

SEC INTERROGATORY #64

INTERROGATORY

[B/6/4, p. 68] Please advise of any top-down studies known to the expert that have confirmed the savings results reported by the program administrators.

RESPONSE

This question cites a report prepared for the Uniform Methods Project (“UMP”) sponsored by the U.S. DOE in 2017. The applications of top-down methods are discussed in this report (See: Exhibit Filed: 2017-12-19, EB-2017-0324, Exhibit B, Tab 6, Schedule 4, page 68 to 75). In general, top-down methods have been applied at the national level to confirm aggregate energy savings across states or regions. However, top-down methods are still being tested in terms of their ability to estimate savings at a utility service territory level or state/province level that might be associated with a given program administrator. Pilot efforts at using top-down methods to produce state-level estimates of energy savings have been undertaken in Massachusetts, but there is no consensus around the quality of the results of these efforts. The data needed to support top-down modeling is very challenging to collect for smaller geographic areas (such as utility service territories), and this has posed problems for the application of these methods at the state level.

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