TESTIMONY OF PETER BARHYDT
REBUILDING TOGETHER LITCHFIELD COUNTY
IN SUPPORT OF
WEATHERIZATION ASSISTANCE FOR LOW INCOME PERSONS

May 5, 2009

My name is Peter Barhydt and I am here today representing Rebuilding Together Litchfield County. Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the proposed "Weatherization Assistance for Low Income Persons Program." I would like to take this opportunity to talk about Rebuilding Together Litchfield County and how our two missions complement one another.

Rebuilding Together, formerly "Christmas in April," is the nation's largest nonprofit working to preserve affordable home ownership. Rebuilding Together works through its more than 200 affiliates across the nation to repair the homes of low-income Americans.

Our affiliate, Rebuilding Together Litchfield County was started in 2002 with the mission to rebuild lives – one home at a time. We assist elderly and low-income home owners with vital home maintenance and renovations so that they can continue to live independently.

Over the past 7 years RTLC has repaired over 100 homes and provided more than $1 million dollars in services and supplies.

Last month alone, more than 200 volunteers worked on 12 different homes. Our incredible volunteers are highly skilled builders, master carpenters, plumbers and electricians as well as businessmen, church groups, school groups, friends and neighbors who generously give of the time and talents.

The materials to complete these projects are often donated or discounted by partners such as Bradco Supply in Danbury and others. Our ability to use volunteers and to receive discounted and donated material means we get more done with less.

We repair roofs, install new doors, make bathrooms handicapped accessible, replace windows and work on plumbing, wiring, tiling and painting. We generally do just about any kind of home repair you can imagine. But there is always more to do and our waiting list is growing.

Each home we work on comes to us through an extensive referral system and application process. Our trained master carpenters visit each applicant to determine eligibility and scope of work and routinely conduct energy and weatherization audits.

We have houses right now that are in need of extensive weatherization including roof replacement and installing new windows.

Rebuilding Together Litchfield County enthusiastically endorses the mission of the "Weatherization Assistance for Low Income Persons Program." We understand first-hand the need for and the benefits of weatherizing homes.

We also applaud the selection of the sub-grantees and are encouraged to see 100% coverage in all five Congressional Districts.

We hope, however, that the Department of Social Services and the sub-grantees will partner with other existing organizations to complete the goals and mission of this project. Our Rebuilding Together affiliate has the expertise and volunteers to complete these projects without delay.

In Litchfield County alone there is a dramatic need for federal weatherization funds. Besides the homes we have currently on our waiting list who need weatherization, we have the network and infrastructure currently in place to review applications, determine the scope of work and complete the projects quickly.

By working with existing organizations, DSS and the sub-grantees will be able to avoid a lengthy and protracted process. We have established an application process that, while comprehensive, has been designed to move the applicant through the system quickly. We have thorough reporting and post-project analysis that must be submitted to our national headquarters to ensure we are maintaining best practices. With the systems already in place, Rebuilding Together Litchfield County is ready to accept applications and complete project almost immediately in order to complete as many as possible before next winter. The only thing we lack is additional funding.

There is a real and dramatic need in Litchfield County for weatherization projects. If we announced tomorrow through our network of ministers, social service workers and local governments that we were accepting applications for additional weatherization projects, we would be inundated.

I hope you will keep Rebuilding Together in mind as a potential partner as you move forward with this vital program.

Connecticut Light & Power

The Northeast Utilities System

Yankeegas.

The Northeast Utilities System

American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009
Weatherization Assistance Program

Testimony of Richard A. Soderman
The Connecticut Light and Power Company
and Yankee Gas Services Company

Department of Social Services
Public Hearing
May 5, 2009

Good afternoon, my name is Richard Soderman, Director of Legislative Strategy and Policy for Northeast Utilities, parent company of The Connecticut Light and Power Company and Yankee Gas Service Company. I am here today to provide comments on the Weatherization Assistance Program provisions of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 ("ARRA"). The ARRA federal economic stimulus legislation provides $787 billion to be distributed or allocated to various programs and initiatives to help our economy. Of particular note to Connecticut is the $64 million designated for the state's low-income weatherization program. We believe that these stimulus funds can assist in helping Connecticut reach its desired goals of:

- Assisting low income persons to minimize energy-related costs and fuel usage in their homes;
- Increasing green jobs,
- Reducing energy dependence on foreign oil,
- Promoting energy efficiency,
- Reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

Today's hearing addresses the draft plan prepared by the Department of Social Services. Before I comment on that plan, let me provide some background on our companies.

CL&P has been part of everyday life in Connecticut for more than 100 years, providing safe and reliable electric service to homes, neighborhoods and businesses. With 1.2 million customers in

149 cities and towns, CL&P is an active member in the communities it serves, including the largest taxpayer in many, offering programs in energy efficiency, economic development and environmental stewardship. Yankee Gas is Connecticut's largest natural gas distribution company, delivering safe, reliable natural gas service to 205,000 customers in 71 cities and towns. Yankee Gas is expanding Connecticut's energy options and increasing customer choice by extending the availability of clean, efficient natural gas throughout the state. Taken together, our companies have over 4,000 employees located in Connecticut.

Connecticut's energy efficiency programs, developed by utilities with oversight by the Energy Conservation Management Board (which is composed of business and low income constituencies as well as governmental representatives from the Consumer Counsel and Attorney General), and regulated and approved by the DPUC, are nationally recognized for their effectiveness. Numerous studies and evaluations have shown that Connecticut's programs are among the best in the nation at saving customers money. Among the more notable facts about our energy efficiency programs are that:

- CL&P's energy efficiency budget for 2009 is $67.6 million and Yankee Gas' conservation budget is $3.9M for 2009. These amounts will provide for a diverse set of electric and gas efficiency programs to all classes of customers;
- Our electric programs provide $4 in system benefits for every $1 spent, and they are nationally recognized;
- Efficiency measures installed in 2008 alone will provide customers with $565 million lifetime energy savings and eliminate 1.8 million tons of carbon dioxide, a major greenhouse gas;
- Tens of thousands of customers have participated annually in our nationally recognized, award-winning programs since 2000;

- During 2008, over 10,000 limited income households participated in our lLighting programs provided 2.4 million efficient bulbs, on average more than two per home, thereby saving each home $16 per year.

We have a full time staff with significant experience in energy efficiency and a well-developed network of support engineers, vendors, installers and consultants that permit us to effectively deliver efficiency programs.

CL&P's Limited Income Weatherization Assistance Program

The objectives of the Companies' limited-income programs, CL&P's Weatherization Residential Assistance Partnership ("WRAP") are:

- To provide comprehensive weatherization, energy conservation and education services to limited-income customers in order to reduce their energy burden.
- To make utility bills more affordable and homes more energy efficient and comfortable.
- Providing energy efficiency education to raise customer awareness of conservation and to encourage them to take behavioral and other steps beyond weatherization to further reduce energy consumption.
- Having a streamlined program delivery mechanism from WRAP program administrators, to the Community Action Agencies ("CAAs") and vendors who implement the services within Connecticut.

The target customers for the WRAP program are those meeting the following criteria:

- income that is at or below 60% of the state median income,
- energy burden (percent of total annual income spent on energy) that is high,
- have not received energy conservation services in the prior 18 months, and
- target customers who reside within Community Reinvestment Act areas and their eligible census tracts.

The Companies can also target financially challenged customers facing other issues that may interfere with their ability to take advantage of conservation services. Examples of these

customers include group living settings, such as residential treatment facilities, group homes, halfway houses, disabled veterans groups and shelters.

This program offers offer a full range of energy conservation measures to address inefficient lighting, water heating, inefficient heating equipment, refrigeration and insufficient insulation. Measures may include the direct installation of CFLs, lighting fixtures, low-flow showerheads, low-flow faucet aerators, waterbed insulated covers, door sweeps, thermostats, duct sealing, weatherization and insulation. Energy-efficient refrigerators, freezers, dehumidifiers, clothes washers, ductless heat pumps (pending evaluation results) and room air conditioners are provided and installed to qualifying customers. Program participants may receive: burners and furnace repairs/replacements. WRAP program participants who exclusively use electric heat can be considered for replacement of single-pane windows with double-pane Low E Argon 0.35-0.30 windows. These windows would require a co-pay from the landlord or property owner.

We coordinate our program services to limited-income communities through their vendor and/or the local CAA in conjunction with the local natural gas companies. This coordination enables us to maximize their outreach and serve more families. The following services may be delivered by contractors who have been selected through either a competitive bidding process or by a CAA:

- Conduct a fuel-blind energy audit or walk through needs analysis survey of the household.
- Identify causes of high electricity use related to lighting and appliances.
- Identify solutions to high-use problems by working cooperatively with customers in their homes.
- Install all cost-effective energy-saving measures including those listed above.
- Educate customers on use and care of conservation measures to ensure continued savings.

- Consolidate service delivery whenever possible to reduce operating inefficiencies and minimize customer inconvenience, such as multiple home visits.
- Conduct neighborhood canvassing to targeted areas to maximize program participation.

In addition to these services, customers may be provided with educational literature such as energy-use tips and with literature on energy budget management. CL&P also sends a newsletter ("Help Line"), which contains energy education, conservation tips, safety information, and other useful resource listings to participants. We also provide training for the network of CAAs that deliver direct services. We have been actively responding to programmatic improvements recommended by the 2006 third-party evaluation. We are active participants in the statewide efforts addressing the energy needs of limited-income households, including staff participation on the Low Income Energy Advisory Board's ("LIEAB") Conservation and Weatherization subcommittee.

CL&P has increased outreach to non-English speaking communities; specifically targeted electrically heated homes and high-use customers for services; and increased communication and coordination with other state agencies and providers of limited-income programs. Intake can be conducted by several entities including C&LM staff, the Companies' Credit & Collections and Customer Service Departments, CAAs, program delivery vendor and DSS. Infoline also refers customers to these intake organizations.

DSS's Weatherization Assistance Program

DSS has developed a comprehensive plan for the delivery of federal funds to support weatherization at low income homes. Clearly, an increase in the weatherization program from an annual amount of approximately $2 million to a program that would amounts to $64 million will create challenges to the existing delivery system.

The full report was made available to interested parties on May 1, 2009. As part of the low income advisory board, we will participate in discussions with that group as to the best means for coordinating our limited income programs with those included in the DSS plan.

We note at the hearing before the legislative committees on May 4, 2009 on the proposed weatherization plan that there was a discussion of the possibility of using the energy efficiency channels and infrastructure in place for the programs administered by electric distribution companies under the purview of the Energy Management Conservation Board.

We have in place delivery infrastructure for our WRAP and other energy efficiency programs that may be helpful to the extent that the existing systems may become overwhelmed by the large amount of funding that must be processed in a relatively short period of time. We stand ready to assist the DSS and CAAs in the effective deployment of these programs.

We suggest that the possibility of using the ECMB and the electric distribution companies to assist in the deployment of the ARRA weatherization program be included in the draft plan that is submitted to the DOE. While additional work would need to be completed to determine if and how that were an appropriate outcome, it would facilitate the further discussion of that matter and remove the need for future public hearings should inclusion of these entities ultimately be desired.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this matter.

G Karsky

Good Morning. Thank you for this opportunity to testify on the state plan. You have the letter from the Connecticut Association for Community Action, dated April 23rd which covers our comments and concerns in detail. We also presented testimony yesterday to the legislature on the overall plan. Today I would like to address some of the questions that came up at the legislative hearing.

