Agenda Date: 4/15/15 Agenda Item: 8G



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/

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IN THE MATTER OF THE CLEAN ENERGY)	ORDER
PROGRAMS AND BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2015 -)	
SECOND REVISED FISCAL YEAR 2015 BUDGET)	
)	DOCKET NO. QO14050489

Parties of Record:

Maurice Kaiser, Honeywell Utility Solutions
Diane M. Zukas, TRC Energy Services
Michael Ambrosio, Applied Energy Group
Mark Mader, Jersey Central Power & Light
Timothy White, Atlantic City Electric
Scott Markwood, Orange & Rockland Utilities, Inc.
Bruce Grossman, South Jersey Gas Company
Susan Ringhof, Public Service Electric and Gas Company
Tracey Thayer, New Jersey Natural Gas Company
Mary Patricia Keefe, Elizabethtown Gas
Stefanie A. Brand, Esq., Director, New Jersey Rate Counsel

BY THE BOARD:

This Order memorializes action taken by the Board of Public Utilities ("Board") at its April 15, 2015 public meeting, where the Board considered proposed modifications to the fiscal year 2015 ("FY15") budget for New Jersey's Clean Energy Program ("NJCEP").¹

BACKGROUND AND PROCEDURAL HISTORY

On February 9, 1999, the Electric Discount and Energy Competition Act, <u>N.J.S.A.</u> 48:3-49 <u>et seq.</u> ("EDECA") was signed into law. EDECA established requirements to advance energy efficiency and renewable energy in New Jersey through the societal benefits charge. <u>N.J.S.A.</u> 48:3-60(a)(3). EDECA further empowered the Board to initiate a proceeding and cause to be

¹ The budgets approved in this Order are subject to State appropriations law.

undertaken a comprehensive resource analysis ("CRA") of energy programs, which is currently referred to as the comprehensive energy efficiency ("EE") and renewable energy ("RE") resource analysis. <u>Ibid.</u> After notice, opportunity for public comment, public hearing, and consultation with the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection ("DEP"), within eight months of initiating the proceeding and every four years thereafter, the Board determines the appropriate level of funding for EE and Class I RE programs that provide environmental benefits above and beyond those provided by standard offer or similar programs in effect as of February 9, 1999. These programs are now called New Jersey's Clean Energy Program (the "NJCEP").

By Order dated June 30, 2014, Docket No. QO14050489, (the "June 30th Order"), the Board approved NJCEP FY15 budgets and deferred a decision regarding FY15 program changes until a future agenda meeting. By Order dated September 30, 2014, Docket No. QO14050489, the Board approved the compliance filings submitted by Honeywell, TRC, the Office of Clean Energy (OCE) and the Utilities. The compliance filings include a description of the programs and incentive levels as well as detailed program budgets. By Order dated December 17, 2014 the Board approved modifications to the FY15 NJCEP budget to reflect a true up of actual and estimated FY14 expenses and commitments. By email dated March 4, 2015, TRC submitted proposed modifications to its FY15 budget for several commercial and industrial (C&I) programs described more fully below and which are addressed herein.

PROPOSED BUDGET MODIFICATIONS

TRC stated that it continues to see increased participation in several NJCEP Commercial & Industrial (C&I) programs. As a result, TRC projected the need for additional funds in order to meet the anticipated volume of applications through the remainder of the fiscal year.

TRC proposed the transfer of \$5,000,000 to the Direct Install program, \$2,000,000 to the C&I Retrofit program and \$500,000 to the Pay-for-Performance - Existing Buildings program. After consultation with Staff of the Board's OCE, TRC proposed that \$5,000,000 be transferred from the Combined Heat & Power – Fuel Cell program, \$1,500,000 from the Large Energy Users program and \$1,000,000 from the Pay for Performance New Construction program. The additional funds would be allocated to the Rebates, Grants and other Direct Incentives component of the respective program budgets.

