Agenda Date: 05/29/13 Agenda Item: 8C



STATE OF NEW JERSEY

Board of Public Utilities 44 South Clinton Avenue, 9th Floor Post Office Box 350 Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0350 www.nj.gov/bpu

		CLEAN ENERGY
IN THE MATTER OF THE STATE ENERGY PROGRAM FOR PROGRAM YEAR 07/01/13-06/30/14)	ORDER
)	DOCKET NO. E013050371V

Parties of Record:

Dave Wolk, Honeywell, 145 Route 46 West, Wayne, NJ 07470

Carl Teter, TRC Solutions, 900 Route 9 North, Suite 104, Woodbridge, NJ 07095

Mike Ambrosio, Applied Energy Group, 317 George Street, Suite 305, New Brunswick, NJ 08901

BY THE BOARD:

By this Order, the Board of Public Utilities (Board) considers the Office of Clean Energy's (OCE or Staff) State Energy Program (SEP) Plan for submission to the United States Department of Energy (USDOE). Staff seeks Board approval of the proposed 2013-2014 SEP Plan at a budget level of \$1,614,825.59. This budget is comprised of \$1,036,820.00 in new federal SEP funds allocated by USDOE, and \$207,364.00 in new state matching funds. The SEP Plan also includes an estimated \$308,867.99 in federal carryover funds and \$61,773.60 of state match carryover funds from the previous years. By combining the new federal funds and the federal carryover funds, the federal SEP funding will total \$1,345,687.99 and the state match will total \$269,137.60.

In 1996, the SEP was established by consolidating two existing programs: the State Energy Conservation Program (SECP) and the Institutional Conservation Program (ICP). 61 Fed. Reg. 35,890 (July 8, 1996). Both the SECP and ICP came about during the energy crisis of the early 1970s. Events during that time period increased the nation's awareness of its dependence on foreign oil. Congress responded with legislation that established a broad range of conservation programs, provided support for the development of new and more efficient sources of energy.

As of 4/30/2013, there is an estimated \$308,867.99 in federal carryover funds, comprised of federal funds from previous SEP years. The SEP carryover funds include completed projects whose invoice processing has been delayed and ongoing application processing. The carryover amounts represent OCE's projection of unspent funds as of June 30, 2013, when the 2012-2013 SEP plan ends. Staff will obtain actual carryover amounts following the close of the 2012-2013 SEP funding period and file a revised plan and/or budget with USDOE if necessary.

and required the USDOE to lead and administer the effort. The SECP was established under the Energy Policy and Conservation Act of 1975, Pub. L. No. 94-163, 89 Stat. 901, to address energy conservation in the states. The SECP provided funding to the states for a variety of energy efficiency and renewable energy activities. 61 Fed. Reg. 35,890 (July 8, 1996). The ICP provided schools and hospitals with a technical analysis of their buildings and identified the potential savings from proposed energy conservation measures. Ibid. In creating the SEP, the USDOE combined SECP and ICP in order to make it easier for states to apply for grants and more efficient for both the USDOE and the states to manage the grants. Id. at 35,891. Thus, the USDOE currently provides federal financial assistance and technical support to the states for energy programs by means of the SEP. 10 C.F.R. § 420 et seq.

The SEP is a joint state-federal initiative whose purpose is to promote the conservation of energy, reduce the rate of growth of energy demand, and reduce dependence on imported oil. These goals are sought to be attained through the development and implementation of comprehensive state programs that are financially supported by the USDOE. Federal laws and regulations establish set criteria for participation and define, in general terms, how funds may and may not be used. 42 <u>U.S.C.</u> § 6321 <u>et seq.</u>; 10 <u>C.F.R.</u> § 420 <u>et seq.</u> States must comply with the USDOE rules governing these financial awards.

To be eligible for financial assistance a state shall submit to the USDOE the annual application, due by June 3, 2013, and executed by the Governor, or by his designee. The USDOE reviews state applications and amended State Plans in accord with 10 C.F.R. § 420.14. The USDOE will then approve or disapprove funding through the SEP within 60 days from the date of a timely filed application packet. USDOE may request, if necessary, additional documents or an amended state plan needed to reflect changes in the activities the state is planning to undertake for the fiscal year concerned.

The State of New Jersey has been allocated federal monies each year in support of its USDOE-approved State Plans. The USDOE allocates funds to New Jersey each year in accordance with its own formula. New Jersey's 2013-2014 SEP allocation is \$1,036,820.00.

Pursuant to USDOE regulations, New Jersey is required to match this amount either in cash, in-kind contributions, or both, in an amount totaling not less than 20 percent of the federal allocation. 10 <u>C.F.R.</u> § 420.12. Each state can propose how it intends to use its allocated share of funds to address both national criteria and the specific environmental conditions within that state. Staff proposes that the State of New Jersey's 20 percent match for these federal funds come from New Jersey Clean Energy Program (NJCEP) administrative costs.

Staff now seeks Board approval of the 2013-2014 SEP Plan and authority to submit the Plan for formal approval to USDOE, by June 2, 2013 for program year July 1, 2013- June 30, 2014. The proposed 2013-2014 SEP Plan includes a budget level of \$1,614,825.59. This budget amount would be comprised of \$1,036,820.00 in new federal SEP funds allocated by USDOE, \$207,364.00 in new state matching funds, and an estimated \$308,867.99 in federal carryover funds, and \$61,773.60 in carryover funds from the state match.