The U.S. Department of Energy statute and regulations (10 CFR 400.15) clearly establishes the procedures for selection of entities for distribution of all funds to entities to conduct weatherization activities. These selection rules establish preferences that favor experienced, effective W.A.P operators. For example,

- **the state plan must name the sub-grantees (10 CFR 440.14(b)(1) and demonstrate that all are Community Action Agencies (CAAs) or other public or nonprofit entities and the state must give preference to those entities that have, or are currently administering, effective WAP or Community Action Programs. 10 CFR 440.15(a0(3).**
- **Further the regulation states:**

"The final selection of each sub-grantee must be made on the basis of public comment received during the public hearing and findings regarding:[i]

- **The sub-grantee's experience and performance in weatherization or housing renovation activities;**
- **The sub-grantee's experience in assisting low-income persons in the area to be served; and**
- **The sub-grantee's capacity to undertake a timely and effective weatherization program."**

The sub-grantee must meet all of these qualifications - it is not an either or situation. Therefore we recommend that DSS follow the federal guidelines and designate the current sub-grantees which are the Community Action Agencies. The CAAs have the expertise and ability to perform immediately and since last year's stimulus, the agencies have already been ramping up to perform these additional services and

weatherize as many homes and units as the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act allows. This is the current structure which has proven to be an effective and streamlined process for getting the funding to those for whom it is intended. Currently there are five CAAs providing weatherization services, but all 12 CAAs have past experience in weatherization programs, and other housing assistance programs, as well as numerous other programs that serve the targeted population.

Additionally, all 12 CAAs operate the CT Energy Assistance Program which is the first door of entry for weatherization assistance. We are the ones in the neighborhoods and communities who are on the front line of service delivery - our customers know us and trust us. We are not fly-by-night operators who may be here today and gone tomorrow. All of our agencies enjoy the trust and support of their boards, their customers and their communities.

In the New Haven area, New Opportunities, Inc. and TEAM are prepared to work with the Community Action Agency of New Haven, to make sure that all greater New Haven area residents are served by Community Action Agencies with the experience and expertise to deliver the weatherization assistance so desperately needed. We will also work with another CAA - the Human Resources Agency of New Britain, who is the One-Stop operator for the area and can serve as a resource for potential job candidates- as well as the New Haven community technical schools and community colleges.

At a recent meeting of the Community Action Agencies in Washington, D.C. with the CT Congressional delegation and on a recent conference call with Congresswoman Rosa DeLauro, all of these leaders expressed their strong desire that these funds be distributed to the Community Action Agencies providing the weatherization services and that this happen in a timely manner so that units can be weatherized and jobs created as quickly as possible. Additionally, they noted that Congress intentionally used a number of the formula-based funding streams, e.g. weatherization and CSBG, for the 'stimulus' funding because they have confidence

in the current system and the operators, i.e. the Community Action Agency Network, and have faith that these crucial funds will quickly get out to the low-income communities as intended and for the purposes of the funding – job creation and weatherizing units for energy efficiency – important initiatives of the Obama administration.

The Community Action Agency Network and our 12 CT agencies are the federally designated anti-poverty agencies that have a proven record of serving low income individuals and families. We know our communities and most of the CAA weatherization providers train and hire the crews from the neighborhoods we service. Those agencies that do not have their own work crews, know and use the local vendors from the neighborhoods served. This is exactly the type of community stimulus and local workforce investment in energy efficiency measures that Congress and President Obama intended in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.

I ask that DSS stay with the federally designated CAA provider network and contract with the current providers and their sister agencies that ARE known in their communities, to deliver weatherization services to the states' neediest and most vulnerable customers.

Thank you.

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[i] *See* 10 C.F.R. §§ 440.15(a)(2); 440.14(a).

H Crees

Pubic Hearing
Statewide Plan for use of ARRA Weatherization Funds
Written Testimony - May 5, 2009

I support the current DSS plan in overall scope and concept, particularly the use of the Community Action Agency network to deliver the services. The five current sub-grantees have the experience and expertise to ensure that this unusual opportunity is taken full advantage of.

The *Access* Community Action Agency is one the five current sub-grantees that provide the Weatherization Assistance Program services to low-income homes in CT. *Access* has been the sole sub-grantee for eastern CT which includes New London, Tolland and Windham Counties. Some facts about the program in eastern CT that *Access* operates:

- For the past 15 years, as the sole Weatherization sub-grantee for all of Windham, Tolland and New London Counties, *Access* has consistently met or surpassed the goals set by DSS that establish the number of units to weatherize in each town throughout the region.

- *Access* currently operates the largest Weatherization Program in CT - both in units weatherized and total funds expended. Currently, we are in the process of getting 250 units weatherized using our current Dept. of Energy funding that comes to us through DSS. Ramping up to accomplish this will allow us to hit the ground running when the ARRA funds are allocated to the region.

- During the upcoming three-year period, the $6M that DSS proposes to allocate to eastern CT is targeted to weatherize an average of *five additional units per week*. That's one unit each weekday. *Access* is surpassing that rate with our current program.

- If the portion of the $20M slated for DECD is allocated to the CAAs either directly or through subcontract, an additional $4.8M would likely come to eastern CT. That would increase the average to just fewer than two units per day. Given *Access*'s record, it is simply inaccurate and misleading to suggest as some have that *Access*'s ability to meet this increased demand is "highly suspect".

- Consistent with the proposed State Plan, Preliminary planning meetings have been held with TVCCA, the Eastern Workforce Investment Board and Quinnibaug Community College to discuss how best to collaborate on this great opportunity. *Access* is prepared to sub-contract services to TVCCA – our partner Community Action Agency in New London County. A draft written plan was developed and shared with TVCCA as to how we might work together to

achieve the targeted results. Again, it is misleading and inaccurate to suggest as some have that *Access* is unwilling to partner with TVCCA. Not giving an organization everything they want does not equal an unwillingness to partner with them.

- Although the State Plan does not specify this, some have suggested that the program and all related funding for entire regions should be subcontracted to organizations that have *not* conducted weatherization work for 15 years. Two significant problems with this approach are that the institutional knowledge of the current Wx provider will not be maximized and administrative structures and functions would be unnecessarily duplicated. This latter problem is in direct contradiction to what both the Legislature and the Governor have consistently said is needed during these difficult economic times - consolidation of administrative functions.

- What will ensure the highest quality and best use of these funds is to allow regions to build on the *existing* infrastructure and expertise that exists in each region of the state. Doing so will allow the development of partnerships appropriate to meet the needs of each region. In the case of eastern CT, *Access* is able to leverage funds through our HUD-funded Lead Elimination Action Program, the utility funded Weatherization Residential Assistance Program known as WRAP, Small Cities programs and Landlord contributions. Over the past three years, *Access* has leveraged the most landlord contributions. Each of these programs serves all three counties.

- Given *Access*'s track record over the past 15 years and our demonstrated ability to weatherization 250 units in the next few months, there is no need for a temporary sub-grantee in eastern CT. There is however, as the plan outlines, the need for partnerships that make sense for the region and the low-income people who live there. Access is committed to making those partnerships work.

Regarding, the distribution formula in the proposed State Plan – while *Access* believes DSS is right to allocate $28.5M of the ARRA funds to the existing Weatherization providers, we have concerns about how DSS plans to allocate the remaining $38.8M, particularly $20M designated for DECD. This raises the following concerns:

- Federal Department of Energy statute and regulations* require preferences and sets up procedures that <u>favor experienced, effective W.A.P program operators</u>. It appears that those procedures and preferences have not been observed by DSS.

- DoE regulation requires that *before* awarding any weatherization work to other than a current provider, a formal procedure must be followed that results in a finding that the current provider is *not* capable of performing that work. No such process is reflected in the plan and as far as we know, no such process has taken place.

- Because DoE regulations do not allow WAP work on units where utilities are included in the rent, we believe that many if not most public housing units do not qualify for use of these funds.

CT's Community Action Agency network is prepared to do what it takes to ensure CT makes the best of this unprecedented opportunity. And as the recognized longstanding Weatherization experts in New London, Windham and Tolland Counties, *Access* is ready, willing, qualified and has the capacity to embrace this unique opportunity to work with our partners to help move eastern CT toward increased energy independence and family economic stability.

Submitted by:

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Vice-President of Development and Community Services
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(*Federal DoE Statute 10 CFR 400.15)

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STATEMENT OF THE COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY OF NEW HAVEN

PUBLIC HEARING, TUESDAY, MAY 5, 2009

My name is Edwin P. Williams. I am the Director of Weatherization for the Community Action Agency of New Haven. I have been in this position since July 2008. I have over 25 years of experience running Housing Renovation, Lead Hazard Reduction and Energy Conservation Programs, including an Energy Conservation Program that won an award from the State of Connecticut for innovation.

I want to talk very briefly about the Weatherization Program that I run in New Haven.

I have a staff of 3, including one (1) Coordinator and two (2) State Certified Energy Auditors.

We service all towns in the New Haven Service Area (New Haven, North Haven, East Haven, West Haven and Hamden), as well as all of the TEAM towns (Milford, Orange, Woodbridge, Shelton, Derby, Ansonia, Seymour, Beacon Falls, Bethany and Oxford).

This past year, we have weatherized 133 housing units, which is 121% of our original goal, and 91% of our revised goal.

We have been praised by DSS for having increased landlord participation from last year.

We have been praised by DSS for having all jobs complete and inspected, compared to previous years, and for making much more timely payments to our sub-contractors.

We have been told by DSS that the quality of all inspected work remains satisfactory.

Recently, however, I have heard it said that our Weatherization Clients are not satisfied with our service and that our Weatherization Contractors do not want to work for CAANH. I find this very hard to believe.

Regarding Clients: At the completion of all of our jobs, our clients complete a survey, which consists of a series of questions evaluating our contractors and CAANH. I have reviewed every one of our completed job files, including the surveys. I have not seen one negative comment from any of our clients in the New Haven towns or the TEAM towns about either our contractors or about CAANH. Instead, I have received verbal thank you's, written thank you's and one box of chocolates.

Regarding Contractors: I have asked 3 of our primary Weatherization Contractors to come here and share with you their experience with CAANH's Weatherization Program. I hope you listen to them when they talk at this public hearing.

In closing, I am confident that, with additional weatherization funding, CAANH can adequately ramp up and provide the New Haven Area and the Valley with the increased weatherization service that is so urgently needed. Thank you.

Testimony of

Deb Polun, Legislative Director
Connecticut Commission on Aging

American Recovery and Reinvestment Act: Weatherization Assistance Program
Proposed Connecticut State Plan

State of Connecticut Department of Social Services

May 5, 2009

Thank you for this opportunity to comment today on the proposed state plan for the use of $64.3 million in federal funding for weatherization.

As you know, the Connecticut Commission on Aging is an independent, nonpartisan state agency that is part of the legislative branch of government. We are devoted to preparing our state for a burgeoning aging population while promoting policies that enhance the lives of the present and future generations of older adults. For over fifteen years, the Commission has served as an effective leader in statewide efforts to promote choice, independence and dignity for Connecticut's older adults and persons with disabilities. The Commission also serves as a member of the statutorily-mandated Low-Income Energy Advisory Board (CGS §16a-41b).

As part of Results-Based Accountability, the Connecticut Commission on Aging is working toward the following Population Result: "All present and future older adults in Connecticut live in the secure, healthy and productive environment of their choice." A major component of this goal is being able to afford to live in one's home, and energy costs are an ongoing struggle. Programs like the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) and Operation Fuel have helped hundreds of thousands of older adults meet this need.

These new weatherization funds can help our state better meet the challenge of providing energy assistance to low-income households, while decreasing our overall state energy needs and creating jobs. Thoughtful consideration of this federal investment in Connecticut provides an opportunity for policymakers to coordinate funding streams and programs and maximize the usage of these funds.

The Commission on Aging commends the Department of Social Services for constructing this Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP) proposal which could weatherize more than 30,000 dwellings in which older adults reside. We have the following comments for the Department's consideration:

1) The Commission is pleased to see plans to utilize a <u>single application process</u> to establish eligibility for all energy assistance programs administered by your Department. This can help maximize all energy funds coming into Connecticut by ensuring that individuals receiving assistance paying their energy bills live in energy-efficient homes.

2) Connecticut could get more "bang for our buck" by prioritizing homes with high energy usage, as the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania plans to do.

