

National Evaluation of the Weatherization Assistance Program  
Network Planning Committee Meeting  
March 23 and 24, 2005

**CHARTER**

**PURPOSES**

The Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL) has begun the planning for a new national evaluation of the DOE Weatherization Assistance Program. The purpose of this network planning committee meeting is to solicit from leaders of the weatherization network their input on the information that could be provided by the national evaluation that they would find useful and perceptions into how implementation of the evaluation and specifically data collection could be optimized. The network's needs and insights will then be used by ORNL in designing and planning the evaluation.

**ACTIONS**

To achieve these purposes the Committee will:

1. Examine how the weatherization network used the results from the 1990 national evaluation, discuss which results were most useful and for what purposes, and identify which results proved less meaningful;
2. Identify pitfalls and stumbling blocks to conducting a successful evaluation that are recalled from the previous national effort or more recent evaluations conducted at various levels of the network and how these might be avoided;
3. Clarify how the program and its operating environment have changed since 1990 and what impact those changes may have on the evaluation purposes, methods, and implementation;
4. Determine what the possible goals of the new evaluation might be, what information and analysis would achieve those goals, and what the priorities should be for allocation of evaluation resources;
5. Identify what data pertinent to the national evaluation are available at the national, regional, state, and local levels and what formats those data are in.
6. Gain insight into how the data collection effort can best be coordinated and streamlined to reduce the burden on the network while producing the most useful data.
7. Identify any questions or concerns the network might want an "experts" committee to address that will be providing advice on technical issues regarding energy measurements and experimental design.

## **DESIRED OUTCOMES**

1. The committee will create a list of network evaluation objectives and identify how to measure program performance according to each objective.
2. The committee will prioritize the objectives and related statistics and analysis based on best judgments of network priorities.
3. The committee will list available data resources that are currently being gathered by the network at various levels that can be used to perform evaluation tasks.
4. The committee will propose streamlined, effective, minimally disruptive ways that additional data can be gathered for the evaluation process.
5. The committee will identify key issues for discussion by the experts committee that will assist ORNL in reviewing alternative evaluation methodologies.