

SUPPLEMENT FOR THE MARCH 12, 2015 BOARD MEETING

J. Paul Ozer, Chair



Juan Muñoz, Vice-Chair
Leslie Bingham Escareño, Member
T. Tolbert Chisum, Member
Tom Gann, Member
J. B. Goodwin, Member

BOARD ACTION REQUEST
COMMUNITY AFFAIRS
MARCH 12, 2015

Presentation, Discussion, and Possible Action on Approval of the Draft Federal Fiscal Year (“FFY”) 2015 Department of Energy (“DOE”) Weatherization Assistance Program (“WAP”) State Plan for Public Comment.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

WHEREAS, the Energy Conservation In Existing Buildings Act of 1976 (42 USC §6851), as amended in Title II, Part 2 of the National Energy Conservation Policy Act allows DOE WAP funds to be utilized to carry out a program of weatherization assistance for low-income persons, as well as 10% for planning and administration;

WHEREAS, the Department develops and submits a State Plan to the DOE each year to administer the WAP;

WHEREAS, the Department has received notice of Federal Fiscal Year (“FFY”) 2015 Department of Energy Weatherization Assistance Program (“DOE WAP”) funds in the amount of \$4,657,454;

WHEREAS, the DOE WAP funds are allocated based on the formula detailed in 10 TAC §5.503, Distribution of WAP Funds; and

WHEREAS, the attached Draft FFY 2015 DOE WAP State Plan is proposed for public comment;

NOW, therefore, it is hereby

RESOLVED, that the Draft FFY 2015 DOE WAP State Plan, in the form presented to this meeting, is hereby approved for public comment and public hearing; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the final plan with consideration for public comment and technical corrections made by staff, along with award recommendations to Subgrantees as indicated in Section IV.1 of the State Plan will be presented to the Board at the April 16, 2015 meeting.

BACKGROUND

The Department has received notice of an award of \$4,657,454 for the 2015 DOE WAP. The funding provides for the installation of weatherization measures to increase energy efficiency of a home including caulking; weather-stripping; adding ceiling, wall, and floor insulation; patching holes in the building envelope; duct work; and repair or replacement of energy inefficient heating and cooling systems. Additionally, the funds allow Subgrantees to complete financial audits, household energy audits, outreach and engagement activities, and program administration. Further, funding provides for state administration and state training and technical assistance activities. The list of Subgrantees and the proposed award amounts is included in the State Plan in section IV.1, Subgrantees. To the extent that the awarded funds are greater or less than the amount in the draft plan, proposed activities will be proportionally adjusted.

The Draft plan will be posted on the Community Affairs Division's website on Monday, March 16, 2015. An announcement of the availability of the draft plan and details regarding a public hearing for the plan will be published in the *Texas Register* on Friday, March 27, 2015. The Department will conduct a public hearing for the draft plan on Monday, April 6, 2015, at Department headquarters.

DOE regulations require a Weatherization Policy Advisory Council be designated in the Plan in order to provide guidance and comment on the plan. The Policy Advisory Council is comprised of six individuals appointed by the Department. The Council meeting is scheduled to occur after the conclusion of the Public Hearing and after all public comment has been received.

The full text of the 2015 Draft DOE State Plan may be viewed at the Department's website: <http://www.tdhca.state.tx.us/board/meetings.htm>. The public may also receive a copy of the 2015 Draft DOE State Plan by contacting Laura Saintey at laura.saintey@tdhca.state.tx.us or by phone at (512) 475-3854.