The following table shows the current Board approved FY15 budget, the proposed amount of the transfer and the proposed revised budget:

C&I EE Programs

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Program	Appr	oved FY 15 Budget	 Transfer	Proposed Budget				
C&I Retrofit	\$	60,058,738.87	\$ 2,000,000.00	\$	62,058,738.87			
Direct Install	\$	42,881,360.42	\$ 5,000,000.00	\$	47,881,360.42			
Large Energy Users Program	\$	15,624,758.89	\$ (1,500,000.00)	\$	14,124,758.89			
Pay for Performance NC	\$	13,579,268.58	\$ (1,000,000.00)	\$	12,579,268.58			
Pay for Performance EB	\$	28,191,851.98	\$ 500,000.00	\$	28,691,851.98			
Total	\$	160,335,978.74	\$ 5,000,000.00	\$	165,335,978.74			

CHP-Fuels Cells			
CHP-Fuel Cell large and small \$	24,451,062.18	\$ (5,000,000.00)	\$ 19,451,062.18

The table below shows current expenses and commitments as a percentage of the current budget and as a percentage the proposed revised budget. Through February 28, 2015, which is 8 months into the FY budget, TRC has expended or committed 90% of the C&I Retrofit program budget, 87% of the Direct Install program budget, and 91% of the Pay-for-Performance Existing Buildings program budget. Based on current program participation levels, TRC projects that additional funds are required in order for these programs to remain open to new applicants through the end of the FY. TRC projects that sufficient funds remain in each of the program budgets from which it is proposing to transfer funds from for the program to remain open to all new applicants through the remainder of the FY.

Expenses and Commitments as a % of Budge

Program	Approve	ed FY 15 Budget	Total Expenses + Commitments through 2/28/15	% of Budget Spent	Proposed Budget	% of Budget Spent and committed
C&I Retrofit	\$	60,058,738.87	\$ 54,215,393.27	90%	\$ 62,058,738.87	87%
Direct Install	\$	42,881,360.42	\$ 37,490,741.19	87%	\$ 47,881,360.42	78%
Large Energy Users Program	\$	15,624,758.89	\$ 12,773,622.27	82%	\$ 14,124,758.89	90%
Pay for Performance NC	\$	13,579,268.58	\$ 10,569,708.78	78%	\$ 12,579,268.58	84%
Pay for Performance EB	\$	28,191,851.98	\$ 25,723,195.02	91%	\$ 28,691,851.98	90%
Total	\$	160,335,978.74	\$140,772,660.53		\$ 165,335,978.74	

CHP-Fuels Cells					
CHP-Fuel Cell large and small	\$ 24,451,062.18	\$ 8,874,766.02	36%	\$ 19,451,062.18	46%

On March 19, 2015, OCE Staff provided the public with notice of and the opportunity to comment on the proposed budget modifications. On that day, the proposed changes were circulated to the Energy Efficiency and ("EE") and Renewable Energy ("RE") Committee listservs and posted on the NJCEP website, with comments due by close of business on March 25, 2015. The proposed changes were also discussed at the March 10, 2015 meeting of the EE Committee. The following summarizes the comments received on the proposed budget modifications.

SUMMARY OF COMMENTS FROM PUBLIC STAKEHOLDERS

Written comments were submitted by Orange Mountain Energy (OME). OME stated that the NJCEP is a fantastic program that should continue as it is an economic catalyst for our state. The program is invaluable in forcing the hand of investing in capital improvements that makes its business more efficient, more competitive and stronger.

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS

Over the past several years Staff has attempted to better align program budgets with realistic projections of the level of funds that can be expended or committed in a fiscal year. The intent is to minimize the funds collected from ratepayers and the resultant rate impacts.

Program participation levels are a function of several factors such as the state of the economy, and weather. Staff has encouraged the practice of transferring funds from programs that are under-performing to programs with higher than anticipated participation levels, which maximizes spending of SBC funds to promote the development of energy efficiency and renewable energy Staff has reviewed TRC's proposal as well as the comments submitted. Staff agrees with the comment and believes that TRC's proposal will allow core programs to remain open to new applicants through the remainder of the FY without negatively impacting the programs from which funds are being transferred. Based on the above, Staff recommends approval of the budget revisions discussed above.

