

UPDATED FOR 12/10 LIOB MEETING IN HANFORD, CA

Joint meeting of the Low Income Oversight Board (LIOB) Energy Assistance Programs (EAP) and
Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)
Tuesday, October 8th, 2019 1:00pm
- 4:00pm
.ITEM #6 --- Guidance Document (Action Item)

Background

The Low-Income Oversight Board recognizes that a significant portion of California's low-income populations resides in multifamily (non-single family) housing and that many are unserved by the Energy Savings Assistance (ESA) Program. California's multifamily housing is comprised of both deed restricted (low-income) and non-deed restricted properties (no restrictions market rate). California's ESA eligible low-income populations resides in both. Also, California's Multifamily (MF) housing sector is huge, complex and extremely diverse with differing management and ownership factors creating challenges in serving this population with ESA.

The CPUCs current ESA decision (D.19-06-022) ordered the creation of the Multifamily Working Group (MFWG) and for the IOUs to institute the Multifamily Single Point of Contact (SPOC) with added focus and funding on Common Area Measures (CAMs). The IOUs have complied and demonstrated measurable success (as demonstrated at the last MFWG meeting on October 3, 2019) in developing a multifamily working program services delivery model while utilizing the skill sets of the existing ESA network of service providers. The LIOB applauds their success but also acknowledges that more can and will be done given this upcoming Post 2020 Decision on ESA. The ESA MF work to date has been laborious and much was learned. With that in mind, the LIOB recommends a pragmatic approach that any CPUC Decision build on that success and lessons learned as we strive to move forward with a new ESA Decision involving multifamily.

Motion

The LIOB advises the Commission in its upcoming ESA Decision to ensure that before any final decision on ordering a major program change to either a Single Statewide Administrative Model or third-party outsourcing for ESA Multifamily is authorized, that it incorporates best practices for an administrative and implementation model for the Multifamily segment of the ESA program.

To do so, the LIOB would support the Commission in its effort to leverage the MFWG (in coordination with the Energy Division and the LIOB) to research and provide advisory recommendations (where feasible) on these best practices in a transparent and inclusive manner. To that end, the LIOB encourages the Commission to reconvene the MFWG in the application proceeding with an amended charter to include all vital stakeholders, including IOU ESA Program Managers, administrators of California's multifamily Low Income Weatherization Program (LIWP), members of the LIOB and the CPUC Energy Division staff, and to make every effort to incorporate feedback from renters and owners of ESA-eligible low-income MF housing and administrators and contractors in the field. The MFWG should be free of any conflicts that could arise from parties that may be seeking or wish to seek third party implementation bids for any current or future statewide administration. . An independent facilitator of the MFWG will coordinate with the LIOB and Energy Division in the agenda and scoping of one or more public meetings to accomplish this task of developing best practices for an administrative and implementation model for the Multifamily segment of the ESA Program -- and upon completion provide this information to the CPUC.