

August 10, 2021

## **2019-2021 Conservation and Load Management Plan**

### NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT AND PUBLIC MEETING

#### **I. Introduction**

The Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) launched the E3 Proceeding in September 2020 with a goal of defining equity in the context of the state's ratepayer-funded energy efficiency programs in the Conservation and Load Management (C&LM) Plan.<sup>1</sup> On May 5, 2021, DEEP issued a [Draft Determination](#) proposing Recommendations and Actions to advance the E3 Proceeding's purpose.<sup>2</sup>

After a public comment period, DEEP issued the [Phase I Final Determination](#) in the [Equitable Energy Efficiency](#) Proceeding (the E3 Proceeding) on July 21, 2021.<sup>3</sup> One of the goals in the Final Determination is for DEEP to address [health and safety barriers](#) to low-income weatherization access, and Action 7.2 tasks DEEP with developing a DEEP-administered program with supplemental funding sources to remediate health and safety barriers to weatherization in low-income homes.<sup>4</sup>

**In accordance with this goal, DEEP developed a Draft Request for Proposals (Draft RFP) for a Weatherization Barrier Remediation Program Operator.** DEEP seeks public comment on the Draft RFP while working concurrently through the state's required approval processes to issue an RFP. DEEP will hold a public meeting to hear comments before revising and issuing a final Request for Proposals.

Feedback from [Weatherization Barriers Workshops](#)<sup>5</sup> and monthly [Energy Efficiency Board](#) meetings<sup>6</sup> included the need for public input on the Weatherization Barrier Remediation Program (the Program). DEEP values the expertise and lived experience of the public and wants to ensure it is accounted for in the creation of the Program. With community input, the Program will be more effective and successful. DEEP appreciates the active engagement of the stakeholder community

<sup>1</sup> See DEEP Notice of Equitable Energy Efficiency Proceeding and Request for Written Comments, September 3, 2020, available at

<http://www.dpuc.state.ct.us/DEEP/energy.nsf/c6c6d525f7cdd1168525797d0047c5bf/12c36ce3c4b5a80c852585d80046845f?OpenDocument>

<sup>2</sup> See DEEP Notice and Request for Public Comment: Equitable Energy Efficiency Proceeding Phase I Proposed Recommendations and Actions and Release of the 2018 Equitable Distribution Report, May 5, 2021, available at <https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/DEEP/energy/ConserLoadMgmt/Notice-of-Phase-I-Recommendations.pdf>

<sup>3</sup> See E3 Final Determination, Phase I Goals and Actions, July 21, 2021, available at <https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/DEEP/energy/ConserLoadMgmt/Final-E3-Phase-I-Determination.pdf>.

<sup>4</sup> See E3 Final Determination, at 11-12.

<sup>5</sup> See Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, Weatherization Barrier Mitigation, Workshops, <https://portal.ct.gov/DEEP/Energy/Conservation-and-Load-Management/Weatherization-Barrier-Mitigation>

<sup>6</sup> See Energize CT, Connecticut Energy Efficiency Board, <https://energizect.com/connecticut-energy-efficiency-board>

regarding these issues and will continue to work with stakeholders through the E3 Proceeding, engagement with the Energy Efficiency Board, and in other public processes hosted by DEEP.

## **II. Written Comments and Public Meeting**

DEEP welcomes the submission of written comments on the Draft RFP as it works through the state's required approval processes to issue a Request for Proposals. Comments on the following topics are of particular interest to DEEP, but all comments will be considered:

1. Does the **Scope of Service Description** found in **Section II.C.** adequately illustrate key program expectations for a Weatherization Barrier Remediation Program Operator?
2. Do the **Performance Measures listed in Section II.D.** capture all relevant performance metrics for a Weatherization Barrier Remediation Program Operator?
3. Do the **Evaluation Criteria (and Weights) listed in Section III.B.4** effectively capture program priorities and establish objective and meaningful standards for proposal evaluation?
4. Do the **Main Proposal Submission Requirements in Section IV.D** include an exhaustive list of requirements needed for comprehensive and effective evaluation?

Written comments may be filed electronically on [DEEP's Web Filing System](#) or submitted directly to DEEP at [DEEP.EnergyBureau@ct.gov](mailto:DEEP.EnergyBureau@ct.gov) on or before **September 7, 2021 by 4:00 p.m. EST** and should include "Draft RFP Comments" in the subject line. All materials submitted by stakeholders and other participants in this proceeding will be posted on the DEEP's Web Filing System.

In addition to this opportunity for public comment, DEEP will hold a Public Meeting on **August 31, 2021, at 1:00 p.m. EST** to gather stakeholder and community input. **Participants can register for the Draft RFP Public Meeting [here](#).** If you have any questions, please contact Rose Croog, Associate Research Analyst, at [rose.croog@ct.gov](mailto:rose.croog@ct.gov).

---

**The Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer that is committed to complying with the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act. Please contact us at (860) 418-5910 or [deep.accommodations@ct.gov](mailto:deep.accommodations@ct.gov) if you: have a disability and need a communication aid or service; have limited proficiency in English and may need information in another language; or if you wish to file an ADA or Title VI discrimination complaint. Any person needing a hearing accommodation may call the State of Connecticut relay number - 711. Requests for accommodations must be made at least two weeks prior to any agency hearing, program, or event.**