3) Connecticut should include refrigerator replacement in our weatherization plans, which is allowable under federal law and can have enormous impacts on overall household energy costs. Although this improvement is not prohibited by this WAP proposal, it is not specifically listed as a possible measure in Section VI of the proposal. Old refrigerators can be one of the biggest culprits in energy inefficiency.

4) The State of New York contracts for bulk purchase of weatherization materials, such as insulation and furnaces. Setting up a similar system in Connecticut would help maximize the amount of work that could be completed on each home.

5) The Commission is pleased that DSS envisions working with several partners on the job creation piece of WAP, including the Institute for Sustainable Energy, the Workforce Investment Boards and the community colleges. We recommend creating an inventory of all existing and planned job training efforts in Connecticut related to energy and ensuring synergy and coordination among programs.

- For example, Executive Order 23 establishes the Green Collar Jobs Council and 21st Century Green Jobs Training Initiative. Governor Rell's Order also directs the Community College System to utilize $2 million in federal Department of Labor funding to establish new certificate credit programs for sustainable and renewable energy (Sustainable Operations: Alternative and Renewable Energy (SOAR)).
- Additionally, separate adult employment and training activities are funded through ARRA under the Workforce Investment Act piece.
- Senate Bill 633 recommends that the State Departments of Education and Higher Education establish a mentoring and job training program for minority males.

6) Connecticut has shown an enormous commitment to energy efficiency and assistance programming over the past several years and has earned national recognition for its efforts (e.g., CT ranked first in the American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy 2006 scorecard). The result, unfortunately, is a complicated and fragmented set of programs run by multiple state agencies, including DSS, OPM and DECD, as well as utility companies. For example, OPM runs both a furnace replacement rebate program and a furnace upgrade rebate program; weatherization for low-income individuals is run by DSS; energy conservation loans are available for homeowners through DECD. Again, we recommend creating an inventory of these programs and ensuring synergy and coordination among programs. This inventory could better serve consumers and help reduce duplication in state government, all the while ensuring maximization of state and federal funds. Additionally, Connecticut should strongly consider the recommendations of the Legislative Program Review and Investigations Committee regarding low-income energy assistance, including changing application requirements from annually to once every three years.

7) Finally, the Commission is pleased that this plan addresses the health and safety of residents during weatherization efforts, including requiring US Department of Energy Minimum Standards for Lead Safe Weatherization. We recommend coordinating funding streams with other home safety and improvement programs, such as lead poisoning prevention.

We would be most pleased to work with your Department and other stakeholders and policymakers on this plan moving forward. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the Commission office, at (860) 240-5200. Thank you for your time and for your consideration of this important issue.

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United Way

Comments Regarding the Connecticut State Plan for the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act Weatherization Assistance Program
Department of Social Services Public Hearing
May 5, 2009
Prepared by Shirley Bergert[1]

We commend the Department of Social Services for putting together a credible plan for Connecticut's three year $64.3 million federal stimulus funding for low income weatherization from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA) in a very short period of time. These funds are an unprecedented opportunity to effect comprehensive weatherization assistance to low income households struggling to pay bills for necessary energy use. Connecticut has had serious underfunding of job training and this funding is also an unprecedented opportunity to develop and coordinate training for positions in the workforce that will exist beyond the life of the stimulus funding. Both of these opportunities will require a focused initial effort involving existing and developing resources which are well-coordinated, and ongoing monitoring and reporting to avoid the risk that the state will lose some of these federal dollars.

Issues related to vastly expanded weatherization funding for low income residents:

The Community Action Agencies (CAAs) are the preferred subgrantees for the federal stimulus funding. The amount of funding is unprecedented and vastly expands possible low income weatherization. The CAAs will need assistance to appropriately plan for and expend the monies allocated to them and Connecticut will need a system of weatherization supplementation to provide services the CAA system cannot deliver.

To put the $64.3 million in perspective, federal funding for low income weatherization has ranged between $2.3 million and $3.2 million for the last three years, and is $4.9 million for the current program year. Assuming the non-stimulus federal weatherization funding remains at this year's level, the real three year federal weatherization funding is about $79 million, or $26.3 million per year. This is eight to ten times what Connecticut historically has planned for. This is significant because in each of the last three years, the Community Action Agency network delivery mechanism has been unable to expend the budgeted weatherization funding at the far lower funding levels that have been available. The following figures are from the legislature's 9/25/08 Program Review and Investigation (PRI) staff briefing, "Connecticut's Energy Efficiency and Conservation Programs" (copy of study is attached and available at: http://www.cga.ct.gov/2008/pridata/Studies/PDF/Energy_Briefing.PDF; specific information regarding the DSS/CAA weatherization program is on pp. 79 – 83).

[1] Shirley Bergert serves: as the residential representative on the Energy Conservation Management Board overseeing the expenditure of ratepayer conservation funds in Connecticut Energy Efficiency Fund (Conn. Gen. Stat. § 16-245m); as the low income representative on the Fuel Oil Conservation Board (Conn. Gen. Stat. § 16a-22f); on the Low Income Energy Advisory Board (Conn. Gen. Stat. § 16a-41b); and on the Advisory Board of the Institute for Sustainable Energy at Eastern Connecticut State University.

Budget 4/07 - 3/08: $2,901,657
Expenditures: $2,341,566 (19.3% below budget)

Budget 4/06 - 3/07: $3,203,600
Expenditures: $2,432,656 (24.1% below budget)

Budget 4/05 - 3/06: 2,381,905
Expenditures: $1,967,568 (17.4% below budget)

In the three years documented in the PRI study, no CAA has spent its full weatherization funding allocation and only ABCD has come close in this regard. Not all budgeted funding for the ARRA money will go to the CAAs, but enough will to point up the serious need for planning, ramp up and monitoring support, as well as the need for a back-up system to provide supplemental weatherization assistance using ARRA funds, with enough planning to time to pick up any slack. The DSS plan needs more specificity regarding on how it will effectuate such a back-up and supplementation system. Inadequate planning could result in a loss to Connecticut of a portion of the ARRA funding, meaning low income households who could benefit from weatherization assistance will not receive such assistance.

Who can receive funding in the ARRA WAP program, and getting funding to the appropriate place:

DSS is directing much of the ARRA WAP funding to the CAAs pursuant to federal regulation. 10 CFR sec. 440.15 provides DSS's subgrantees must be a CAA "or other public or nonprofit entity." Subgrantees are chosen based on public comment received in public hearing regarding experience and performance in weatherization, experience assisting low-income in the state, and capacity to undertake a timely and effective weatherization program. The subgrantee preference extends to entities currently administering a US DOE low income weatherization program, *i.e.,* the five CAAs which currently deliver weatherization services, *provided each is administering an effective program.* Inability to timely expend weatherization funding raises questions regarding the effectiveness of current service delivery. The DSS plan honors the preference by providing an increased funding level that will be a significant stretch for the CAAs.

Other entities are qualified to be subgrantees under the ARRA requirements and could function as partners to provide the needed back-up and supplementation of weatherization services. Connecticut has one of the best statewide weatherization systems in the country, operated under the auspices of the CT Energy Efficiency Fund (CEEF), programs administered by UI, CL&P and CMEEC for the municipal electric companies pursuant to state statutes. The annual funding for these programs exceeds the three year ARRA funding and they collectively have years of experience in effectively delivering conservation services.[2] All CEEF systems have low income programs, so they have the requisite experience in weatherization for the poor, and they have the capacity to ramp up to do more. They are "public entities" qualified to be subgrantees: the municipal utilities are local government agencies and CL&P and UI, in their capacity as CEEF administrators, are public entities as they administer conservation funding collected and expended under a ratepayer fund created by and administered in accordance with state law, under the oversight of the Energy Conservation Management Board and the Department of Public Utility Control. As well, the Energy Conservation Management Board (ECMB) is a public entity as it exists solely pursuant to statute to serve the public interest and board members are appointed in accordance with the authorizing statute.[3] To the extent these entities served as subgrantees, DSS could direct that the local CAAs are provided with contracts to serve individual eligible households to the extent the CAA can timely perform contract obligations.

DSS has also directed funding through the Department of Economic Development (DECD), a public entity as a state agency. DECD can contract with the CEEF utility administrators and CMEEC to ensure funding is expended in the most cost-effective manner.

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[2] The governing statutes include: CGS §16-245m (public service electric companies, adopted in 1998); CGS § 16-32f (public services gas companies, modified in 2005 to coordinate with CEEF); and CGS § 7-233y (municipal electric utilities, adopted in 2005). In some cases the utilities ran conservation programs prior to the adoption of these acts, but these acts resulted in the current statewide coordination under the CEEF. Annual reports regarding the programs are available at www.ctsavesenergy.com , click on "ECMB" at the top of the page, then click on "Annual Legislative Reports." The 2008 report is attached.

[3] The ECMB could form a nonprofit which would also qualify as a subgrantee, delivering services via CEEF programs, so long as no part of the net earnings inured to the benefit of any private shareholder or individual. 10 CFR sec. 600.3.

DECD funding should be expended through a system of collaboration with CEEF programs to ensure the most cost-effective and appropriate weatherization measures are implemented. The science of efficiency is not intuitive, though those who have not studied it often assume they know what to do. It is also a developing area. Besides needing to know how to identify the most cost-effective efforts, you have to know how to deliver services so that efficiency measures do not jeopardize the health and safety of the residents.

DSS has allocated funding to DECD to support weatherization in state funded housing, prioritizing projects with tenants who pay for heat. The funding is important support for rental properties serving lower income household many of whom are elderly, disabled or families with children. The plan provides for an RFP process to identify contractors to provide the weatherization work. Unfortunately there is no single certification or system that identifies appropriate competencies in contractors, nor a simple audit system that will provide for the most cost-effective measures to implement, protecting health and safety of residents. CEEF programs can collaborate with audits and identification of appropriately trained and licensed contractors to ensure the best outcome.

Tracking and reporting:

Tracking and reporting is essential and not adequately provided for in the plan. If this is not done by all funded entities, there is a risk that it will be too late to address deficiencies before Connecticut loses some of the federal funding. Reporting should be done by DSS and OPM to legislative committees of cognizance, the ECMB, the Low Income Energy Advisory Board (LIEAB), and other interested parties.

Training for "Green Jobs":

As indicated earlier, this is an unprecedented opportunity to set up a meaningful training system that will train individuals for long-term, self-supporting work, and fill in gaps for which the state has not had adequate training money (*e.g.,* welfare to work, ex-offenders, veterans, dislocated workers). A good amount of effort must go into ensuring, upfront, an effectively coordinated training system with appropriate curriculum is developed. This system must effectively train individuals and connect them with potential employers in the growing area of "green jobs." A coordinated system should be statewide and include the entities DSS identifies in the plan. Facilities providing training should be accessible regardless of where a potential trainee resides. Once a coordinated system is developed, the system will have the ability to continue providing training to Connecticut residents beyond the federal stimulus funding availability.

There is a US DOE audit that ought to be the minimum training as it is required for the ARRA funding, but it is only useful for DOE funded work -- meaning the jobs are not there for this work when the federal stimulus funding ends. There are a number of nationally recognized efficiency related certifications that will carry the trainees beyond the stimulus funding period.

DSS' plan needs more specificity regarding training. The plan ought to include adequate funding for development of a coordination training system with a reporting component. Connecticut has one of the region's leading experts in "green job" training development, Bill Leahy at the Institute for Sustainable Energy at ECSU, a public entity, a possible subgrantee for this purpose.

Low income access to weatherization assistance:

The plan makes no provision for allowing low income households to apply for and get assured access to weatherization assistance. The CAAs do not currently have an effective system in place where low income households can apply for and get on a waiting list that will ultimately result in the household receiving assistance; the CEEF programs do have such waiting lists. A system needs to be mandated that will ensure program access in a reasonable timeframe for eligible households who seek assistance.

