

The Connecticut Energy Efficiency Fund ("EEF") was established in 1998 by legislation, which has been amended many times since then, most recently in 2011, by way of PA 11-80. Additionally, the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority ("PURA," formerly the Department of Public Utility Control), through its orders, has established a policy, procedures and best practices. The purpose of the EEF's programs, plans and budgets is to reduce energy use, reduce cost, and help protect the environment.

The EEF filed its combined 2012 electric/gas plan in October 2011. The natural gas plan is approved separately from the electric plan. Both plans allowed for two separate and distinct options for 2012. The base plan that was filed and subsequently approved by PURA included a budget of approximately \$105 million for electric and \$17 million for natural gas, for a combined EEF budget of \$122 million. Additionally, an expanded budgetary plan was filed that increased the electric budget to \$218 million and the natural gas budget to \$34 million, for a recommended EEF budget of \$252 million. Upon its completion, the combined budget is intended to reduce state energy consumption by 2%. As mentioned, the total natural gas budget, including the expanded budget, has been approved. The final decision of the expanded electric budget awaits the final decision of the "Integrated Resource Plan" ("IRP"), which is currently being reviewed by PURA.

Public Act 11-80 included many changes to the structure, nature and responsibilities of the Energy Efficiency Board ("EEB"), which oversees the EEF. The board was reduced (by five) to include nine voting members. While there still are utility representatives on the board (2 gas, 2 electric, 1 municipal), they no longer have voting rights. Public Act 11-80 also called for the weatherization of 80% of residential homes by the year 2030. In addition, there is an aggressive and ambitious target of reducing energy consumption in state buildings by 10% by 2013.