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Low-Income Consumer Advisory Task Force Budget Questions

Low-Income Energy Efficiency (Weatherization)

Two sources of weatherization funds are collected as part of the Community Benefit Charge. \$1 million per year is collected in the Customer Assistance Program (CAP) rate paid by all customers except for CAP customers. Additional weatherization funds are budgeted from funds collected the Energy Efficiency Services (EES) rate paid by all customers.

The Community Benefit Fund tariff (copy attached) directs that CAP funds unspent at the end of one fiscal year be rolled over to the next fiscal year with council approval. Thus unspent weatherization funds provided by the CAP rate have rolled over to the next fiscal year. There is no such language concerning EES funds.

- 1. Should the unspent EES-funds for low income weatherization roll over in the same manner as the CAP funds?
- 2. Should the unspent EES funds for any low or moderate income energy efficiency program be rolled over in the same manner as the CAP funds?

Equity

- 3. To be equitable, what percentage of the EE budget should be spent on:
 - a. Low income AE customers
 - b. Moderate income AE customers
- 4. Should the overall energy efficiency budget be increased and energy efficiency goals expanded because of the equity programs or should the savings and budgets for other programs be reduced to keep total spending level? (FY 2014 EE budget was set at about \$37 million. What is the FY 2015 EE budget?)
- 5. The current EE budget is set during the October budgeting decisions when the previous year's energy efficiency experience has not been finalized. (In other words, FY 2015 energy efficiency budget was set before we knew whether FY 2014 energy efficiency budget was under or over spent). Should there be a true-up after the end of the FY for either rate adjustments or for energy efficiency program funding adjustments?
- 6. For unspent FY 2014 budgeted funds, should these funds be used for "one-time" investments such as funding for loss reserves, funding for contingency funds to support bulk purchasing contracts, and for improving energy efficiency data retrieval and review?