one IOU initiated a statewide program, then all the other IOUs would need to derive data from that IOU.

- Wu asked if an option could be to recommend that the implementer be responsible for reporting by PA territory as it seems difficult for PAs to report on savings or the participants because they're not the implementers of the program.
  - A PA Member asked if the implementer would report directly to the CPUC or through a PA. Noted that the option is likely possible, but because the reporting paradigm isn't set, there are likely challenges with such an approach. Another PA Member agreed and noted that PAs are responsible for reporting and setting the tone and contracts for implementers to collect data, whether statewide or local programs.
  - A Member from ED agreed that PAs should report the data. Proposed that IOUs present one statewide program report that describes high-level information about what the IOUs did, where they did it, and how well they did it.
- A Member noted for Possible Solution 1, there are challenges of getting actual accounts by service territory to be exact and there's a downstream application that is tracked to that level of detail. Raised uncertainty about how to get the numbers by PAs.
- A PA Member noted that for statewide programs, reporting should be done by IOU and not by PAs as it is only IOUs who administer statewide programs (with the exception of BayREN's 2026 statewide program). A few Members agreed.
- A PA Member asked why this discussion is occurring. Asked if statewide-relevant items would be reported in a different report and whether non-statewide values would be relevant anymore.
  - Wu clarified that this discussion was borne from an issue previously raised that IOUs currently report statewide program benefits based on the proportion of the budget they contribute to the program, and it was not clear whether this same methodology should be applied to the Equity & Market Support Indicators regarding statewide programs. Added that the four recommendations are based on the conversations thus far.
  - A PA Member replied that there is no need to reinvent the wheel – if it's done in Resource Acquisition, then the reporting should be done there. Added if changes need to be made, then it should occur in Resource Acquisition reporting so that all of the data is congruent.
  - Another PA Member agreed and noted that this problem exists in Common Metrics as well. Added that each IOU lead for a statewide program is reporting the total program impacts to CEDARS where you can see, for example, which climate zone the claim occurred in. Added that the challenges with reporting occur with non-resource programs like statewide WE&T programs where reporting does not exist in CEDARS to see the distribution of benefits. Suggested not to create a separate report on the distribution of statewide program benefits.

Wu summarized that these issues are complex and also affect Common Metrics. There was a recommendation put forward for the IOUs to create a separate report on statewide program benefits but not much support was heard. The Report will leave the text as is, so when the PAs are developing their Advice Letter, they will be responsible for determining how they would approach reporting on the Indicators there.

## Topic 8: Other Feedback on the Recommendations for the Equity Indicators

*Slides 22 - 23*

Wrapping up the discussion on Equity Indicators, Wu asked EMSWG if they had any additional feedback on the Recommendations for the Equity Indicators. There was no additional feedback heard, so Wu welcomed any Member to follow up with written feedback or to coordinate a 1:1 call.

## Topic 9: Definition of “Partnership”

*Slides 24 - 25*

Wu directed EMSWG to the topic of Definition of Partnership on pages 18-19 of the [Draft Report](#). Wu then guided the group with a discussion question (*italicized below*).

### Summary of Discussion on Topic 9

*PG&E suggested that the working group consider adding electrification and decarbonization to the "partnership" definition. Options include:*

- 1. Adding building electrification and/or building decarbonization to #1 above.*
- 2. Adding a fourth bullet: "Partnerships may focus on energy efficiency, building decarbonization, and/or decarbonization products, technologies, services, training and outreach.*

*PG&E also noted a concern that the definition above is overly broad. Suggested additional guidelines include:*

- 1. Formal documented agreement (contract, MOU, or otherwise) of the partnership arrangement*
- 2. The scope of the partnership work supports energy efficiency, building electrification, and/or decarbonization*
- 3. All partners contribute resources (financial or otherwise) to the agreed upon scope of the partnership*
- 4. The partnership agreement includes clear roles and responsibilities for managing the partnership work"*

***Should any of PG&E's suggestions above be added to the definition of "partnership"?  
What are the potential risks of having an overly broad definition?***

