Low Income Energy Efficiency Programs

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Advisor to Commissioner Dian M. Grueneich
California Public Utilities Commission
Overview: CPUC LI EE Program

- Background
- Services
- Accomplishments
- Successes
- Evaluation
- Next Steps
Background: CPUC LI EE Program

- Provides qualified low-income households with energy efficient appliances and weatherization measures at no cost to the participants.
- Established by statute in the CA Public Utilities Code.
- Operated by PG&E, SCG, SDG&E, and SCE since the 1980’s. Also operated by small and multi-jurisdictional utilities (SMJU) throughout the state.
- Funded by non low-income ratepayers through the Public Goods Charge on utility bills.
- Implemented by the utilities with CPUC oversight and input by Low Income Oversight Board (LIOB).
Background:
Low Income Oversight Board

- 2001 Legislation ordered the formation of the LIOB to provide the CPUC with advice on low-income electric and gas customer issues and serve as liaison to low-income ratepayers.
- The eleven-member LIOB consists of representatives of the public and utilities, and meets several times a year.
- Public Utilities Code requires the LIOB to assist the CPUC in conducting studies and coordinating outreach with other low-income programs.
Background: CPUC LI EE Program

- Serves customers at or below 200% of federal poverty guidelines for large investor owned utilities and two SMJUs and 175% for other SMJUs.
- Serves single family, multi-family and mobile homes – both owners and renters.
- Participants receive all feasible measures for which they qualify.
Services: CPUC LI EE Program

- Weatherization
- Energy Efficiency Measures
- Minor Home Repairs
- Energy Education
- Help customers reduce energy consumption, resulting in bill savings for participants.
- Many measures improve the comfort and safety of the Home.
- LI EE participants are automatically enrolled in California Alternate Rates for Energy (CARE) bill assistance program.
## Services: LI EE Program Measures

### Furnaces
- Repair - Gas
- Replacement - Gas
- Repair - Electric
- Replacement - Electric

### Weatherization
- Caulking
- Door Weatherstripping
- Attic Access Weatherstripping
- Attic Insulation
- Minor Home Repairs
- Water Heater Blanket
- Water Heater Pipe Wrap

### Water Heating Savings
- Low Flow Showerhead
- Faucet Aerators

### Miscellaneous Measures
- Refrigerators
- Permanent Evaporative Coolers
- Portable Evaporative Coolers
- Compact Fluorescent Lights
- Compact Fluorescent Porch Lights

### Infiltration & Space Conditioning
- Cover Plates/Gaskets
- Air Conditioner (Drop)
- HVAC Air Filter Replacement

### Energy Education
- Outreach & Assessment
- In-Home Education
- Education Workshops

### Landlord Rebate Pilots
- Refrigerators
- Air Conditioner Replacement - Room
- Air Conditioner Replacement - Central

### Rapid Deployment Pilots (Initiated since 5/21/02)
- Air Conditioner Replacement - Room
- Air Conditioner Replacement - Central
- Duct Sealing and Repair
- Whole House Fans
- Water Heater Replacement – Gas
- Water Heater Replacement – Electric
- Set-back Thermostats
- Evaporative Cooler Maintenance
Accomplishments:
CPUC LI EE Program 2001-2005

- 845,855 homes treated
- $573,570,220 expensed
- 233,414 MWh saved
- 10,928 MTherms saved
Accomplishments:
Homes Treated 2001-2005

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>SDG&amp;E</th>
<th>SCG</th>
<th>SCE</th>
<th>PG&amp;E</th>
<th>Total</th>
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<td>37,954</td>
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<td>40,523</td>
<td>78,852</td>
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<td>239,797</td>
<td>266,390</td>
<td>264,407</td>
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Accomplishments:
Energy Savings 2001-2005

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<td>0</td>
<td>26,663</td>
<td>17,346</td>
<td>49,911</td>
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<td>2002</td>
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<td>2004</td>
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<td>2005</td>
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<td>85,474</td>
<td>119,224</td>
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**Energy Savings (MWH)**

- SDG&E
- SCG
- SCE
- PG&E

Program Year

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Total Energy Savings: 233,414 MWH
Accomplishments: Energy Savings 2001-2005

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<td>799</td>
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<td>4,932</td>
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<td>10,928</td>
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Energy Savings (MTherms)

- **SDG&E**: Lower than other utilities throughout the years.
- **SCG**: Highest energy savings in 2002.
- **SCE**: Consistently low energy savings.
- **PG&E**: Consistently high energy savings.

The chart shows a progressive increase in energy savings over the years, with a significant spike in 2003 for SCG and 2005 for SCE.
Successes: CPUC LI EE Programs

- Statewide coordination
- Comprehensive services
- Cooperation with local agencies and community-based organizations
- Leveraged with other utility programs
- Targeted outreach
- Rigorous education and training for LI EE contractors.
- Cost effectiveness is assessed at the program and measure levels, and include non-energy benefits.
Impact Evaluation Study – determines the real energy savings in kilowatt hours or therms attributable to the LI EE measures. Submitted on a biannual basis.

Next Steps: CPUC LI EE Program

- Implement program improvements and efficiencies so that more low income customers can be served.
- Improve outreach methods to reach and serve more eligible customers.
- Provide measures that maximize energy and bill savings benefits for low income customers.
- Improve coordination between LI EE and EE programs. “Everyone should be onboard the energy efficiency train.”
- Order Instituting Rulemaking to review programs and investigate broader policy issues – early 2007.
Low Income Energy Efficiency Symposium
Co-Sponsored by: US DOE, US EPA, CPUC, and CMUA

- Held in Los Angeles in June 2006
- Over 200 attendees: IOUs, Municipal Utilities, Community-Based Organizations, and State & Local Governments.
- Speakers from across the country including Vermont, D.C., and Oregon.
- First of many energy efficiency events sponsored by the Energy Efficiency Leadership Council.
- For copies of bios and presentations: http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/static/energy/060505_liee.htm.
Questions: CPUC LI EE Program

- For more information:
  Kelly A. Hymes
  khy@cpuc.ca.gov

- Or check the CPUC website at:
  http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/static/energy/liee.htm