



Energy Efficiency Board Begins Considering Next Three-Year C&LM Plan

The CT Energy Efficiency Board (EEB) evaluates, advises, and assists the state's utility companies in the development and implementation of comprehensive, cost-effective energy conservation and market transformation plans. The EEB guides the distribution of the Connecticut Energy Efficiency Fund (CEEF) dollars, which support energy efficiency programs and initiatives. The Fund is a product of a surcharge on customer electric and gas bills.

Connecticut's utility companies act as program administrators of the CEEF, and file a plan with the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) and the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority (PURA) every few years. The Conservation and Load Management (C&LM) Plan is developed by the companies with the assistance and guidance of the state's EEB.

The planning process for the 2016 – 2018 C&LM Plan is underway, with all parties involved focused on the October 1st filing deadline. The Plan will consist of program budgets and goals, overall priorities, performance incentives, along with codes, standards, market changes, and historical and projected savings.

The EEB and companies are working to address the priorities for the 2016 – 2018 Plan. Besides specific goals within each sector of program activity (mainly residential and commercial and industrial), there are comprehensive priorities including how best to increase deeper energy savings and broaden the reach of programs, how to enhance the overall customer experience, and leveraging the impact of ratepayer funds. There is also a focus on new or enhanced priorities, which involve expanded efforts to reach the low-income community and the identification and implementation of new financing opportunities.

The Office of Consumer Counsel (OCC) would like to see the addition of periodic financial and operational audits of the C&LM programs adopted in the new Plan, among other enhancements. The new C&LM Plan will be filed jointly by the Electric Distribution and Natural Gas Companies, in collaboration with the EEB to both DEEP and PURA on or before October 1, 2015.