# Are Savings from Behavioral Programs Ready for TRM Prime Time?

Behavior, Energy, and Climate Change Conference

November 12, 2012



### What is a TRM?

- Total Research Madness?
- Totally Reliable Measures?
- Technical Reference Manual
  - Expected savings/algorithms
  - Also provide other parameters
  - Typically focused on "high impact" measures





### **Purpose of a TRM**

"Serve as a common reference document ...to provide transparency [and consistency] to all parties regarding savings assumptions and calculations..."

Source: State of IL TRM, September 2012





### **How TRMs are Used**

Deemed values vs. algorithms?





## Which States are Impacted by TRMs?





# How Are Behavioral Programs Handled in TRMs?

- Most states don't address behavioral programs
- MA deems a value
  - Based on prior evaluation
- AR and PA have protocols
  - AR Based largely on SEE/LBNL protocols





# So Back to the Original Question...

# Are Savings from Behavioral Programs Ready for TRM Prime Time?

### Yes



- Behavioral programs becoming more and more common
- Likely to represent a larger percentage of savings

### No



- Significant uncertainty on how savings achieved
- Questions on persistence



### Recommendation

- TRMs should adopt evaluation protocols Not Values
- Will ensure transparency and consistency in approach
- Can address policy issues
  - Persistence
  - Double counting
- Highly recommend either fully or partially adopting SEE/LBNL document
  - http://behavioranalytics.lbl.gov



### **Questions?**

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