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

25 SIGOURNEY STREET • HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06106-5033

March 27, 2009

Mr. Amos Lee Smith
President/CEO
Community Action Agency
of New Haven, Inc.
781 Whalley Avenue
New Haven, CT 06515

Re: Contract #093C-ECH-29
Monitoring of Energy Program - Review of Deliverable Fuel Invoices

Dear Mr. Smith:

On 3/5/09, Charles Anderson from the Community, Energy & Refugee Services Division reviewed the procedures used by the Community Action Agency of New Haven, Inc. (CAANH), to receive, review and process invoices submitted by vendors for heating fuel deliveries authorized on behalf of clients through the Connecticut Energy Assistance Program (CEAP). Four-hundred and fifty invoices were examined as a sample to ensure that the vendors that submitted them were registered to participate in the CEAP, that invoices were properly date-stamped, that calculations were accurate and that payments were processed to the vendors in a timely manner, i.e., within thirty days of receipt of the invoice at CAANH.

The review did not bring to light any errors or issues relating to the procedures used by CAANH to process CEAP deliverable fuel payments. The processes were deemed to be efficient and effective. Since no findings resulted from the review, your agency does not need to respond to this letter.

Mr. Anderson was also impressed by the speed with which payments are being made to deliverable fuel vendors. In the sample he reviewed, payments were consistently paid within two weeks of receipt of fuel slips by CAANH, which is deemed to be very efficient.

In closing, Mr. Anderson wishes to express his appreciation to Ms. Flecha of the CAANH Administrative Services staff for her assistance with regard to this review. If you have any questions, please contact me at (860) 424-5889.

Sincerely,

Carlene Taylor
Program Manager
Community, Energy & Refugee Services Division

COT/cfa

cc: Roberta Saunders-Gray, CAANH
Sharon Willard, CAANH
Robert Podeswa, CAANH

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STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

25 SIGOURNEY STREET • HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06106-5033

April 27, 2009

RECEIVED
APR 30 2009

Mr. Amos Smith
Chief Executive Officer
Community Action Agency
of New Haven, Inc.
781 Whalley Avenue
New Haven, Connecticut 06515

Re: Weatherization Program - Annual Monitoring

Dear Mr. Smith:

Enclosed please find the monitoring summary report that was completed by weatherization staff of the Department of Social Services (DSS), Energy & Refugee Services Division. The program review was conducted by Mr. Glenn Bernard and Ms. Josephine Caruso, during the period of February 10, through February 25, 2009.

Please review this report and notify our office in writing, by Friday, May 15, 2009, of the corrective actions that have been taken, and what recommendations you intend to implement. If you have any other comments regarding the information in this report, please include them as well.

I would also like to thank you and your staff for your cooperation in the completion of this report. Should you have any questions, please contact your weatherization field representative toll-free at 1-800-842-1132.

Sincerely,

Carlene Taylor
Program Manager
Energy & Refugee Services Division

CT/gb
enclosure

cc. AF
ESU

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COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY
OF NEW HAVEN, INC.

INTRODUCTION

During the period of February 10, 2009 through February 25, 2009, the Weatherization Assistance Program of the Community Action Agency of New Haven, Inc. (CAANH) was monitored by Glenn Bernard and Josephine Caruso of the Energy & Refugee Services Division. The time period reviewed was the first ten months of the 2008/2009 program year (April through January). An exit conference was held on Wednesday, February 25, 2008, with Mr. Edwin Williams, Director of Weatherization and Mr. Amos Smith, President/CEO.

AGENCY PROFILE:

The CAANH Weatherization Program serves the five towns in the New Haven service area, as well as the ten towns in the TEAM service area surrounding Derby.

Their USDOE funded weatherization program is supplemented with utility funding from the United Illuminating Company, the Southern Connecticut Gas Company and the CL&P funded WRAP Program. Their activity, through the first ten months of the current contract period, is as follows:

CURRENT ALLOCATION	EXPENDITURES
USDOE - $438,349	$274,399 - Through January

GOALS TO DATE		COMPLETIONS TO DATE
New Haven Area	87	49
Derby Area	25	33
Total	112	82

AVERAGE PER UNIT EXPENDITURES

Material	$ 844
Support	$2,143
Total	$2,987

PROGRAM SUPPORT CREDIT / DEFICIT

$ 2,679 Deficit

The above figures indicate that, through January, the agency's Weatherization Program was thirty (30) units below goal. Existing work-in-progress (36 units) indicates that the agency is not likely to meet its amended contract completion goal by the end of the program year on March 31, 2009. The current program support deficit is due to being behind goal.

The following figures are for the most recently completed contract period that ended 3/31/2008:

USDOE Budget	Reported Expenditures	Allowable Expenditures
$ 486,766	$ 364, 010	$ 363, 626

Completion Goal –	155	Completed Units -	133
CAANH	120		71
TEAM	35		62

Recommendations or Corrective Actions:

It is crucial that the agency develops a strategy to ensure that goals are met and clients in both the greater New Haven and Derby areas receive services.

PROGRAM OPERATING PROCEDURES:

The CAANH Weatherization Program is a contractor based program. Most measures are installed by licensed sub-contractors, under contract with the agency. Clients are selected on a first come, first served basis, using the required DSS card priority system. If necessary, leftover cards are carried forward to the next year. Currently there are about 500 clients from the New Haven area and 400 clients from the Derby area, on the waiting list for a home energy audit. This means an average wait of a year or longer, but once started, the average job is completed in about five months.

The agency's landlord participation rate is up slightly this year. To date, six (6) rental units have been weatherized, compared to fourteen (14) units through the same period last year. No landlords have refused to participate, because of the required landlord contribution of 20 % of the material cost for the job.

There has been much improvement this year in the areas of final inspections and sub-contractor payments compared to last year's program review. All jobs were inspected before being turned in as complete and sub-contractor payments have been timelier. A random review of payments indicated that they are taking about sixty (60) days from the agency's completion date of the job. This is in contrast to last year's program review when the average exceeded ninety (90) days.

Recommendations or Corrective Actions:

The agency must develop a plan so that eligible households receive services in a timely manner. Although the payments are more timely than last year, that is still not in compliance with your contract. Delayed payments will result in contractors choosing not to participate in the program.

CURRENT SUB-CONTRACTS:

The agency has contracts in place with two insulation contractors, two general weatherization contractors, three heating contractors, one window supplier and one general materials supplier. These contracts were all approved by DSS and will expire on March 31, 2010.

Recommendations or Corrective Actions:

The agency will need to meet with existing sub-contractors to discuss the additional production needs for the upcoming year and determine their capacity to additional work.

CURRENT IN HOUSE STAFFING:

The Director of Weatherization reports directly to the President/CEO, Mr. Amos Smith. The Weatherization Department also employs two (2) certified Home Energy Auditor/Inspectors and one Program Coordinator. USDOE Program Support funds pay various percentages of these salaries, all of which were approved by DSS through the budget approval process. Additionally, USDOE Weatherization Program funds also support smaller percentages of an Accountant's and Purchasing Agent's salaries. These were also approved by DSS through the budget approval process.

Recommendations or Corrective Actions:

The agency will need to assess its staffing to ensure that it is adequate for the administration of the program.

MONITORING:

There are two monitoring reports on file for the current contract period. A total of eight (8) jobs were reviewed for the months of April through August, 2008. Of those, only one (1) job required corrective action. This is a big improvement over last year. The overall quality of work on jobs has remained satisfactory.

Recommendations or Corrective Actions: None

FILE REVIEWS AND HOME VISITS:

During this review, the following jobs were selected for file reviews and home visits:

September, 2008, Site ID# - 28541 & November, 2008, Site ID# - 30221

All required file documentation was present and satisfactory and all reported materials were found properly installed.

Recommendations or Corrective Actions: None

TRAINING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE:

In addition to upcoming DSS and USDOE sponsored training, to support the weatherization ramp up effort, the agency is encouraged to explore other training activities that may benefit both staff and sub-contractors. Please remember that prior approval from DSS to spend T&TA funds is required. There will be a regional training conference this May, in Lake Placid, New York and auditor certification classes are scheduled for June and September, at CRT in Hartford.

Recommendations or Corrective Action: None

INVENTORY CONTROL:

The program utilizes a small storage room of approximately 150 square feet that is located near the weatherization office. This room is secure and adequate for their needs, since most USDOE materials are purchased on a job by job basis and delivered directly to the job site by the subcontractors.

Recommendations or Corrective Action: None

VEHICLES and EQUIPMENT:

The Weatherization Program currently utilizes one 2004 Chevy Astrovan that was purchased with USDOE funds, and one 2001 Chevy van that was purchased with utility funds. The vehicles are parked at the agency overnight, in a secure lot and all are equipped with alarm systems.

Insurance and maintenance for both vehicles is charged to the USDOE Weatherization Program, as allowed for in the line-item budget. The agency was cited last year for not maintaining daily mileage and maintenance logs, as required by DSS. The issue has been corrected.

The program currently has a small amount of auditor/inspector tools and equipment, which are not being adequately utilized. There are Bacharach combustion testers and a blower door that have not been used for some time because they need maintenance and repairs. The FLIR infrared camera which DSS purchased for the agency over a year ago has not been used on a regular basis.

Corrective Action:

Please address the above mentioned problems and also review the list of recommended auditor tools and equipment that was distributed at the recent Weatherization Technical Meeting in Bridgeport. As part of the weatherization ramp up effort, DSS requires all field staff to have the needed equipment and that it is used to ensure efficiency.

FINANCIAL PROCEDURES

General:

On February 24 and 25, 2009, a fiscal review was held at CAA/NH with Robert Podeswa, Chief Financial Officer, Edward Williams, Director of Weatherization, and Adrienne Sanders, Accounting Manager. Mr. Williams and Ms. Sanders were hired in July of 2008. CAANH has approximately a total of 43 full time and 8 part time employees, and manages programs from eleven different sources. Duties are separated so that no one individual has a complete authority over an entire transaction. Accounting functions are computerized and the software used is Kintera Fundware. The agency has a cost allocation and has four checking accounts: payroll, Connecticut Energy Assistance Program, Operating, and FOCB. Each checking account has a chart of accounts to keep funds and expenditures separate. A copy of the organizational chart was provided.

In addition to the New Haven area, CAA/NH also provides weatherization services to the Derby area. As of January 31, 2009, the agency has spent $274,399 out of their $438,349 allocation. It is in a Program Support Deficit of $2,679. The agency is 38 units under the New Haven goal of 87 and 8 units over the Derby goal of 25. The unit average is $2,987, of which $844 is material and $2,143 is program support. The Weatherization Director informed DSS that he will not be able to meet the unit goal of 134 by the end of the program year because the agency is having difficulty obtaining sub-contractors to install general weatherization measures.

The Controller/Supervisor informed DSS that the agency's last program audit covered the period 10/01/2006 - 9/30/2007, which was done by Blum Shapiro. The "Inaccurate Grant Reporting for CEAP and Weatherization Programs" identified on the prior year's Federal Single Audit Report are considered resolved and have not been reported in the current year report. The report has a finding in Payroll Accrual. It was found to have significant deficiency in internal control over financial reporting.

The agency has liability and auto insurance with Philadelphia Indemnity; pollution occurrence with American Safety Risk Retention Group; and fidelity coverage with AIG. The coverage is a $1,000,000 with a limit of $2,000,000 for liability; $1,000,000 for vehicle; fidelity is $100,000; and $500,000 for pollution occurrence. The agency provides pollution occurrence coverage to its installation contractors, Comfort Zone, Competitive Resource Group, and Temp Check. The Weatherization Office has two weatherization vehicles, 2001 and 2004 Astrovans, of which the newer one was purchased with DOE funds. The annual lease for the building occupied, which expires on 2012, is $186,000, which is an increase of $22,020 from last year. Copies of the certificate of insurance were provided.

Cash Receipts and Cash Disbursement:

Cash receipts are recorded by funding source and are deposited at Bank of Southern Connecticut and Wachovia. Accounts are reconciled on a monthly basis and differences are resolved. All checks are computerized regardless of the amount, which require two original signatures: one from the Chief Executive Officer and the other from either the Associate Director of Energy and SSI or Director of Special Projects and Facilities. The blank checks are kept in a safe located in the office of the Chief Financial Office.

