



## **EEB Responds to DEEP's 2015 Plan Update Recommendations**

The Department of Energy and Environmental Protection ("DEEP") issued its 2015 Annual Update of the 2013-2015 Conservation and Load Management Plan on February 20, 2015. Since then the Energy Efficiency Board ("EEB"), of which the Office of Consumer Counsel ("OCC") is an active member, has been working diligently to respond to DEEP's requests by the May 1 deadline.

Among other matters, DEEP recommended revisions to the Evaluation Roadmap, a reduction in the program evaluation budget and the evaluation consultants' budget, as well as the addition of a specific, legislatively mandated study to the evaluation workload for 2015. DEEP also recommended a cut to the overall EEB consultant budget by about \$100,000.

The EEB's Evaluation Committee spent weeks meeting and discussing the specifics of each study set to take place in 2015. After careful thought, the EEB was able to vote in favor of a revised list of evaluations that are "synchronized to allow for incorporation of program design recommendations into the program planning process" as requested by DEEP. The revisions made resulted in a 15% reduction in the program budget for 2015.

The EEB also passed updated evaluation consultant budgets, along with updated budgets for all other EEB consultants.

Members of the EEB, including OCC in its role on the Board and on the Evaluation Committee, respect the recommendations put forth by DEEP and look forward to implementing the revisions made as well as starting to work toward planning the next three-year-plan.