- A PA Member asked why these suggestions are needed and for clarification on whether the expanded definition of partnership would include non-EE measures. Raised concern about potentially moving the partnership-related Indicators out of the scope of the EE proceeding and away from the definition of Market Support.
  - A PA Member responded that there was concern that the definition, as written, might be limiting to the type of work that is done in WE&T program, e.g. electrification and decarbonization that enables EE wouldn't be captured. Added that spending EE program dollars on a program means the program is within scope. Clarified that the suggestion is to not expand the scope of existing EE programs but to align the Indicators with the scope of the program.
- A Member agreed with the first PA Member and supported the language as is. Asked if a PA's definition of formal partnership would change with this definition (as this PA has an internal definition of partnership as a contracted relationship).
  - A PA Member replied that the PA will follow the definition in the Report for the purposes of reporting on the Indicators.
- A PA Member asked for clarification on where EE is removed in the suggestion.
  - A PA Member replied that the "and/or" language means that "or" is allowed, which means there can be partners that are focused solely on building decarbonization and not EE. Uplifted that EE and decarbonization are not the same, e.g. an efficient gas heater can be replaced with an inefficient electric water heater (this is considered electrification but not EE).
  - Another PA Member commented that the Report should reflect this conversation even if the WG decides to not include the suggestions.
  - A Member from ED noted that changing the definition would not necessarily change where funds are distributed to.
- A PA Member supported keeping the definition as is. A Member of the Public agreed and shared that from the REN perspective, the more broad the definition, the more flexibility to meet Equity and Market Support goals. Suggested for non-legally contracted partnerships, there be backup documentation in case of evaluation. Asked if an email or a flyer would suffice for that backup documentation.
  - A Member from ED commented that it depends on the content of the email or flyer. Added that Market Support Indicator #1 also includes "type" and "purpose" which can capture partners who are focused on decarbonization and other things.
- A PA Member raised concern about counting partnerships that aren't really partnerships when the bar or standard for what qualifies as a standard is lowered.

Wu summarized that support hasn't been heard on adding PG&E's suggestions to the "partnership" definition. However, the report will still include the suggestions but will indicate that the WG did not agree to add them to the formal recommendations.

## Topic 10: Definition of "Partner"

Slides 26 - 27

Wu directed EMSWG to the topic of the Definition of Partner on page 19 of the [Draft Report](#). Wu then guided the group with a discussion question (*italicized below*).

### Summary of Discussion on Topic 10

*"The term "partner" (used in Market Support Indicators #1, 18, and 20) is defined as an entity engaged in partnerships including and not limited to educational institutions/organizations, governments, community-based organizations, advocates, suppliers, manufacturers, contractors (see "Type"). **Should the examples be omitted from the definition?***

- A Member commented that the definition is very circular as it essentially goes back to the definition of partnership.
  - Wu noted to keep the examples in the definition.

## Topic 11: Definition of "Type"

Slides 28 - 30

Wu directed EMSWG to the topic of the Definition of Type on page 20 of the [Draft Report](#). Wu then guided the group with discussion questions (*italicized below*).

### Summary of Discussion on Topic 11

*Should suggested edits A, B, and/or C (on pages 19-20) be implemented?*

- A PA Member supported A and C, but did not agree with B because it is not harmful to have multiple types of partners and it is limiting to have only 3 options plus an "other."
- A Member from ED suggested to add an "other" or something more descriptive for new types of relationships in the definition of "type." Shared that when thinking about non-energy benefits, there may be different types of partners, e.g. health partner. A Member of the Public agreed.
  - Wu noted that the list is meant to provide examples and the definition includes "not limited to" in reference to the list.
  - A PA Member raised a concern about when a partner might fall into multiple types, suggested adding industry organizations such as ACEEE, and supported the idea of putting "other."