The 2012-2013 SEP plan will further state and federal energy conservation and efficiency goals. The SEP Plan, as proposed, attempts to utilize the funds primarily to assist residential, commercial and industrial customers that the New Jersey Clean Energy Program (NJCEP) cannot address.

The SEP as proposed is a continuation of the Market Title that was approved in the 2011-2012 and 2012-2013 SEP Plans. The Market Title "Energy Efficiency Programs for Non- Investor Owned Utility (non-IOU) Customers" expands the eligibility of the customers served by the NJCEP. This Market Title expands the eligibility of the following Clean Energy Programs: Home Performance with Energy Star (HPwES); HVAC; Direct Install; Pay for Performance; and Local Government Energy Audit to address both residential and commercial/industrial customers who do not contribute to the Societal Benefits Charge and are therefore not eligible to participate in the NJCEP. This Market Title is designed to further state and federal energy conservation and efficiency goals. In particular, the SEP Plan, as proposed, will supplement or expand these programs to allow non-IOU electric customers, oil customers and propane customers to participate by using the SEP funding mechanism.

As described below, the 2013-2014 SEP Plan proposes programs that will focus on the specific customers who do not contribute to the Societal Benefits Charge, such as those that receive their electricity from a municipal electric utility, or use oil or propane. The incentives provided for these customers will be identical to those provided by the Clean Energy Program for similar equipment.

<u>HPwES</u>: This funding will be used to rebate customers who do not contribute into the Societal Benefits Charge and are not eligible to participate in the Clean Energy Program's existing HPwES. The program recruits and trains contractors that install energy efficiency measures in existing homes and are Building performance Institute (BPI) certified and accredited. The program includes up to \$5,000 in incentives and a buydown to 0% for loans up to a maximum of \$10,000 to customers for the installation of such measures.

<u>HVAC</u>: This funding will be used to rebate customers who do not contribute to the Societal Benefits Charge and are not eligible to participate in the Clean Energy Program's existing HVAC Program. The program promotes the purchase of efficient home heating, cooling and water heating equipment, and the quality installation of such equipment. Its long-term goal is to make the high quality installation of high efficiency residential HVAC equipment the norm in the NJ market. *COOL*Advantage promotes the installation of new, energy efficient, residential central electric air conditioners and heat pumps. *WARM*Advantage promotes energy efficient furnaces, boilers and water heaters for use in residential buildings.

The Pay for Performance Program (P4P): This funding will be used to rebate customers who do not contribute to the Societal Benefits Charge and are not eligible to participate in the Clean Energy Program's existing P4P Program. This program is a whole building approach to large commercial and industrial facilities that provides incentives for an Energy Reduction Plan and comprehensive energy efficiency measures. Examples of eligible measures are: efficient lighting, HVAC, envelope measures and combined heat & power.

The Local Government Energy Audit (LGEA) Program: This funding will be used to rebate customers who do not contribute to the Societal Benefits Charge and are not eligible to participate in the Clean Energy Program's existing LGEA Program. This program is an incentive program which subsidizes the cost for completing an energy audit of eligible facilities.

The Direct Install (DI) Program: This funding will be used to rebate customers who do not contribute to the Societal Benefits Charge and are not eligible to participate in the Clean Energy Program's existing DI Program. The program identifies cost-effective energy efficiency opportunities, provides incentives and direct installation of efficiency measures, such as lighting, controls, refrigeration, HVAC, and motors.

Staff recommends that the Board approve the 2013-2014 SEP Plan. In Staff's view, the proposed initiative for the 2013-2014 program years furthers the SEP goals of energy efficiency and conservation, and is reasonably budgeted at a level designed to achieve these goals. Specifically, the program reduces energy costs and carbon footprint which is fully consistent with the federal and state policies underlying the SEP.

The Board <u>HEREBY FINDS</u> that the 2013-2014 SEP Plan as detailed above will contribute to the conservation of energy, reduction of the rate of growth of energy demand, and reduction of dependence on imported oil and will advance state and federal energy conservation and efficiency goals. The Board <u>FURTHER FINDS</u> that the SEP Plan, as proposed, will supplement NJCEP offerings by expanding program eligibility to customers who do not contribute to the SBC. The Board <u>HEREBY APPROVES</u> the SEP budget of \$1,614,825.59 and <u>DIRECTS</u> Staff to take appropriate measures to implement such programs subject to and consistent with USDOE approval of the plan. Based on the foregoing recommendations of Staff, the Board also <u>APPROVES</u> the 2013-2014 SEP as proposed above and <u>HEREBY AUTHORIZES</u> the submission of the 2013-2014 SEP Plan to the USDOE for approval.

DATED: 5/29/13

BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES BY:

ROBERT HANNA

COMMISSIONER

PRESIDENT

JEANNE M. FOX COMMISSIONER OSEPH L. FIORDALISO

COMMISSIONER

ATTEST:

KRISTI IZZO SECRETARY I HEREBY CERTIFY that the within document is a true copy of the original in the files of the Board of Public

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IN THE MATTER OF THE STATE ENERGY PROGRAM-FOR PROGRAM YEAR 07/01/13 - 06/30/14 DOCKET NO. E013050371V

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