State Renewable Portfolio Standards and CHP

Waste Heat to Power Workshop

Jennifer A. DeCesaro
Policy Specialist
National Conference of State Legislatures
jennifer.decesaro@ncsl.org
15 February 2006
Outline

- Overview of state renewable portfolio standards.
- Definitions of renewable/alternative energy.
- How to better include CHP in existing policies.
Overview of State Renewable Portfolio Standards

- 21 states and the District of Columbia.
- Just 4 states include CHP in the definition of qualifying renewable technologies under the RPS.
- The RPS is not crafted in a way to encourage the increased deployment of CHP technologies.
Issues with CHP and the RPS

- Current design encourages utility scale wind, landfill gas & geothermal.
- Difficulties associated with quantifying CHP in the context of the RPS.
- Technology is often overlooked in development of these policies.
Definitions of Renewable Energy

A number of states define renewable energy outside of the RPS.

- Florida
- Hawaii
- Minnesota
- New Mexico
- Vermont
Renewable Energy Credit Trading & Tracking

RECs

- What are they?
- How do they work?
- How can non-RPS states participate?

The North Dakota Example

- No RPS
- Acted to participate in REC trading.
- Compatible Definitions
Lessons Learned

Role of Policies

- How a policy is crafted can impact the deployment of technologies in a state.
- Look for the road blocks.
- There are a number of policy options outside of the RPS that a state can consider for CHP.