Who We Are

• Founded in 2000
• Statewide energy efficiency utility
• Administered by VEIC, under appointment of Public Service Board
• Offices in Burlington, Barre, and Rutland
Overview

Green Mountain Power and Efficiency Vermont are partnering on a community-wide effort in Panton, Vermont to reduce energy costs, improve system reliability, and boost community vitality.
Program Drivers

• Utility carbon reduction requirements under Act 56 – Renewable Energy Standards (RES)
• Moving beyond the logjam of home weatherization
• GMP-EVT innovative partnership between state’s investor-owned utility and state’s efficiency utility
Vermont’s RPS Law

- Underpinnings - State’s comprehensive energy plan of 90% renewables by 2050
- Under Tier 3 of RES law:
  - Utilities responsible for reducing their customers’ total fossil fuel emissions
  - Focus on transportation and heating – generates 3/4s of state’s CO2 emissions
- Utilities can potentially provide weatherization, heat pumps, and EVs
Goals

• Achieve significant energy improvements savings in large % of Panton homes

• Gather data and evaluate results to determine viability of replication in other communities
Customers Barriers

- Lack of customer awareness about energy improvement opportunities
- Lack of trust in contractors
- Customer reluctance to incur personal debt
- Customers not believing savings will materialize
Addressing the Barriers

- Pay-through-savings: pay all or part of energy improvements through the savings generated
- Savings guarantee
- 3rd party advisors – GMP and EVT staff educating customers about opportunities
- One-stop shop: eVolve Panton contracting with contractors to do the work
Scope of Energy Improvements

• Focus on “Total Energy”
  – Thermal and electrical efficiency improvements
  – Efficient heating and cooling systems, e.g. cold climate heat pumps
  – Replacement of inefficient appliances, including heat pump water heaters
• Solar encouraged
Pay-through-Savings Model

- Use energy savings to pay for energy improvements
- Customer pays monthly charge equal to or less than existing energy bills
- Some customer contribution likely
- eVolve Panton will pay for the upfront costs of completing the work; serve as primary contractor
- Intent is to also provide savings guarantee
Home Energy Visits

- EVT and GMP staff conducting home energy visits
- Focus on total energy in terms of opportunities
- If efficiency opportunities found – energy audit scheduled
  - Efficiency improvements as the foundation for any pay-through-savings model
- Data plugged into financial model to determine pay-through-savings opportunity
Status/Results to Date

- 67 home energy visits completed
- 40 audits scheduled or completed
- 25 closed or referred to other programs
- Customer offer in final stages of development
- 1/3 of homes in town engaged at this point
eVolve Panton Timeline

- Community outreach launched Aug 2016
- Initial home energy visits made Sep 2016
- Initial customer offers made March 2017
- Work completed for initial customers July 2017
- 2nd phase of community outreach April 2017
- Completion of Panton Work Dec 2017
Where to from Here

• Finalize pay-through-savings model
• Putting systems in place to operationalize
• Document and evaluate results
• Consider new communities to expand
• Regulatory approval pending
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