Energy Assistance Program
Overview

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY SERVICES & DEVELOPMENT
(CSD)

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CSD Administers Two Federal Grants Providing Energy Assistance to Low-Income Families:

- LIHEAP – Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program
- DOE WAP – Department of Energy Weatherization Assistance Program
Currently CSD’s Energy Service Provider Network Consists of:

- 46 LIHEAP / DOE Providers
- 39 DOE ARRA Providers
Role of Energy Service Providers:

- Develop Local Plans
- Priority Plan – Focus on Vulnerable Populations
- Responsibilities:
  - Outreach / Marketing
  - Intake / Income Certification
  - Client Education
  - Local Administration
  - Service Delivery
  - Meeting Production / Service Goals
Service Priorities:

Both LIHEAP and DOE place emphasis on targeting households with high energy burdens and/or members of vulnerable populations:

- Families with children under 19
- Persons with disabilities
- Households with elderly persons (60 years or older)
Recent DOE rule changes have:

- Encouraged the delivery of weatherization services to multi-family affordable housing properties (MFPs).
- Relaxed service priority requirements to increase weatherization opportunities for low-income MFPs not typically prioritized due to subsidized housing and utility costs.
Collaboration: WAP & Affordable Housing

- Historically CSD has serviced MFPs and low-income multi-family affordable housing.

- Before ARRA, services were focused on individual tenants and units; and not necessarily on whole building weatherization.

- ARRA funding and DOE’s income eligibility rule changes provided an opportunity for whole-building approaches to weatherization – A combination of WAP and building rehabilitation funds can be used to fully address the building’s needs.
Collaboration: WAP & Affordable Housing

- CSD and the California Housing Partnership Corporation (CHPC) have coordinated efforts to promote awareness of weatherization service opportunities.

- HUD, CSD, CHPC and select DOE ARRA Service Providers held multiple regional workshops throughout the state during the Fall of 2010.

- CSD conducted demonstration pilots in key service areas to develop policies and practices that will streamline the enrollment of properties in the DOE ARRA weatherization program.
Accrual of WAP Benefits

DOE – Rule changes in March-April 2010 streamlined eligibility for certain properties and required the following:

- Benefits of Wx in Multi-Family Properties (MFPs) must accrue primarily to the residents
- Owners of MFPs must provide sufficient detail to allow determination of benefit accrual
- Offered examples of how benefits might accrue to residents if not through direct energy savings
DOE Streamlined Income Eligibility

Accrual of Benefits

Individually–Metered Properties:

When a property is individually-metered and residents are responsible for payment of their own energy usage, the accrual of benefits are easy to demonstrate and quantify through reduced utility expenditures (utility bills.)
Accrual of WAP Benefits - Master Metered Units

- Protection against rent increases beyond that required under the DOE WAP regulations (10 CFR 440.22(b)(3)(ii)); or
- Investment of energy savings in facilities or services that offer a measurable direct benefit to tenants; or
- Establishment of a shared savings where energy cost savings are aggregated and distributed to tenants; or
- Longer term preservation of the property as affordable housing; and
- Investment of the energy savings from the weatherization work in specific health and safety improvements with measurable benefits to tenants; or
- Improvements to heat and hot water distribution, and ventilation, to improve the comfort of residents.
Accrual of Benefits – Examples

Protection Against Rent Increases:
- The Owner could extend rent increase protection (as it relates to weatherization improvements) to 5 years (or more).

Establishing Shared Savings:
- Owner might establish individual savings accounts for residents so that energy savings could be accumulated and distributed.

Longer Term Preservation of the Property as Afford. Housing:
- The owner / manager could demonstrate how any realized energy savings will go to offset the cost of routine maintenance and the replacement of larger property systems that enable the preservation of the property as safe, clean and affordable housing.
Whole Building Weatherization – Creates an opportunity to pursue upgrades to centralized systems and to weatherize common areas, in addition to the traditional approach to performing individual unit weatherization measures.

This is the current focus of energy service providers in the following areas:

- City of San Francisco
- City of Oakland
- City of Berkeley
Energy Audit Readiness

CSD is in the early phases of implementing new energy audit and prescriptive measure protocols under the DOE WAP.

- Provide a more accurate and effective approach to measure assessment
- Improve the quality of weatherization services for all housing types
Newly Approved Energy Audit Standards:

REM Design – Approved for:

- Single Family dwellings and Mobile Homes
- Low-rise MFPs containing:
  - 25 or fewer units
  - 3 stories or fewer
  - Individually metered
  - Where units are heated and cooled independently, and
  - Units have their own hot water heater.
Newly Approved Energy Audit Standards:

TREAT – Approved for:

- All high-rise residential buildings (4 stories and above)
- Low-rise multi-family 3 stories or fewer with:
  - Shared (common) heating and AC and / or water heating.
New Prescriptive Measure Approach

Takes into account:

- **Climate Zone**
- **Housing Type:**
  - Pre-1950 Single Family
  - Post-1950 Single Family
  - Multi-Family Dwelling (5 or More Units)
  - Mobile Home
- **Heating Fuel Source** (Fuels other than natural gas may provide adequate rationale for conducting an energy audit)
Network Training

CSD sponsored training includes the following:

- Energy Audit Training – REM Design and TREAT
- Assessment Training
- Diagnostics (Blower Door, Duct Blaster, Shell Sealing, etc.)
- Program Management Training – New and Existing service providers