2021 SPEER REVIEW

PREPARED BY
Liz John, Communications Manager
Kelly Herbert, Acting Executive Director
Again, we wrapped up another year that we never imagined. Our organization would like to extend a huge Thank You to our members and allies for all you have done on behalf of the broader energy efficiency industry, all in an effort to make the world a much better place. We have not only seen the continued challenges of COVID, but Texas experienced one of the worst storms in history with Winter Storm Uri during February 2021. These outside forces continue to challenge us as individuals, as well as an organization and industry. We want to thank you for continuing to persevere through the good and difficult times. Your commitment to membership and partnership is a true testament to your character and desire to help in times as we have never seen.

The challenges that SPEER continued to face in 2021 were different from challenges in years past. That said, 2021 was an incredible year of growth and opportunity for our organization. We were able to increase membership by 22%, which given the circumstances was welcomed and appreciated. We increased our reach with our webinar and training services from building codes to city efficiency leadership and energy efficiency policies. We continue our push for higher energy efficiency goals, working with like-minded organizations and groups on equitable and enhancing benefits that can positively impact all sectors of our region.
The Texas Health and Safety Code §388.005(c) requires each political subdivision, the institution of higher education, and state agency in a non-attainment area or an affected county to establish a goal to reduce electricity consumption by at least 5% each year. These entities must submit a report annually to SECO, the State Energy Conservation Office, regarding their progress and efforts to meet the five percent annual reduction goal. Our Local Government program increased reporting by 51%.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Report Submission YR</th>
<th>County</th>
<th>Higher Education</th>
<th>Municipality</th>
<th>State Agency</th>
<th>Grand Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>141</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>183</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>161</td>
<td>92</td>
<td>277</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percentage Change</td>
<td>-38%</td>
<td>300%</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>268%</td>
<td>51%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Increase/Decrease of Reports Submitted in 2020</td>
<td>-5</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>94</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Many of you familiar with our organization know that we implement and execute our work through four key program areas: Local Governments, Energy Building Codes, High-Performance Buildings, and Policy. Prior to the end of 2021, we developed a Local Government Technical Assistance form. In it, you’ll find what cities and jurisdictions we have worked with and how we have assisted them in developing sustainability initiatives. SPEER provides assistance to all local governments, schools & higher education universities, cities, and counties. We would love to get involved with your organization and aid in the following areas:

- Planning
- Benchmarking
- Energy Reporting
- Energy Plan Development

City Leadership Efficiency Council (CELC) Highlights:

- CEUs provided - 228
- Total attendees to webinars - 442
- Increase of agencies reported in 2020 -51%
Training and Education:
- Webinars delivered – 46
- Webinar attendees – 3611
- In-person trainings – 15
- In-person attendees – 388
- Total training attendees in 2021 – 3999

SPEER continues to be the go-to resource for plan reviewers, inspectors, builders, and others working with energy codes in Texas and Oklahoma.

Code Development Support:
- Track code adoption status of cities in Texas
- Active in weekly meetings with the North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) & Energy Code Advisory Board where we have begun analyzing the 2021 IECC for regional amendments
- Developing classes for Oklahoma’s Construction Industries Board
Thank you to all our members for all you have done on behalf of the broader energy efficiency industry, making Texas and Oklahoma a better place to live. As we put 2021 in the rearview, again we finish up a year like no other. During February of last year, we saw so many Texans lose power for an extended period of time during Winter Storm Uri, which created an emergency many of us have never experienced. In Texas more than two-thirds of homes are 20 years old or older; the inefficiency of those homes is a direct contributing factor to both high energy peaks and energy bills. Residential and small commercial loads alone represent 73% of the peak summer load that ERCOT strives to satisfy.

With more extreme weather conditions and storms occurring, we will begin to witness the state's peak loads, and potential blackouts, in winter months rather than our normal summer heat peaks. This is due to a lack of building standards and the ineffectiveness of current energy efficiency measures across the state. Upgrading the current building stock to be both more climate-resilient and efficient is a very effective way to reduce peak demand, therefore decreasing the need for new power generation and associated power infrastructure costs.

In 2021, SPEER provided members and the public with informational documents detailing the need for energy efficiency and other measures to ensure a reliable and resilient power grid moving forward. SPEER also hosts meetings and webinars with members and the public to discuss items of importance to grid reliability. We also suggested several ways in which Texas can make a difference in energy efficiency investment creating reliability and resilience at the state level.

➡️ We need to weatherize homes, not just power plants. Some of the most economical + affordable energy efficiency measures can help reduce demand!

➡️ Increase energy efficiency goals for utilities gradually to 1%, making energy efficiency a priority. Texas is one of the lowest-performing states in the nation in terms of efficiency programs, yet our economic potential shows no other state would benefit more than Texas from raising our goals. We need to put more value on energy efficiency.

➡️ Upgrade building codes to ensure our buildings meet required standards for hurricanes, freezes, and other storms. Resiliency is key, and updating codes should be a priority.

➡️ Incorporate climate mitigation and resiliency planning into our state Public Utility Commission, Railroad Commission, and Texas Commission on Environmental Quality strategic plans. Also include ERCOT transmission, long-term system assessment, and capacity demand and reserve reports.
Why do we need energy efficiency policies?

The United States avoided a 60% increase in energy consumption since 1980 due to energy efficiency investments.

Saves customers money on electric bills. This is a huge benefit for low-to-moderate income households which have the highest energy burdens, as well as for small businesses that have high lighting and air conditioning bills.

Low cost solution to reduce energy waste and burden through: home energy audits, weather-strip windows and doors, installing new windows or insulation, switching to LED lighting, upgrading heating and air conditioning equipment or replacing water heaters.

Increase resiliency in building codes to withstand and fight against natural disasters such as floods and hurricanes.

Aids in economic growth; energy efficiency employs more jobs in the clean energy sector than any other.

Invests in new technologies. Rebates in Texas have also been used for onsite solar, heat pumps, energy management systems and even storage to help consumers and businesses better manage and reduce their energy use. Other rebates have been used in new home construction to push better and more efficient homes. This increase in energy efficiency measures will directly impact the future reliability and stability of the grid.
last year's COMMUNICATIONS

YouTube Channel in 2021:
- 158,000 minutes watched
- Over 16,000 views

Most watched video bringing in over 4.2k views:
Residential HVAC Load Calculations

2021 Fact Sheets & Reports:
- The History of Texas Energy Efficiency Programs
- Raising Texas Utility Energy Efficiency Goals to 1% or More
- Energy Efficiency, Grid Resilience and Reliability
- Robust Climate Risk Assessments are Essential for our Emergency Preparedness

We're ready for a successful 2022!