Payroll:

At the time of the review, the Weatherization Payroll consisted of six people: Director of Weatherization, Weatherization Coordinator, two Auditors, Purchasing Agent, and Financial Clerk. As of October 2008, Compupay does the agency's weekly payroll, which was previously done by ADP. The agency has an automated system in place for tracking time and attendance. Employees that are not salary paid use a swipe card, which records time in and time out. A Punch Detail Report is generated on a weekly basis, which does not require the employee or supervisor's signatures. The employee completes a Request for Time Off or Absence form when he/she is requesting to take time off, which requires both the employee and supervisor's signatures. The Weatherization Director submits a weekly time sheet for he is salary paid.

During the review, the Payroll Register for period ending 1/01/2009 – 1/22/2009 reflect the following charges:

Director of Weatherization	**DOE 100%**
Weatherization Coordinator	DOE 60% SCG 40%
Auditor	DOE 75% SCG 25%
Auditor/Inspector	DOE 75% SCG 25%
Account Specialist	**ENP 100%**
Purchasing Agent	**DOE 20%** **CEAP 20%** **CBG 50%** **SCG 10%**

The above information for the Director of Weatherization, Account Specialist, and Purchasing Agent is not in agreement with the DOE Line Item Budget. The DOE line item budget reflects 75% charge for the Director of Weatherization; 15% Account Specialist; and 10% for Purchasing Agent.

> **Corrective Action:** The agency is to make the necessary adjustments. The Payroll Register must be in agreement with the DOE line item budget.

Procurement, Property and Equipment:

The agency's financial office keeps detailed records of individual capital assets, which requires the approval from DSS before funds are committed.

Inventory Control:

The agency does not maintain an inventory of DOE materials as contractors provide their own materials, or they are purchased on a job-by-job basis and delivered directly to the worksite.

Subcontracting:

The Weatherization Office receives all sealed proposals, which are kept unopened and locked in the file cabinet, which is located in the finance office, until the date of the bid opening. A criteria list is used when awarding a contract, which is based on price, client references, history of prior performance, ability to deliver services within time frame request, and experience. The highest score obtains the contract and all bidders are notified of their eligibility. The solicitation is advertised in the Hartford Courant and New Haven Register.

Payments:

The Director of Weatherization completes all work orders for the Weatherization Program, which are generated from the CT/WRAP system. The work order is forwarded to Finance and the information is entered into the computer system, which creates a purchase order. A copy of the purchase order is given to the Director of Weatherization for initials. Both the purchase order and work order are then mailed to the sub-contractors to start the job. The Weatherization Office receives all invoices, which are proofed against the purchase order. The Director of Weatherization enters the material and labor amounts and account numbers of the funding source(s). After the job is inspected, the entire client file is forwarded to Finance for additional review before payment is issued. All invoices reviewed had been paid, which is an improvement from the prior year's review. The majority of the invoices had been paid between 12-62 days with the exception of one, which took 118 days.

Corrective Action: Invoices must be paid within 30 days of inspection date.

Client Files:

During this review, seven client files (Site ID #27581, #26802, #33361, #27842, #28041, #28421 and #25102) were traced from the Weatherization Office to Finance. All files contained the BWR, the Energy Assistance Application, the Award Letter, Client's Income Documentation, the Data Collection Form, the Final Inspection Form, Disclaimer Form, the Weatherization Agreement, Invoices and Work Orders.

Finding: Site #27581 (Zoccano) – The Weatherization Agreement does not contain the signature of the owner, Margaret Zoccano, but has the signature of another individual. In addition, the BWR has a material cost of $341.50 for two window replacements but Accounts Payable indicates a payment of $334.80 to Mercury Excelumn.

Corrective Action: Agency is to verify that the person signing off on the Weatherization Agreement is the owner before work is begun. The difference of $6.70 in Agency Materials will be disallowed on the BWR.

Finding: Site #26802 (Kucewicz) – The BWR has an inspection date of 11/30/2008 and is not in agreement with the 12/05/2008 written on the inspection form. Also, the Disclaimer Form did not have the date and signature of the installer.

Corrective Action: Please ensure that the inspection date on the BWR is the same as the inspection date on the final inspection form. The Disclaimer Form must have the date and signature of the installer.

Finding: Site #33361 (Dorso) – The BWR has an inspection date of 1/31/2009 and is not in agreement with the 2/02/2009 written on the inspection form.

Corrective Action: The inspection date on the BWR is to be the same as the inspection date on the final inspection form.

Finding: Site #27842 (Vallombroso) – The BWR has a material cost of $339 and labor $175 for heating system repairs and a clean, tune and test. Accounts Payable indicates that total cost was charged to Connecticut Energy Assistance Program (CEAP).

Corrective Action: Accounts Payable is to deduct the total cost of $514.00 from the CEAP account and charge it to the DOE account, $339.00 Material and $175.00 Labor. Please note that these expenses were not charged to the CEAP Heating System Repair Report and the CEAP and CHAP Clean, Tune and Test Report.

Summary:

Although there were a number of findings during the review, overall there was an improvement from the prior year's monitoring. All BWRS reviewed were inspected and payments had been made to all the vendors and subcontractors. DSS is concerned with the agency's poor production, which results in the minimum goals not being met and the clients in the area are not being served. The agency needs to find more general weatherization sub-contractors.

GOOD MORNING

My name is Deborah Monahan. I am the Executive Director of the Thames Valley Council for Community Action, the community action agency serving New London County.

I am here today to speak about the Weatherization Plan put forth by DSS around the utilization of the ARRA Stimulus bill dollars.

During these challenging economic times it is important that local communities work together to address the issues facing our residents. The President and Congress in signing and passing the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act want local businesses, local vendors and local communities to be strengthened and economic recovery begin to occur.

Under the Weatherization initiatives funded by the ARRA, Congress and the President recognized that many low income families are faced with high energy bills because their dwellings are old and not energy efficient. The massive amount of money in weatherization sought to alleviate these high bills by weatherizing homes while stimulating local economies and reducing our overall dependence on foreign oil.

In order to accomplish this Connecticut has put forth a plan to weatherize a minimum of 7647 units, while developing a "green workforce", retaining and creating jobs across the state. It will require coordination and collaboration by many entities. Connecticut and the Department of Social Services should be applauded for their vision in using these dollars to strategically make Connecticut more energy efficient.

TVCCA has been serving Southeastern Connecticut for over 44 years. We are highly accountable to the federal government, the state government, local governments and to our constituents. We have had direct contracts and positive working relationships with DSS for many years.

We are requesting that the Department of Social Services designate TVCCA a "temporary subgrantee" with direct funding for these ARRA weatherization dollars. TVCCA will provide for DSS additional capacity in Southeastern Connecticut to weatherize low income homes at the local level with local vendors, business and a local workforce.

TVCCA is a community action agency that has experience in operating an effective weatherization. We have assisted low income individuals and families in Southeastern Connecticut for 44 years. We are in compliance with all legal and financial requirements and regulations under state and federal law. Our most recent audit and financial statements and a complete listing of our Board of Trustees are on file with DSS.
We are responsive to the needs of our community, most recently assuming the operation of a child day care in Groton when the YMCA of Southeastern Ct. closed. In less than 30 days working with the town, building inspector, fire marshal, local public health and State Dept. of Public Health we got a new license issued to TVCCA. Services to families were not disrupted.

We work with our communities and for our communities.

Our staff have developed and operated weatherization programs, have extensive construction skills, lead abatement expertise and the technical skills necessary to oversee an effective and efficient weatherization program. Most importantly we are connected to our communities. Following all regulations, we will utilize local businesses and vendors to carry out this program.
We are the One Stop Operator for Eastern Connecticut. Partnering with the Workforce Investment Board and Three Rivers Community College we currently provide educational and training opportunities to low skilled workers.

President Obama in his inaugural address stated…" The state of the economy calls for action, bold and swift, …not only to create new jobs, but to lay a new foundation for growth…The success of our economy has always depended not just on the size of our Gross Domestic Product, but on the reach of our prosperity, on our ability to extend opportunity to every willing heart, not out of charity, but because it is the surest route to our common good."

TVCCA is requesting designation as a "temporary subgrantee" by direct contract for these ARRA weatherization dollars. It affords New London County opportunities, builds capacity and creates and retains local jobs.

The Greater Norwich Area Chamber of Commerce

P.O. Box 667 • Norwich, CT 06360
860-887-1647 Fax – 860-887-9238
info@norwichchamber.com www.norwichchamber.com

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Executive Director,
Rose City Renaissance

Brian F. Kobylarz
Chairman,
NR2 Committee

Ms. Claudette Beaulieu
Deputy Commissioner
Connecticut Department of Social Services
25 Sigourney Street
Hartford, CT 06106

Dear Ms. Beaulieu:

TVCCA has been providing services to the low-income population in New London County for over 44 years. They are respected, accountable and responsible to their communities. TVCCA is seeking to be designated a direct contract "temporary subgrantee" for the ARRA Weatherization monies. The Greater Norwich Area Chamber of Commerce supports TVCCA in their operation of the Weatherization Assistance program funded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA).

TVCCA has a history of service in the Weatherization program. Up until 1995, when the Department of Social Services limited subgrantees, TVCCA operated an effective, quality weatherization program in New London County. They have current staff that have established and operated weatherization programs. TVCCA is positioned to begin the program in New London County on July 1st weatherizing over 430 homes in the next three years.

Partnering with the Eastern Connecticut Builders Association, NeighborhoodWorks New Horizons and other local vendors to weatherize low income homes will not only benefit the low income clients in energy saving ways, but local contractors will be afforded an opportunity to work. In this challenging economic environment, this will benefit New London County in the ways that Congress and the President envisioned with the stimulus bill, putting monies into local economies and local businesses.

Three Rivers Community College and the Eastern Connecticut Workforce Investment Board are partnering with TVCCA to train low income individuals in the "energy efficiency" industry, increasing their job skills.

Local utility companies (Norwich Public Utilities, Groton Public Utilities, Bozrah Light and Power) are working with TVCCA to outline opportunities for equipment purchases, energy auditing and weatherization activities.

The Greater Norwich Area Chamber supports and recognizes TVCCA's ability to serve this community through the Weatherization Program, working with local businesses to improve our economy and weatherize low income families' homes.

Sincerely,

Robert P. Reed
Chairman
Greater Norwich Area Chamber of Commerce

Pulling together we can accomplish great things!

Three Rivers
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

574 New London Tpke.
Norwich, Connecticut 06360-2497
(860) 383-5206 • FAX (860) 886-6692

Office of the President

April 28, 2009

Ms. Claudette Beaulieu
Deputy Commissioner
Connecticut Department of Social Services
25 Sigourney Street
Hartford, CT. 06106

Dear Ms. Beaulieu:

Three Rivers Community College supports TVCCA in their operation of the Weatherization Assistance program funded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA).

TVCCA has been providing services to the low-income population in New London County for over 44 years. They are respected, accountable and responsible to their communities.

The Weatherization Program is well suited with the needs of this region, both as a needed service and as a threshold for workforce development. TVCCA has a long history of establishing and implementing weatherization programs.

Partnering with the Eastern Connecticut Builders Association and other contractors to weatherize low income homes will not only benefit the low income clients in energy saving ways, but local contractors will be afforded an opportunity to work. In this challenging economic environment, this will benefit New London County in the ways that Congress and the President envisioned with the stimulus bill, putting monies into local economies and businesses.

Three Rivers will enhance the partnership with TVCCA and the Workforce Development Board as the educational and training arm of the triad. Workers will begin with this weatherization program. Such beginnings will create pathways to careers in energy efficiency occupations in southeastern Connecticut.

Three Rivers supports and recognizes TVCCA's ability to serve this community through the Weatherization Program.