- Another PA Member disagreed with putting “other” as there is the “not limited to” language already. Suggested putting an indication that each partnership should be defined as a single type to avoid confusion and double-counting. A Member from ED agreed and suggested that only one type (the most appropriate one to the partnership) is reported.
- A PA Member raised a concern about when a partner might fall into multiple types, suggested adding industry organizations such as ACEEE, and supported the idea of putting “other” and developing a process to redefine the type when there is a high number of a specific “other.”
- Wu recalled that a previous comment was made about how sub-counts for type would not be preferred for Market Support Indicator #1.
  - A PA Member commented that based on how the Indicators is written, his interpretation of Market Support Indicator #1 requires sub-counts for type and purpose.
- A Member of the Public asked how this Indicator will be reported – whether there should be two numbers (by type and by purpose), whether it should be reported in a spreadsheet with rows for type and purposes, and whether there will be sub-counts.
  - A Member from ED replied ED is generally looking for a “roll-up” of the number of partners, e.g. a PA has 100 total partners, of which half is one type of partner and the other is another type of partner. Added that ED is open to suggestions on how to effectively report on this.
- A PA Member asked if the WG should spend time on the definition of “purpose.” Raised the concern of having multiple purposes for each partnership.
  - Wu noted that the examples of purpose were excluded in the Report, given responses to the Market Support survey sent out as homework and that in the Report, “purpose is defined as what the partnership seeks to achieve.”
  - A Member from ED asked if “purpose” should reflect the main sub-objective(s) of the partnership.
  - A PA Member replied that the Market Support definition – “educating customers, training contractors, building partnerships, or moving beneficial technologies towards greater cost-effectiveness” – could potentially be used.

*Should “contractor” be defined as a building/construction contractor?*

- A PA Member noted not having a position on this but added that “contractor” should probably be building/construction and not consulting.

*Is there any disagreement to this statement: “Note that listing examples in the definition is not meant to limit the type of partner or partnership, as that can change over time. Additionally, it is not expected that PAs would report sub-counts for Market Support Indicator #1”?*

- The WG did not get to this discussion question due to running out of time.

Wu summarized that there was support to remove “advocate” but to maintain the variety of examples so that PAs can specify in their reporting. There was support to consolidate the type of partnership to contracted and informal, and that contractor refers to building/construction contractor but the Facilitation team is open to any opposing thoughts.

## Topic 12: Definition of “Non-ratepayer in-kind funds/contributions”

Slides 31 - 32

The WG did not get to this topic due to running out of time. Topic 12 will instead be discussed at the next meeting on February 28.

## Wrap Up and Next Steps

Slides 33 - 35

Wu provided a recap of the day, reminded participants of the meeting objectives, and shared next steps, including:

- Meeting #7 Summary will be posted by February 28.
- Meeting #8 materials will be posted by February 21.
- The last EMSWG Meeting #8 will be held on February 28, 2024 from 9am-12pm PT.

## Appendix A: Attendees

Organization	Name
<b>CAEECC Members</b>	
3C-REN	Erica Helson
AMBAG	Amaury Berteaud
BayREN	Mary Sutter
MCE	Brandon Ewart
Mendota Group	Grey Staples
PG&E	Moses Gastelum
RCEA/RuralREN	Stephen Kullman
SBUA	Ted Howard
SCE	Gary Golden
SDG&E	Stephanie Guterrez
Silent Running LLC	James Dodenhoff

SoCalGas	Halley Fitzpatrick
SoCalREN	Lujuana Medina
The Energy Coalition	Rebecca Hausheer
<b>Ex-Officio</b>	
CPUC	Pam Rittelmeyer
CPUC, Energy Division	Ely Jacobsohn
CA Public Advocates	James Ahlstedt
<b>Other Interested Stakeholders</b>	
BayREN	Jenn Mitchell-Jackson
Frontier Energy	Aaron Jones
Frontier Energy	Margaret Marchant
Frontier Energy	Timaree Nelson
I-REN/WRCOG	Benjamin Druyon
PG&E	Rob Bohn
SDG&E	DeDe Henry
SDG&E	Jen Palumbo
SoCalGas	Brian Johnston
<b>Facilitators</b>	
Katie Wu	Common Spark Consulting
Sooji Yang	Common Spark Consulting
Suhaila Sikand	Common Spark Consulting
Susan Rivo	Raab Associates