
Louisiana Housing Finance Agency



Energy Assistance Department

Darleen Okammor
Program Manager

March 11, 2009

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M E M O R A N D U M

To: The Board of Commissioner

From: Darleen Okammor, Program Manager
Energy Assistance Department

Date: March 3, 2009

Re: Energy Assistance Program Committee

There will be a Energy Assistance Program Committee meeting, Wednesday, March 11, 2009 at 10:30 a.m. at Louisiana Housing Finance Agency, Committee Room 2, located at 2415 Quail Drive, Baton Rouge, LA.

The following topics will be discussed:

- Energy Program Status Report
- Stimulus Update

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact us.

March 3, 2009

Energy Assistance Program Committee

A regular meeting of the Energy Assistance Committee will be held on Wednesday, March 11, 2009, at 10:30 AM, Louisiana Housing Finance Agency, Committee Room 2, 2415 Quail Drive, Baton Rouge LA, by order of the Chairman.

Final Agenda

1. Call to order, roll call and introduction of guests
2. Approval of minutes from the February 11, 2009 Committee Meeting
3. Energy Programs Status Report
4. Stimulus Update
5. Other Business
6. Adjournment

Milton J. Bailey, President

Pursuant to the provisions of LSA-R.S. 42:6.1, upon two-thirds vote of the members present, the Board of Commissioners of the Louisiana Housing Finance Agency may choose to enter Executive Session, and by this notice, the Agency reserves its right to go into Executive Session as provided by law

Louisiana Housing Finance Agency
Energy Assistance Department
Wednesday, February 11, 2009
2415 Quail Drive
Committee Room 1
Baton Rouge, LA 70808
11:00 A.M.

Commissioners Present

Robert Pernell, Chairman
Katie Anderson
Mayson H. foster

Commissioners Absent

Susan Sonnier
Tyrone Wilson

Staff Present

Darleen Okammor
Patricia Hampton
Charlette Minor
Carolyn McQuairter
Costa Arauja
Angela King

Others Present

Milton Bailey
See attached Sign-In Sheet

Commissioner Robert Pernell called the meeting to order at 11:13 a.m. The roll was called and a quorum established. Introduction of guests followed.

Updates: Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) and the Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP)

Ms. Darleen Okammor, Energy Assistance Program Manager restated the background regarding the energy programs. The report was prepared a few weeks ago; therefore there are a few changes in the production numbers.

LIHEAP Express

As of January 5, 2009, ninety-seven percent (97%) of the \$5 million allocated for services has been expended to serve 10,378 households and reaching 5,727 (55.7%) new clients who have not received energy benefits in the last 12 months. There is a remaining balance of \$126,000. The Energy department will notify agencies that have remaining balances over \$1000 to take the necessary budget actions to wrap up the program.

2009 Annual LIHEAP

On November 17, 2008, LHFA and LACAP released \$45.4 million to local community action agencies. The annual program is open to households who have not received a benefit, including LIHEAP Express, in the last 6 months for non-crisis assistance and 12 months for crisis assistance. As of January 5, 2009,

twenty-eight percent (28%) has been expended to serve 30,750 households and reach 10,656 (32.7%) new clients.

WAP Express

On January 5, 2009, the amended WAP State plan, which included the \$5mil of PVE funds was approved by the U.S. Department of Energy and accepted by LHFA. The WAP Express began February 2, 2009. A series of software training for providers were held January 27-30, 2009.

Additional Appropriations

WAP

There is congressional news the WAP has received a supplemental allocation of \$250 million, which is a 10% increase over 2008 allocation. This means that Louisiana will receive twice as much as the regular grant of \$1.7 million increasing the state's allocation to approximately \$3.4 millions.

Under the House Stimulus- the WAP appropriation was \$6.2 billion. The Senate reduced it to \$2.9 billion, which is approximately \$52 million for Louisiana. We will have two years to expend these funds.

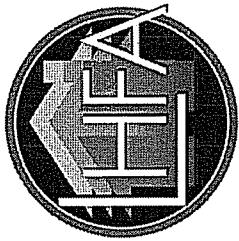
LIHEAP

Under the House Stimulus (Recovery) Bill, Congress will allocate \$1 billion to the LIHEAP for the 2010 Fiscal Year. The funds will be allocated under the Tier One formula and made available to States on October 1, 2009. Louisiana would receive approximately \$8.6 million.

There was discussion regarding how Louisiana proposes to expend the increase in funding. Ms. Okammor explained how this increase will allow Louisiana to: 1) eliminate a two-year waiting list of eligible households, 2) increase the number of homes weatherized by 80% annually over the 2008 projections of 2,000 units, 3) Hire and train contractors, plumbers, electrician, carpenters, laborers, inspectors, intake workers, and office assistants, 4) purchase vehicles, equipment, and computers, 5) and leverage with utility companies and other businesses to expand services.

Ms. Tammy Leblanc who works with people with disabilities asked if LHFA has the capability to give a presentation to the case managers in their service area. Ms. Minor stated that LHFA contracts LACAP, which has 42 LIHEAP providers and 22 WAP providers. We would make sure to extend this request to them. Ms. Okammor asked Ms. Leblanc to send us an e-mail to make this request. LACAP would provide the training. Mr. Foster asked if we could coordinate a meeting between LACAP and the board commissioners.