Sincerely,

Grace S. Jones
President

CHAMBER of COMMERCE
EASTERN CONNECTICUT

May 4, 2009

Ms. Claudette Beaulieu
Deputy Commissioner
Connecticut Department of Social Services
25 Sigourney Street
Hartford, CT. 06106

Dear Ms. Beaulieu:

I write in support of the Thames Valley Council for Community Action (TVCCA) to serve eastern Connecticut through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) Weatherization Program. TVCCA has been providing services to the low-income population in New London County for over 44 years. They are respected, accountable and responsible to their communities. TVCCA is seeking to be designated a direct contract "temporary subgrantee" for the ARRA Weatherization monies. The Chamber of Commerce of Eastern Connecticut supports TVCCA in their operation of the Weatherization Assistance program funded by (ARRA).

TVCCA has a history of service in the Weatherization program. Up until 1995, when the Department of Social Services limited subgrantees, TVCCA operated an effective, quality weatherization program in New London County. They have current staff that have established and operated weatherization programs. TVCCA is positioned to begin the program in New London County on July 1st weatherizing over 430 homes in the next three years

Partnering with the Eastern Connecticut Builders Association, NeighborhoodWorks, New Horizons and other local vendors to weatherize low income homes will not only benefit the low income clients in energy saving ways, but local contractors will be afforded an opportunity to work. In this challenging economic environment, this will benefit New London County in the ways that Congress and the President envisioned with the stimulus bill, putting monies into local economies and local businesses.

Three Rivers Community College and the Eastern Connecticut Workforce Investment Board are partnering with TVCCA to train low income individuals in the "energy efficiency" industry, increasing their job skills.

39 KINGS HIGHWAY • P.O. BOX 726 • GALES FERRY, CT 06335
PHONE 860.464.7373 • FAX 860.464.7374 • WWW.CHAMBERECT.COM

CHAMBER of COMMERCE
EASTERN CONNECTICUT

Local utility companies (Norwich Public Utilities, Groton Public Utilities, Bozrah Light and Power) are working with TVCCA to outline opportunities for equipment purchases, energy auditing and weatherization activities.

The Chamber supports and recognizes TVCCA's ability to serve this community through the Weatherization Program, working with local businesses to improve our economy and weatherize low income families' homes.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

Tony Sheridan, President
Chamber of Commerce of ECT

39 KINGS HIGHWAY • P.O. BOX 726 • GALES FERRY, CT 06335
PHONE 860.464.7373 • FAX 860.464.7374 • WWW.CHAMBERECT.COM

SOUTHEASTERN CONNECTICUT COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
5 Connecticut Avenue, Norwich, Connecticut 06360
(860) 889-2324/Fax: (860) 889-1222/Email: office@seccog.org

May 4, 2009

Deborah Monahan
Executive Director
TVCCA
One Sylvandale Road
Jewett City, Connecticut 06351

Dear Ms. Monahan

Subject: TVCCA request for ARRA funding

At this mornings meeting, the Council of Governments Executive Committee voted unanimously to support TVCCA's request for ARRA funding to carryout a three-year program for residential weatherization improvements in eastern Connecticut. It is our understanding that with these funds TVCCA can assist in the weatherization of more than four hundred homes.

We are appreciative of the fact that TVCCA have applied for these funds to conduct this program in eastern Connecticut.

Sincerely,

James S. Butler

James S. Butler AICP
Executive Director

cc: file

Norwich CONNECTICUT NOW!

Department of Human Services
Adult & Family Services – Youth & Family Services – Rose City Senior Center

April 30, 2009

Ms. Claudette Beaulieu
Deputy Commissioner
Connecticut Department of Social Services
25 Sigourney St.
Hartford, CT 06106

Re: Weatherization Assistance Program/The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA)

Dear Ms. Beaulieu,

I am writing in full support of Thames Valley Council For Community Action's efforts to be designated a "Temporary Sub Grantee for the ARRA Weatherization Funds".

Thames Valley Council For Community Action, Inc. (TVCCA) has an exemplary history of providing quality services to the residents of Southeastern CT. They have always worked in an effective collaborative manner with numerous area public, private and non-profit entities insuring that the people they serve receive the benefits derived from a well-coordinated service system.

TVCCA has employees who are extremely qualified to administer the Weatherization Assistance Program and they will be working in partnership with highly qualified entities such as Neighborhood Works/ New Horizons and The Eastern Connecticut Builders Association. In addition, reflective of their long-term mission and commitment to help improve life outcomes for families and individuals they are working with our Community College and Workforce Investment Board to develop "energy related job training programs." Training that will enable low-income individuals to compete for jobs in the energy industry.

In closing, in light of TVCCA's knowledge and record of achievement in managing a broad range of programs in Southeastern Connecticut and their excellent working relationships with energy related providers, community agencies, and municipal officials, I urge you to designate this highly regarded organization a "Temporary Sub Grantee," and allocate $3 million dollars for the benefit of the residents of Southeastern CT. In addition, because this region is home to three of the twenty-five communities designated by the Dept. of Economic & Community Development as "distressed municipalities" (Norwich, New London and Sprague), a designation based on such factors as change in employment, poverty rates, population changes, etc., I believe it is imperative that the Weatherization Assistance Program be administered by an organization that is well qualified and in a strong managerial position to get the job done and done well. That organization is clearly Thames Valley Council for Community Action, Inc.

Sincerely,

Beverly J. Goulet,
Director,
Norwich Human Services

BJG/sjm

80 Broadway – Norwich, CT 06360 – (860) 823-3778 – FAX (860) 823-3793
nhs@cityofnorwich.org

Testimony to the Department of Social Services
Weatherization Hearing
May 5, 2009
Thomas H. Morrow, Executive Director
Bristol Community Organization, Inc.

Good morning. My name is Tom Morrow and I'm the Executive Director of the Bristol Community Organization. BCO is a Community Action Agency serving the residents of Bristol, Plainville, Plymouth, Farmington and Burlington.

Thank you for this opportunity to speak to you about the proposed Connecticut State Plan for Weatherization. I have read the State plan and would like to point out that on Page Two of the plan; Bristol Community Organization is omitted from the list of proposed subcontractors.

BCO meets every criterion that the federal government has outlined in the ARRA (American Recovery and Reinvestment Act:

(1) Each sub grantee is a Community Action Agency – **Since 1972, BCO has been the designated Community Action agency, serving the greater Bristol Area.**

(2) Each sub grantee is selected on the basis of public comment received in a public hearing pursuant to federal law:

Each sub grantee is selected based on the following:

(i) the sub grantee's experience and performance in weatherization. **BCO has run a successful Weatherization Program for over twenty five years. Currently, we work with the Community Renewal Team (CRT) to identify eligible households to weatherize. BCO has certified energy auditor on staff who performs audits for CRT. This individual ran BCO's Weatherization Program in the past and is knowledgeable about the program. BCO also has several other individuals, including myself, who were involved with weatherization when all the Community Action Agencies each ran such a program.**

(ii) The sub grantee's experience assisting low-income persons in the area to be served. **For 37 years, BCO has been the place to go for energy assistance and weatherization issues. Our energy program, our Head Start program, our senior homemaker and transportation programs and our job training programs are well known in the greater Bristol area. The staff works well with the population we serve. The greater Bristol area is somewhat isolated by a lack of transportation making it difficult for residents to get to Hartford and/or New Britain to apply for programs. Since the DSS office in Bristol closed and the DSS office in New Britain moved a distance from the center**

city bus line, residents rely on BCO staff to assist them with all applications for state and federal assistance.

(iii) The sub grantee's capacity to undertake a timely and effective weatherization program. **Because BCO has worked with the Department of Social Services, with CRT and – most importantly – with the residents of the Greater Bristol area, for over 25 years, I believe that we have the capacity to undertake this program.**

(3) In selecting a sub grantee, preference is given to any CAA or other public or nonprofit entity which has, or is currently administering, an effective program under this part or under title II of the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964. **Bristol Community Organization, Inc. meets these criteria.**

Therefore, I am asking you to please add Bristol Community Organization to the list of Temporary subcontractors on page 2 of this plan. Thank you for your time, are there any questions?

NeighborWorks®
NEW HORIZONS

May 5, 2009

Ms. Claudette Beaulieu
Deputy Commissioner
Connecticut Department of Social Services
25 Sigourney Street
Hartford, CT 06106

Re: TVCCA-Weatherization Assistance Program/The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA)

Dear Ms. Beaulieu:

Thames Valley Council for Community Action, Inc. (TVCCA) is an outstanding non-profit social service agency that has provided over 28 service programs directly to citizens of New London County for almost 45 years. These programs currently reach over 24,000 eligible individuals and families annually with over 9,400 enrolled in the Energy Assistance program alone. In years past, TVCCA administered Weatherization Program services as well and did so quite effectively. It should be noted that to this day, this organization has qualified staff and partners positioned to begin a weatherization program in New London County on July 1, 2009 weatherizing over 430 homes in the next three years under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA).

TVCCA is the natural and obvious organization of choice to service the residents of Southeastern Connecticut and not solely because of its first-rate service record and qualifications but because the region's citizens have come to recognize them as a community leader that advocates for them and brings gravely needed services directly to them.

It is because of this that NeighborWorks® New Horizons supports TVCCA in their efforts to be designated a "temporary subgrantee" as well as its operation of the Weatherization Assistance program funded by ARRA.

NeighborWorks® New Horizons (NeighborWorks®) is a nonprofit organization working to provide quality affordable homes for working families and the elderly in Connecticut since 1992 with over 500 completed units. Headquartered in New Haven, the new Southeastern office is poised to mobilize swiftly as a partner of TVCCA whereby bringing its experience in the development arena, its solid project management track record and comprehensive knowledge of federal funding execution and compliance.

As a Federally and State recognized Community Housing Development Organization (CHDO) with years of expertise, it is clear to NeighborWorks® that not only will the individuals and families of New London County benefit from this initiative, but by delivering services through TVCCA, local contractors will be afforded work opportunities so critically needed in this challenging economic environment.

NeighborWorks® New Horizons supports and recognizes TVCCA's ability to serve this community through the Weatherization Program and strongly urges the Department to designate it a "temporary subgrantee" and thereby allocating $3 million dollars to the Southeastern Connecticut region, which will only result in the expeditious and equitable fulfillment of the Congressional and Presidential intent.

Sincerely,

Julie M. Savin
Director of Real Estate Development, SE Region

183 Providence New London Turnpike • North Stonington • Connecticut • 06359 • p 860.535.9938 • f 860.535.8444

NeighborWorks®
CHARTERED MEMBER

Comments of Rebuilding Together Hartford, Inc. on

State of Connecticut Department of Social Services

Plan to Implement the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act

Weatherization Assistance Program

May 5, 2009

My name is Jodie Liddy. I am the Executive Director of Rebuilding Together Hartford, Inc., a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation based in Hartford and dedicated to helping Hartford's low income, elderly and disabled homeowners, including veterans, to live in warmth, safety, accessibility and in energy efficient affordable homes. I am here to describe our energy efficiency program, its benefits, and why we are an appropriate recipient of funds to expand our programs pursuant to the Weatherization Assistance Program component of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.

Our program is committed to helping homeowners age in place in part by helping them to lower their energy costs. We repaired and rebuilt about 20 homes on April 25, 2009, with the help of about 700 volunteers, mostly in Hartford's Blue Hills Neighborhood. Every home qualified as low income eligible and every home received some energy efficiency services as part of National Rebuilding Day. (Rebuilding Together Hartford is part of a national network of more than 200 affiliates nationwide that simultaneously performed services on thousands of homes to help needy homeowners with life, safety, accessibility and energy efficiency issues that day.) During the course of the year, we also repair about 75 homes as part of our emergency home repair program, which may include heat and hot water repairs. We are committed now, and have been since our non-profit started its energy efficiency program about three years ago, to delivering energy-efficiency services at every home we touch.

Our point in coming forward today is to encourage the Department of Social Services (DSS) to approve Rebuilding Together Hartford, Inc. as a grantee or subgrantee for the important energy efficiency and weatherization work that needs to be done in Hartford. We recognize that the Community Renewal Team, Inc. (CRT) is the community action agency that currently works

in Hartford and we know from experience that there is more than enough room for more than one non-profit to deliver these weatherization and energy efficiency services in Hartford.

