



# Oregon

Governor Kate Brown

## Housing and Community Services

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Date: April 1, 2016

To: Housing Stability Council Members  
Margaret S. Van Vliet, Director

From: Tim Zimmer, Energy Services Section Manager

Re: US Department of Energy (DOE) Weatherization State Plan Approval

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**MOTION: Housing Stability Council gives its approval of the draft 2016 US DOE State Plan as presented today and authorizes submitting the document to the DOE for the State of Oregon.**

Included for your reference are pages 1-22 of the US DOE Weatherization State Plan. If you would like to view the entire plan please click [here](#).

### **Background**

The DOE Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP) provides grants to states, territories, and some Indian tribes to improve the energy efficiency of the homes of low-income families. Oregon, in turn, contracts with local governments and nonprofit agencies to provide weatherization services to those in need using the latest technologies for home energy and home health upgrades. The DOE program provides energy conservation services to an average of 340 low-income Oregon households each year. Services include but are not limited to:

- Energy conservation measures;
- Home health & safety improvements;
- Heating equipment repair and replacement; and
- Energy education.

### **State Plan Application Timeline**

The annual application package, including the written 2016 state plan, is due and will be submitted to DOE by April 29, 2016. The draft state plan included in the Housing Stability Council packet was also posted to Oregon Housing and Community Services (OHCS) website on March 15, 2016. The public comment period was initiated at this time with public notices appearing in the Portland Oregonian, the Medford Mail Tribune, and Salem-News.com on March 18, 2016. OHCS staff will be facilitating a public hearing on April 1, 2016 and will be accepting written comments until April 15, 2016. OHCS staff is not anticipating substantial public comment related to the draft plan; however, there may be changes resulting from either public comment or final negotiations with DOE.

If there are substantive changes resulting from either public comment or negotiations with DOE, OHCS staff will be prepared to present the final state plan during a future Housing Stability Council meeting.



### **Service Delivery Partner Engagement**

In preparing for the 2016 state plan application, Oregon Housing & Community Services (OHCS) convened a workgroup consisting of representatives from six service delivery partner agencies. The charter for the workgroup included reviewing the draft 2016 plan to determine what, and if, improvements can be made in the overall document and/or specific sections of the plan, and to provide recommendations and/or comments regarding proposed changes to the plan. OHCS staff received valuable feedback resulting from this work and will be incorporating the vast majority of the recommendations into the final 2016 plan.

### **State Plan Application Summary**

The annual Application Package is used by all States, Territories, and Indian tribes as clarifying information when applying for direct grants under the Weatherization Assistance Program for Low-Income Persons, administered by the U.S. Department of Energy. Grantees shall comply with applicable law including regulations contained in 10 CFR 440, 2 CFR 200, and other procedures applicable to these regulations as DOE may, from time-to-time, prescribe for the administration of financial assistance. Any potential discrepancies between information contained in the state application and DOE regulations shall be resolved in favor of DOE regulations.

### **State Plan Application Components**

The state plan application process includes the following components:

1. Budget
  - Budget Categories
  - Budget Justification
  - Carryover Explanation
2. Annual File
  - Subgrantees
  - Projected Production Schedule
  - Projected Energy Savings
  - DOE Funded Leveraging Activities
  - Policy Advisory Council
  - Public Hearings & Transcripts
3. Master File
  - a) Eligibility
    - Approach to Client Eligibility
    - Approach to Building Eligibility
    - Definition of Children
    - Native American Tribes
    - Service Priorities
  - b) Type of Weatherization Work
    - Technical Guides & Materials
    - Energy Audit Procedures

- Final Inspection
- c) Health & Safety Plan
- d) Program Management
  - Organizational Overview
  - Administrative Expenditure Limits
  - Monitoring Activities
  - Training & Technical Assistance
- 4. Energy Crisis & Disaster Response
- 5. Federal Financial Regulations
  - DOE Financial Assistance Rules
  - OMB Cost Principles
  - Financial Audits

### **State Plan Application Changes**

The state plan does not typically change substantially from one year to the next. Proposed changes to the 2016 plan are few and generally based on new or revised guidance from DOE and/or input from service delivery partners. Primary changes to the 2016 plan include:

1. Budget Overview – funding is increased from \$2.4 to \$2.7 million.
2. Updated projected production schedule and projected energy savings.
3. Updated Subgrantee contact information and removed the Klamath Tribes and the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians as direct Subgrantees.
4. Revised the Policy Advisory Council information – removed the reference to the Advisory Committee on Energy (ACE) and added the Housing Stability Council and current membership.
5. Revised income eligibility threshold from 60% of state median income to 200% of federal poverty level. Removed all references to 60% of state median income.
6. Updated continuing education standards related to required certifications. Changed required training for Energy Auditors & Quality Control Inspectors from 24 hours annually to 32 hours every three years.
7. Removed Exhibit 2 & 3 related to knob and tube electrical wiring; removed Exhibit 4 space heater policy; removed Exhibit 5 related to lead based paint. ***All of these components are now included within the Health & Safety Plan.***