Mr. Pernell asked was there any other business to discuss. A motion was made to adjourn at 11:44 am.



LOUISIANA HOUSING FINANCE AGENCY
ENERGY COMMITTEE

February 11, 2009

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

NAME	AGENCY	PHONE	EMAIL
1 Carolyn M. Cook-Terrell	LHFA	763-8700 x240	cmcquarter@lhfa.state.la.us
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LTFA Committee

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11 Deen Brich
12 Don Hwy
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ENERGY PROGRAMS STATUS REPORT

TO: Board of Commissioners

FROM: Darleen Okammor, Program Manager

DATE: February 27, 2009

RE: Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)
Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP)

Background: On April 18, 2007, the Board adopted a Memorandum of Understanding between LHFA and Louisiana Community Action Partnerships (LACAP) to transfer the administration of the statewide Low-Income Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) and the Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP). LHFA, Energy Assistance Department has continued to have transition meetings with LACAP on a regular basis to access on-going transition issues, concerns and needs.

LIHEAP Express

As of February 27, 2009, ninety-seven percent (97%) of the \$5 million allocated expended for services and administrative fees to serve 10,511 households and reaching 5,861(55.8%) new clients who have not received energy benefits in the last 12 months.

2009 Annual LIHEAP

On November 17, 2008, LHFA and LACAP released \$45.4 million to local community action agencies. The annual program is open to households who have not received a benefit, including LIHEAP Express, in the last 6 months for non-crisis assistance and 12 months for crisis assistance. As of February 27, 2009, thirty-eight (38%) has been expended to serve 39,678 households and reach 13,527 (34.1%) new clients.

WAP Express

On January 5, 2009, the amended WAP State plan to include the \$5mil of PVE funds was approved by the U.S. Department of Energy and accepted by LHFA. The WAP Express was launched on February 2, 2009. A series of software training for providers will be held January 27-30, 2009.

Legislative Updates

WAP

Because of Congress passing the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, the Louisiana Weatherization Assistance Program will receive \$52 million in additional funding. In addition to the 2009 regular grant, the state will also receive a supplemental allocation for total of \$3.4 million. Over the next two years, Louisiana is expecting to receive approximately \$55.4 million in federal

funds to weatherize over 20,000 homes. The Department of Energy will expect States to ramp-up production, improve accountability, and provide program data quickly.

LIHEAP

The President's budget would cut LIHEAP from \$5.1 billion to \$3.1 billion for FY 2010, which is a significant increase over FY 2008 (\$2.57 billion). While this cut represents a decrease of \$1.9 billion from the current year's funding level, it would allow the President to release contingency funds should energy prices spike. More details will follow.

For more information, please visit the following links:

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/budget/>

http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/assets/fy2010_new_era/A_New_Era_of_Responsibility2.pdf

Energy Programs Activity Summary

Through 2/28/2009

LIHEAP Express

Grantor: Department of Natural Resources (DNR) \$5,000,000

Type of Assistance (Sept. 29, 2008 - Sept. 30, 2009)	Total Expenditures	Number of Households Assisted	Households with at least one member who is:			Denied	Number of New Clients
			60 Years or Older	Disabled	Age 5 or Under		
Non-Crisis Assistance	\$4,087,531.74	8,749	2,309	3,180	2,197	324	4,760
Crisis Assistance	\$650,270.04	1,762	208	457	574	30	1,101
Totals	\$4,737,801.78	10,511	2,517	3,637	2,771	354	5,861
Percentage of Total		97%		23.9%	34.6%	26.4%	55.8%

Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program

Grantor: Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) \$45,657,071

Type of Assistance (October 2008-September 2009)	Total Expenditures	Number of Households Assisted	Households with at least one member who is:			Denied	Number of New Clients
			60 Years or Older	Disabled	Age 5 or Under		
Heating (October – March)	\$15,077,025.13	33,221	13,010	14,033	6,056	293	10,192
Cooling (April - September)							
Year Round Crisis	\$1,915,490.34	6,080	809	1,912	1,868	27	3,335
Energy Special Needs Program	\$292,959.29	377	53	154	187	55	N/A
DSS/OCS						0	
Totals	\$17,285,474.76	39,678	13,872	16,099	8,111	375	13,527
Percentage of Total		38%		35.0%	40.6%	20.4%	0.9%
							34.1%

Weatherization Assistance Program

Grantor: Department of Energy (DOE) \$7,860,805 (1953 Units)

Type of Assistance (July 2008 - June 30, 2009)	Total Expenditures	Units Weatherized	Households with at least one member who is:			Denied
			60 Years or Older	Disabled	Age 5 or Under	
DOE Production						
July 1 - Jan. 31, 2009	\$626,155.83	152	87	46	39	24
LIHEAP Only Production						
July 1 - Jan 31, 2009	\$490,564.45	101	45	35	24	33
Totals	\$1,116,720.28	253	132	81	63	57
Percentage of Total		14%		52.2%	32.0%	24.9%
						22.5%