We have been using resources that include, but are not limited to, WRAP (administered by The Connecticut Light & Power Company, which provides us with certain energy efficiency supplies) to deliver these services. We raise funds from charities and foundations, including Washington, DC-based American Petroleum Institute and state-based donors, to deliver significant services. And we're able to do that with our own network of skilled volunteer labor and paid professional contractors, along with major national donors that include Home Depot, Lowes, Sears and other leading organizations.

An example of our energy efficiency success is worth mentioning. Two years go, with a budget of $10,000 from the American Petroleum Institute, we replaced all the windows in a ranch style home with new low-E glass windows supplied by a local manufacturer at its cost. We replaced insulation in the attic, lighting, refrigerator, dehumidified and performed other weatherization services, including insulation and stripping. Only 6 weeks later, we received a beautiful thank you letter in the mail from the homeowner, who stated that we lowered his utility bills by 35%.

An example is our successful training program that has included training Hartford homeowners on lead safe work practices and other key issues through our "It's My House" workshop series. We were so successful in training on lead issues that American Petroleum Institute gave us a significant grant last year to finance the development and production of an energy efficiency training video that is now being used nationwide to train Rebuilding Together volunteers to deliver energy efficiency services. That internet-based training module is a handy resource that is helping to educate on weatherization and other energy efficiency services and our own volunteers in Hartford participate in that training before working on homes in Hartford.

We recognize that there is urgency to roll out these ARRA funds to existing non-profits serving low income residents. We are ready, willing, able and trained to perform this work in Hartford. We think the program needs more than one grantee or subgrantee to be successful especially in a city such as Hartford with older housing stock and enormous community needs and an elderly population struggling to survive. We respectfully submit that there is room for

more than one entity to perform these services in Hartford. Simply stated, CRT does good work, but cannot do it all. Rebuilding Together Hartford, Inc. is already delivering these services and could do much more to help homeowners and promote the development of a green jobs economy.

We thank you for your consideration in supporting the important charitable work of Rebuilding Together Hartford, Inc. when you decide how to allocate the Weatherization Assistance Program funds available to Connecticut through the ARRA.

And now, I would be happy to respond to your questions.

Testimony

of

THE UNITED ILLUMINATING COMPANY

before the

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

Re

AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT

WEATHERIZATION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM PROPOSED PLAN

LEGISLATIVE OFFICE BUILDING

HARTFORD, CT

May 5, 2009

Good afternoon representatives of the Department of Social Services (DSS). My name is Patrick McDonnell and I am the Director of Conservation and Load Management for United Illuminating (UI).

UI operates energy efficiency programs funded by a conservation charge on customers' electric bills. These programs are created with the advice and assistance of the Energy Conservation Management Board and reviewed and approved by the Connecticut Department of Public Utility Control. These programs have become nationally recognized models for energy efficiency. Through our efforts developing and implementing these programs, we have expertise developing efficient and effective programs. Many of the programs that we currently operate have similarities to the programs proposed in your draft plan proposed today.

UI stands ready to assist you and Department of Economic and Community Development (DECD) and other stakeholders in Connecticut in utilizing the stimulus funds for the benefit of Connecticut residents. Our experience in deploying large scale energy efficiency programs may be invaluable to DSS and DECD as they attempt to implement this aggressive increase in the scale of the current DSS offerings. UI's location, in New Haven, may also be helpful to the DSS and DECD in overcoming some of the gaps in the current draft plan. UI is an investor owned utility and not a non-profit, but our status as one of the implementers of Connecticut's energy efficiency programs could qualify us to utilize the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funds. An alternative approach would be for DSS to contract directly with UI for assist in the deployment of

programs funded through the ARRA. UI would also be open to other approaches that would be helpful in overcoming the current issues associated with program delivery in the New Haven area.

Thank you for the opportunity to present these comments. I would be happy to answer any questions you may have.

Department of Social Services Public Hearing
May 5, 2009
Weatherization Assistance Program

Partnership *for* *Strong* Communities

at The Lyceum

Thank you for the opportunity to testify before you regarding the Weatherization Assistance Program of the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act and its proposed use in Connecticut. My name is Diane Randall; I am the executive director of the Partnership for Strong Communities, a Hartford based policy and advocacy organization, concerned with solutions to homelessness and the development of vibrant communities.

The infusion of over $64 million in Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP) funds to Connecticut presents an unprecedented opportunity to improve the sustainability and the energy use of the aging housing stock in our state. It allows us to invest in both the people and the neighborhoods of Connecticut by creating jobs for the green economy and making homes for the elderly, the disabled and families better places to live.

Investing in Multi-family Housing

We support the proposed plan to invest up to $20 million of weatherization funds in state assisted multi-family housing through the Department of Economic and Community Development. The state-assisted housing stock is in severe need of exactly the type of energy-efficiency improvements that will reduce energy consumption and sustain the life of these homes. Now more than ever, as we see households in our cities and towns struggling to pay housing costs, it is critical to preserve every unit of multi-family housing that is dedicated to serving low income families and individuals.

WAP should be available to all state-assisted multi-family housing that meets income thresholds—both the state moderate income housing owned by public housing authorities as well as housing owned and operated by private sponsors. This state-assisted housing is a significant asset in the state's infrastructure, providing policy benefits far beyond only energy savings: preserving this housing helps prevent homelessness and offers stability for tenants who might otherwise be forced to live in institutional settings.

The proposed plan indicates a preference for weatherizing housing units occupied by the elderly where heat is not included as a first priority. If these units are in mixed-populations developments; that is, buildings or developments that house both elderly and disabled or even families, it is much more practical to weatherize every unit in a building or a development, rather than determining by the age of the tenant.

Investing in Renewable Energy

The Partnership is keenly interested in advancing policy solutions that reduce energy consumption and promote renewable energy and green building technologies. By the very nature of the program, home owners and landlords/tenants whose homes are improved through WAP will realize a reduction in the costs to heat and cool their homes

227 Lawrence Street o Hartford, CT 06106 o Tel: 860.244.0066 o Fax: 860.247.4320

www.ctpartnershiphousing.com

and thus reduce energy demand. In addition to encouraging the use of renewable energy, DSS might consider adding use of renewable energy to the incentive pool, or determine additional methods to promote renewable energy through leveraging with utility companies.

Investing in Jobs

The job creation potential of this program—particularly in the possibilities of assisting low-income individuals, the unemployed and veterans gain new jobs skills and establish a career in a growing profession—is very important. We encourage DSS and its grantees to consider partnerships with individuals and companies in the homebuilding industry. The economic recession has also decreased workflow for the homebuilders – weatherization work could help individual builders stay employed and help homebuilding companies in business while offering a training component for an emerging "green workforce." Recently, the Home Builders Association of Connecticut has taken a strong interest in green building, offering training to its members on how to build 'green.' Keeping this industry healthy and intact will be essential in meeting Connecticut's housing supply needs over time, and it is an industry that would benefit from engaging a younger workforce hungry for good paying jobs.

Evaluation and Results

We have witnessed and participated in the some of the state's interagency approaches to solving thorny policy problems, such as chronic homelessness. The benefits of collaboration—in setting out clear objectives that are agreed to by all parties and then measuring and reporting results—are clear. Good data collection and analysis is valuable for establishing effectiveness and advancing policies to promote energy-efficiency and preservation of single-family and multi-family housing as well as opening new job opportunities in the "green economy."

DSS WEATHERIZATION PLAN
AND THE ROLE OF THE JOBS FUNNEL

Thomas Phillips, President and CEO, Capital Workforce Partners

Tuesday, May 5th
10:00 – 1:30 PM
DSS

- JOB CREATION FOR DISLOCATED WORKERS IN THE CURRENT ECONOMIC DOWNTURN IS THE CORNERSTONE OF THE AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT ALSO KNOWN AS THE "STIMULUS."

- BECAUSE OF THIS SIGNIFIGANT FUNDING INCREASE, CHANGES TO A NATIONAL LONGER TERM POLICY FOCUSING MORE ON LESSENING THE RELIANCE ON FOSSIL FUELS AND DEVELOPMENT OF RELATED "GREEN TECHNOLOGIES," NEW LONGER-TERM JOB CREATION OPPORTUNITIES WILL BE DEVELOPED, ESPECIALLY FOR THE PRESENT RESIDENTIAL WEATHERIZATION PROGRAM AND EVENTUALLY FOR COMMERCIAL AND PUBLIC SECTOR BUILDINGS IN THE FUTURE.

- IN ORDER TO ACHIEVE JOB CREATION, ESPECIALLY FOR MANY CURRENTLY LOW SKILLED PERSONS, ADEQUATE AND ACCESSIBLE TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES ARE ESSENTIAL.

- $11.8 MILLION OF THE TOTAL FUNDING IS ELIGIBLE FOR TRAINING – AND ADDITIONAL FUNDS SHOULD BE CONSIDERED TO ENSURE THIS IS MORE THAN A PILOT PROGRAM FOR WEATHERIZATION – ONCE THE TRAINING "CREATES' THE TALENT, WEATHERIZATION ACTIVITIES CAN BE SUSTAINABLE FOR A LONGER PERIOD OF TIME. THE CURRENT PLAN BUDGET ONLY ALLOCATES $5 MILLION FOR EDUCATION AND TRAINING OF WHICH $3.5 MILLION BE FOR TRAINING THROUGH CT DOL AND THE WORKFORCE BOARDS. FOR THOSE SUBCONTRACTORS NEEDING TO HIRE ADDITIONAL WORKERS TO PERFORM THE WEATHERIZATION SERVICES, TRAINING WILL BE NEEDED THROUGH APPRENTICE-TYPE PROGRAMS THAT WILL REQUIRE GREATER RESOURCES THAN IS CURRENTLY ALLOCATED. IN ADDITION, EXISTING LAID OFF CONSTRUCTION WORKERS WILL NEED CERTAIN CERTIFICATIONS TO UNDERTAKE THIS WORK.

    - FURTHER, THE NETWORK OF CTWORKS ONE-STOP CAREER CENTERS THAT ARE OPERATED IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE WIBS AND CT DOL ARE IDEAL LOCATIONS TO MAINTING ONGOING AND SPECIALIZED TRAINING AS THE

INDUSTRY EVOLVES THROUGH INDIVIDUAL TRAINING ACCOUNTS FOR QUALIFIED INDIVIDUALS. THE $3.5 SEED FUNDING WOULD NOT SUPPORT THAT ONGOING EFFORT.

- THE STATE MUST TAKE ADVANTAGE OF ITS EXISTING EDUCATION AND TRAINING INFRASTRUCTURE IF IT IS GOING TO PROPERLY TRAIN NEW WORKERS QUICKLY, AS REQUIRED BY THE "STIMULUS" AND APPRAOCH THE PROGRAM MORE STRATEGICALLY.
    - COORDINATION IS KEY. CAPITAL WORKFORCE PARTNERS, AND CT'S OTHER WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARDS ARE NOTED AS A PROVEN 'CONVENERS' FOR MULTIPLE ENTITIES AND CONTRACTORS IN EACH OR THEIR REGIONS. FURTHER, BUILDING OUT 'LADDERED CAREER OPPORTUNITIES' AS PART OF THE PLANNING, IN PARTICULAR IS A NATURAL FIT FOR CAPITAL WORKFORCE PARTNERS, AS DEMONSTRATED IN OUR WORK IN THE HEALTH CARE INDUSTRY ASSISTING ENTRY LEVEL WORKERS AND TALENT PIPELINES.

- FOR THE WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT SYSTEM, THE STATE ALREADY HAS EXISTING JOBS FUNNEL PROGRAMS THAT HAVE SUCCESSFULLY TRAINED THOUSANDS OF CONNECTICUT RESIDENTS NOW IN THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY.

