
Energy Efficiency Program Proposal

Low-Income Weatherization Assistance Program

Program Overview

A low-income weatherization program, making available \$250,000 annually to weatherize the residences of low-income Questar Gas customers, was proposed for the first time and approved by the Utah Public Service Commission (Commission) in Docket No. 99-057-20. Customer funding of the program was found to be in the public interest. The approved funds, recovered in general rates, supplement the efforts of the Utah Department of Community and Economic Development. The Commission concluded that the funds would reduce the energy burden of participants, promote cost-effective energy conservation, help mitigate health and safety issues related to the participants' natural gas use, and leverage federal funds.

In the stipulation in Docket No. 05-057-T01, approved by the Commission on October 5, 2006, the parties agreed to an additional funding of \$250,000 to be utilized by the state's Low Income Weatherization Assistance Program. The stipulation provides, "At least \$250,000, subject to Commission approval, of the amount spent on DSM in the first year of the Pilot Program will be allocated to the Low-Income Weatherization Program that the Company currently funds or other low-income energy-efficiency programs." These costs would be recorded in the deferred DSM account 182400 and collected in rates through amortization of that account.

Based on the recommendation of the Questar Gas DSM Advisory Group in 2009, the Company sought and received approval from the Commission (Docket No. 08-057-22) to increase low-income funding to \$500,000 annually.

The Company proposes to continue funding the Low-Income Weatherization Assistance Program in 2010 at the level of \$500,000 and to disburse these funds in increments of \$250,000 every six months, with the first disbursement of these DSM funds to occur in January and the second to occur in July.