TRC's compliance filing includes detailed budgets that break down the overall program budgets into various budget categories such as Administration and Rebates, Grants and Other Direct Incentives. TRC has submitted revised detailed budgets consistent with the proposed budget modification and which are shown below:

2nd Revised FY15 C&I Energy Efficiency & CHP/Fuel Cell Program Budget

	Total Proposed FY 2015 Budget			•						otal Proposed FY Program		Sales, Marketing, Call Centers, Web Site			Training and Technical Support		Rebates, Grants and Other Direct Incentives		Rebate Processing, Inspections, Other Quality Control	
C&I EE PROGRAMS					-															
C&I New Construction	\$	3,405,210.99	\$	237,454.00	\$		\$	393,591.00	\$	2,650,521.75	\$	123,644.24								
C&I Retrofit	\$	62,058,738.87	\$	747,550.80	\$	-	\$	425,078.28	\$	56,465,194.19	\$	4,420,915.60								
Pay for Performance New Construct	\$	12,579,268.58	\$	149,600.00	\$	-	\$	399,860.08	\$	11,864,808.50	\$	165,000.00								
Pay for Performance	\$	28,691,851.98	\$	579,800.00	\$	-	\$	547,334.64	\$	26,927,737.42	\$	636,979.92								
Local Government Energy Audit	\$	2,416,980.50	\$	220,000.00	\$	-	\$	_	\$	1,380,320.50	\$	816,660.00								
Direct Install	\$	47,881,360.42	\$	501,551.80	\$		\$	10,000.00	\$	46,939,640.42	\$	430, 168.20								
Marketing	\$	1,075,000.00	\$	-	\$	1,075,000.00	\$	-	\$	-	\$	*								
Large Energy Users Program	\$	14,124,758.89	\$	147,916.00			\$	-	\$	13,758,782.69	\$	218,060.20								
Subtotal C&I EE Programs	\$1	72,233,170.23	\$	2,583,872.60	\$	1,075,000.00	\$1	,775,864.00	\$	159,987,005.47	\$	6,811,428.16								

CHP-Fuel Cell Program							
CHP and Fuel Cell	\$ 19,451,062.18	\$ 65,000.00	\$ 	1	\$ -	\$ 19,192,873.47	\$ 193, 188.71

Staff has reviewed the revised detailed budgets and notes that the additional funds are all allocated to the Rebates, Grants and Other Direct Incentives budget category. Staff recommends approval of these modifications based on its belief that the revised detailed budgets are reasonable and advance the goals of NJCEP.

DISCUSSION AND FINDINGS

Consistent with the approved contracts with the Market Managers and the Program Coordinator, the OCE has coordinated with the Market Managers and the Program Coordinator regarding the proposed changes to the NJCEP FY15 budgets discussed above. The OCE, in conjunction with these contractors, discussed the proposed changes at the March public meeting of the EE and RE committees to receive comments and input. The proposed changes were circulated to the EE and RE committee listservs and posted on the NJCEP web site and written comments were accepted from the public. Accordingly, the Board HEREBY FINDS that the process utilized in developing the proposed changes to the NJCEP FY15 budget was appropriate and provided stakeholders and interested members of the public the opportunity to comment.

The Board has reviewed the proposed changes discussed above and <u>HEREBY FINDS</u> that the changes will benefit customers, are consistent with the EMP goal of reducing energy usage and associated emissions and support the objectives of the NJCEP program. Therefore, the Board <u>HEREBY APPROVES</u> the revised budgets for the C&I EE programs and the CHP-Fuel Cell program shown in the tables above.

This Order will be effective on April 25, 2015.

DATED: 415/15

BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES By:

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JOSEPH L. FIORDALISO

COMMISSIONER

MARY-ANNA HOLDEN COMMISSIONER

DIANNE SOLOMON' COMMISSIONER

UPENDRA J. CHIVUKULA

COMMISSIONER

ATTEST:

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

SECRETARY

IN THE MATTER OF THE CLEAN ENERGY PROGRAMS AND BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2015 – SECOND REVISED FISCAL YEAR 2015 BUDGET - DOCKET NO. QO14050489

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