The Gas Technology Institute (GTI) Emerging Technology Program (ETP) is a North American, membership-based utility collaborative. It is designed to help members identify and evaluate the most promising products and integrated solutions. It leverages collective funding and expertise to address market barriers, assesses product suitability for utility energy efficiency programs, and delivers comprehensive program guidelines for successful deployment.

**OUR PROCESS**

ETP works across numerous channels to deliver a pipeline of solutions, enabling utilities to meet energy efficiency goals with less risk and more certainty. “Beyond development” technologies are targeted for residential, commercial and industrial markets, meaning they are newly commercialized or underutilized in a market or region. Members determine which technologies are reviewed based on their needs.

**Screening Process**

Technologies are vetted by a general screening criteria. Criteria include: cost-effectiveness, energy savings potential, impact on utility operations, manufacturer commitment, and fit with energy efficiency programs.

**Pilot Assessment Projects, Demonstrations, and Deployment**

Project proposals are developed for technologies that pass screening. ETP projects are funded by members on an opt-in basis, and are typically deployed or demonstrated at customer sites. Projects and demonstrations help validate performance, characterize market potential and implementation strategies, and creates datasets to support prescriptive measure and marketing programs. In 2016, GTI’s ETP conducted over 20 active demonstration, pilot, and lab projects across a dozen technologies.
GTI began implementing the Nicor Gas ETP in 2011. This program has introduced new technologies and helped customers across Illinois save energy and money.

The program has:
- Received over 75 technology applications from manufacturers, sales representatives, and contractors
- Launched 20+ pilot projects in residential, commercial, and industrial markets
- Identified, evaluated and facilitated five emerging technologies as new rebates through energySMART, a Nicor Gas program

Under the Nicor Gas ETP, GTI field tested a modulating gas valve retrofit kit for commercial dryers.

- The data collection and analysis performed under the project demonstrated average savings greater than 330 therms annually, offering a 2-3-year payback before incentives
- The gas valve retrofit kit measure was added to the Illinois Technical Reference Manual (TRM)
- The Nicor Gas energySMART program currently offers a prescriptive rebate for the retrofit kit

You can learn more about the Nicor Gas ETP at www.nicorgasrebates.com/resources/emerging-technology.

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