

# NCEA 2011 Delivery Workshop ~ Event Survey

May 5 & 6, 2011 at Xcel Energy in Minneapolis, Lodging at Minneapolis Marriott Hotel

## 1. Rate the workshop -- i.e. Did we deliver to expectations?

Excellent	12	75%
Good	4	24%
Average	0	0%
Below Average	0	0%

## 2. Provide all of your workshop comments below:

8 Comments: Consider starting at noon on day one and dismissing at noon on day 2. .... I have attended a number of these events. Best discussion and presentations of all of these events. .... very informative. I like the way everyone was very open to problems and helping to come up with a solution. .... Good topics of discussion, good opportunity for networking, good roundtable topics and like submitting prior. Tour was very informative. Really enjoyed the evening comedy club. .... The workshop topics were well selected and the feedback was very good to hear from other entities on their company perspectives. This is always a good thing to rate yourself against your peer utilities, and you always take away information that one can utilize in your area. .... Great and relevant topics! .... Very engaged participants and speakers. Willingness to share ideas. .... The NCEA is always the best value in our industry, bar none!

## 3. Rate the "Workforce -- Retirement Crunch" session:

Excellent	12	75%
Good	4	25%
Average	0	0%
Below Average	0	0%

2 Comments: There is a specific quantification of the demand (retirements) in the utility industry, would have been good to try to quantify the available Supply and corresponding assumptions. .... Didn't really hear too much new on the topic.

## 4. Rate the "Workforce -- Vocational Approach" session:

Excellent	13	87%
Good	2	13%
Average	0	0%
Below Average	0	0%

0 Comments:

## 5. Rate the "Workforce -- Finding & Recruiting" session:

Excellent	11	69%
Good	5	31%
Average	0	0%
Below Average	0	0%

1 Comment: Very informative process being used

## 6. Rate the "Driving the Safety Culture" session:

Excellent	7	44%
Good	5	31%
Average	3	19%
Below Average	1	6%

1 Comment: Speaker could have been more dynamic, topic was good.

**7. Rate the "Regional Transmission Update" session:**

Excellent	8	53%
Good	5	33%
Average	2	13%
Below Average	0	0%

4 Comments: *Colored copies would have been great! ..... I was aware of this information already ..... Flora is knowledgeable on the subject ..... Flora really knew her material, I just didn't relate to it as well as the other topics.*

**8. Rate the "Delivery Roundtable Dialogue" session:**

Excellent	12	75%
Good	3	19%
Average	1	6%
Below Average	0	0%

4 Comments: *Good questions, in depth answers. .... A valued part of the meeting that allows Best Practices and learning from each other. .... Good discussion. .... The Delivery Roundtable Dialogue was very interesting but not as applicable for my area.*

**9. Rate the "High Bridge Plant" tour:**

Excellent	13	81%
Good	3	19%
Average	0	0%
Below Average	0	0%

3 Comments: *NA did not attend. .... I really enjoyed this tour, very informative. .... Great idea to tour this plant. Great learning opportunity.*

**10. Rate dinner at Cantina 1 and Comedy Club experience:**

Excellent	6	38%
Good	7	44%
Average	0	0%
Below Average	2	12%

7 Comments: *Great chance to interact more. .... NA did not attend. .... Sincerely nice server, but WAY unorganized. Meals at our table were delivered over a 25 minute time span. .... Good food, and fun time, we all could use a good laugh. .... Would have rated higher but the Cantina 1 was just average or below and the Comedy Club was lots of fun. .... Liked the idea of going to the Mall of America, maybe do it again with a different restaurant next year. .... Food was great - service not so much. The Comedy Club was a lot of fun.*

**11. Rate the "Avian Protection Issues" session:**

Excellent	9	56%
Good	5	31%
Average	1	6%
Below Average	0	0%

3 Comments: *This is an ever-increasing issue that we must handle well. .... Really informative, but redundant info within presentation. Could have been an hour long. .... NA did not attend.*

**12. Rate the "Delivery Roundtable Dialogue Part 2" session:**

Excellent	11	69%
Good	3	19%
Average	1	6%
Below Average	0	0%

3 Comments: *Good safety discussion and construction practices is very helpful. .... Appreciate the opportunity to ask how others are operating. .... NA did not attend.*

### 13. Did you have any issues at the Marriott Minneapolis hotel?

Yes	0	0%
No	14	100%

0 Responses:

### 14. List specific topics for the 2012 NCEA Delivery Workshop:

3 Comments: Smart Grid Technologies - What are the elements being used to deploy the Smart Grid and focus what is working well. GIS Best Practices - What areas of your utility are using GIS or links to GIS, however are the utilities enhancing Productivity with GIS technology. Building Bridges between the office workers and the field construction workers, more efficient methods, faster service restoration, faster decision making. .... Safety Regulatory compliance - FERC/NERC. .... Social Networking with Tyler Olson.

### 15. How can we increase the value of this event?

3 Comments: Require / suggest companies to not sit together -- makes for better interaction. .... Continue to encourage all NCEA utilities to participate. .... Make sure that all member utilities participate at the workshops.

### 16. Provide any comments for the NCEA staff and leadership:

7 Comments: Nice Job again, Dale! Thanks for another good meeting. I know you give all the credit to the hosts, but do the majority of the work. At least the work work. Have a great day! Chuck Kimball. .... Excellent work planning this event and facilities (hotel, meeting room and meals) all excellent. .... Dale does a great job of putting these events together. .... These events are well worth attending. Specifically the roundtable discussion and the networking that is a result of attendance and participation. .... Well organized, good time management, nice packaging of related topics and good pre-conference communications. .... Staff always does a great job for us. .... The conference was very interesting and I am very glad I attended. It was good to get to know some new people and I appreciated the networking opportunities.

### 17. Will you attend the May 3 & 4, 2012 NCEA Delivery Workshop?

Yes	14	93%
No	1	7%

2 Comments: Our company will have 5 attend again -- hopefully I am one of this group of attendees. .... I will attend if possible. Unclear right now.

### Past Workshop Dates & Hosts

- 2011 – Mike Sydow & Reed McKee, NorthWestern Energy
- 2010 – Brian Amundson, Xcel Energy & Vern Peterson, Wisconsin Public Service
- 2009 – Rod Scheel, Otter Tail Power
- 2008 – Henry Ford, Montana-Dakota Utilities
- 2007 – Steve Benoit, Allete-Minnesota Power
- 2006 – Mike Sydow & Reed McKee, NorthWestern Energy
- 2005 – Michael Lamb, Xcel Energy
- 2004 – Pat Mullen, Allete-Minnesota Power
- 2003 – Denny Branca, Xcel Energy
- 2002 – Wanda Dewing, Montana-Dakota Utilities
- 2001 – Mark Helland, Otter Tail Power