- THE JOBS FUNNEL, FORMERLY THE HARTFORD CONSTRUCTION JOBS INITIATIVE, IS ONE PROGRAM IDEALLY POSITIONED TO PROVIDE THE PRE-EMPLOYMENT TRAINING NEEDED TO GET MANY WORKERS IN NORTH CENTRAL CONECTICUT, NOT JUST SUCCESSFULLY TRAINED TO PERFORM WEATHERIZATION WORK, BUT TO PROVIDE SKILLS THAT WILL KEEP THESE INDIVIDUALS ON A POSITIVE CAREER DEVELOPMENT PATH AND PROVIDE MANY FAMILIES A MEANS TOWARDS FINANCIAL SELF-SUFFICIENCY.

- THE JOBS FUNNEL HAS SUCCESSFULLY WORKED WITH ALMOST TWO THOUSAND MEMBERS OF CHALLENGED WORKFORCE POPULATIONS FOR THE PAST TEN YEARS. THIS SEGMENT OF THE WORKFORCE IS VIEWED AS AN IMPORTANT TALENT RESOURCE IN THE FUTURE BECAUSE OF CONNECTICUT'S EVOLVING DEMOGRAPHIC CHALLENGES.

    - THIS FRAMEWORK IS IDEAL FOR THE WEATHERIZATION PLAN THAT ASKS FOR A 'FUNNEL'TYPE SERVICE, LINKING TRAINEES TO SUBGRANTEES AND THEIR CONTRACTORS AS POTENTIAL SOURCES OF HIRE. THE FUNNEL'S SUCCESS RATIO FOR HIRING IS IMPRESSIVE, AND WE'D EXPECT CONTINUED LEVELS OF SUCCESS.

- THE JOBS FUNNEL PROGRAM HAS ALSO FORGED KEY PARTNERSHIPS WITH ORGANIZED LABOR, CONTRACTORS INCLUDING MINORITY AND WOMEN OWNED, UTILITIES SUCH AS CT LIGHT AND POWER TO NAME A FEW.

- CAPITAL WORKFORCE PARTNERS HAS ALSO DEVELOPED SUCCESSFUL WORKING RELATIONSHIPS SUCH AS THE CT DEPARTMENT OF LABOR, CT OFFICE FOR WORKFORCE COMPETITIVENESS, COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM, TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL SYSTEM AND MANY LOCAL SECONDARY EDUCATION SYSTEMS IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF ALTERNATIVE CAREER PATHS AND CAREER COMPETIENCIES.

- A COMPREHENSIVE PROGRAM ASSESSMENT AND EVALUATION WAS JUST COMPLETED FOR 'THE JOBS FUNNEL' AND THE ORGANIZATION CAME OUT WITH AN EXEMPLARY PERFORMANCE REPORT CARD.

- FOR THESE REASONS CAPITAL WORKFORCE PARTNERS SUPPORTS THE JOB CREATION AND TRAINING COMPONENTS INCLUDED IN THE PROPOSED CT DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES WEATHERIZATION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM PLAN TO ALLOCATE UP TO $ 3.5 MILLION TOWARD TRAINING IN THE CREATION OF NEW JOBS AND ENHANCING THE SKILLS OF EXISTING JOBS FUNNEL GRADUATES WHO ARE UNEMPLOYED. WE WOULD HOPE THAT AS THE PROGRAM EVOLVES, FURTHER CONSIDERATION WOULD BE GIVEN TO INCREASE THAT AMOUNT FOR THE REASONS PRESENTED.

THANK YOU.

Institute for Sustainable Energy

at

Eastern Connecticut State University

2009 Projects

K-12 School Building Operators Training

In 2008, the Institute for Sustainable Energy (ISE) developed and launched an operations and maintenance training program for facility maintenance and management personnel in seven K-12 public school systems and in partnership with the Connecticut School Building and Grounds Association leadership group. ISE utilizes a whole building, all fuels approach and an integrated portfolio of programs and funding sources for implementing the K – 12 School Building Operations Training. ISE engaged school maintenance personnel in multiple energy relate topics, including; energy and cost management, energy auditing, improvements to lighting, building envelope, HVAC, building automation systems, adding distributed generation and renewable energy and utilizing high performance building standards. In 2009, the effort will be expanded to offer two more sessions engaging 8 to 10 school systems. Also, energy savings attained from the 2008 program will be assessed in fall 2009.

Building Code Training

This annual program is designed to leverage the professional training and energy expertise of ISE in a manner which both assists in enforcing changes made in the codes and complements the Companies' marketing of CEEF and CCEF programs. This is a joint cooperative effort of ISE with: Department of Safety – Training Division, Office of the State Building Inspector, CL&P and UI and NEEP to provide a training program which increases awareness, knowledge and enforcement of the energy related components and the Connecticut Energy Code including provisions of the 2006 International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) and ASHREA 90.1 - 2004. In 2009, 4 to 6 sessions will be held with special emphasis placed on utilizing computer compliance software and inforcing new High Performance Building Standards.

www.CTenergyinfo.com and 1 877 WISE USE

The DPUC and ISE work in collaboration to assist customers seeking information on specific energy efficiency programs and initiatives and general energy topics. Utilizing the www.ctenergyinfo.com website to identify the sources of information to respond to requests, the website directs them to the appropriate program or resource, including low income energy assistance programs and resources. Over 8,000 residents log on to the site each month. The website is also utilized as a research source for generating and answering calls to the 1-877-WISE USE hotline when calls are directed to ISE.

Connecticut Energy Education

ISE is engaged in the statewide implementation of the High School Energy Efficiency Curriculum. During the past two years ISE, with the help of our stake holder advisory group, has researched, developed , and launched the www.ctenergyeducation.com website to communicate with and deliver quality energy education materials to high school students and teachers throughout Connecticut. This program will continue to expand its teaching resource material offerings and reach out to Connecticut science teachers through regional workshops and science teacher events. **Keep Connecticut Cool!** formally "Cool It! The Climate Change Challenge," is starting its third year with ISE serving as the program administrator. All grade 5-12 students in Connecticut are eligible to participate in this program designed to engage groups of students in activities that stimulate interest in climate science and create local solutions to the problem of climate change. Projects can include; saving energy, recycling, using renewable energy, and more. There are no fees to participate in **Keep Connecticut Cool!** Cash prizes will be awarded in late May to the teams who create the best solutions.

Assistance to the CT Technical High School System
ISE is facilitating an initiative with the administration and faculty of the Connecticut's Technical High School System to identify opportunities to revise the systems curriculum to prepare students for future "Green Collar Jobs" in energy efficiency and renewable energy. The program is revising the programs offered in: Carpentry, HVAC, Plumbing and Heating, Electronic and Architectural Drawing. It is also working with the faculty in Automotives to include alternative fuel vehicle instruction. Professional Development for faculty is already underway and programs enhancements will begin to go into effect September 2009. Plans for constructing a zero-carbon building by each school are scheduled for 2010.

Green Campus Initiative
This initiative is designed to leverage the "Green Campus" experience and resources developed at the Institute since the 2005 CT Climate Change Action Plan was developed. It guides colleges and universities in a manner which complements the Companies' delivery of energy conservation programs to Connecticut's college campuses. In 2009, ISE has been assisting the CSU campuses develop energy management and greenhouse gas reduction plans required under the Presidents Climate Challenge. ISE is actively working with the Connecticut Community Colleges, Connecticut's seventeen Regional Technical Vocational Schools, UConn Branch Campuses and a number of interested Connecticut's private educational campuses.

High Performance School – Circuit Rider
The CCEF has launched an initiative to encourage local school systems to design and build new schools and renovation to high performance building systems. The project also has a goal of encouraging integrated renewable energy systems in 50% of all new school construction projects. CCEF has selected ISE to serve as the initial point of contact for local school officials in seeking technical and financial assistance in designing HP Schools. ISE has developed a database tracking new school construction activity and provide knowledgeable speakers to present to boards of education, building committees and school officials. During 2009, ISE continues to provide outreach to individual school systems, as well as participate in statewide conference discussing high performance building standards for schools.

Sustainability Model and Green Jobs
ISE plays a key role in developing a Sustainability Model and Plan for the city of Bridgeport. This plan calls for the implementation of energy efficiency improvements to public buildings and housing, creation of green building standards, the installation of renewable energy systems and the training and deployment of 1000 residents in Green Collar Jobs. ISE is a resource to all state agencies and communities in Connecticut on developing training for Green collar Jobs.

Biofuel Outreach Program
ISE supports the development of a biodiesel infrastructure in Connecticut. ISE has completed the development of a website called www.CTBiofuelInfo.org describing the biofuel technology and Connecticut's initiative to promote Biodiesel for transportation and heating fuel. In 2009, ISE will conduct education and outreach workshops to private fleet operators, municipalities, and local boards of education in Connecticut who seek to utilize biodiesel for heating and transportation applications. In addition, ISE is working with producers of yellow grease and producers of biodiesel to direct waste grease feedstock into Connecticut's biodiesel production.

At Eastern Connecticut
State University

Testimony of William Leahy
Institute for Sustainable Energy at Eastern Connecticut State University
Before the
The Department of Social Services
Tuesday, May 5, 2009

Good afternoon. My name is William Leahy and I am the Chief Operating Officer for the Institute for Sustainable Energy (ISE) at Eastern Connecticut State University (ECSU) I am here today to speak about the proposed Weatherization assistance for Low Income Persons Program State Plan and its relationship to the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act and the creation of sustainable Green Collar Jobs.

As stated in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act **Weatherization Assistance Program** Proposed Connecticut State Plan, this is not just about weatherization, caulk and weather-stripping program, but a **plan "...meant to stimulate the economy by creating new weatherization training programs and projects that lead to new and sustainable green technology jobs."** In two and one-half years, when the stimulus funds have been spent, we will need to ask ourselves, "What did we accomplish?" Did our actions make permanent improvements in the triple bottom line – the economy, people's lives and the environment? The priorities of the ARRA are clear:

- Put people to work in **family supporting, career directed, sustainable jobs** in the private sector.
- Stimulate the economy by encouraging the development of **new sustainable businesses and industries**.
- Reduce our dependence on foreign oil which strengthens our national security.
- Encourage the development, production, sale and installation of innovative sustainable technologies and renewable energy.
- Reduce the burden on home owners, renters and tax payers of heating energy inefficient buildings.
- Improve the environment by reducing pollution and green house gases.

ARRA provides a unique opportunity to do more than provide temporary employment and job training, but instead provides skill development, as well as career, business and personal development training. The benefits should last well beyond the duration of the federal funding. The stimulus package was based on studies that encouraged job creation opportunities which would make a significant and lasting change in our economy and society. **Green Jobs offer above average wages and create opportunities to people of all ages, gender and race. The training should be open to all, targeting not only the unemployed**

and under-employed, but also at-risk youth, welfare-to-work moms, and those recently released from incarceration.

To bring the economy back on course, we need to create an educational and skill development progression that supports upward mobility. For example:

> Training may begin with the entry level **weatherization certification** program, complete with classes on building science and material selection, supervised application experience in a lab, on-the-job apprenticeship, culminating with testing for national certification. But it shouldn't stop there. Successful candidates should be encouraged to continue training to achieve certification as **envelope specialists**, capable of window and door replacement and ceiling and wall insulation. These two programs would provide salable skills that would permit a participant to work for a building contractor specializing in energy improvements. If we offer a certification course in **energy auditing and analysis**, the candidate could go on to become a weatherization program or utility energy auditor, a project estimator or inspector, a crew supervisor, a building materials salesperson, or even a commissioning agent. If we provide opportunities to **take business development** courses, the participants could become licensed **home improvement contractors** specializing in energy efficiency. With additional training in building mechanical and electrical systems, the participant could become a **buildings operator** or **certified energy manager**, with the potential to work for school systems, housing authorities, municipal complexes, industrial settings and property management firms. The educational continuum would be similar for training individuals for other green collar jobs, such as solar assessors and installers. The goal is to provide training that leads to a family supporting, career directed, sustainable job in the private sector.

Weatherization Training can lead to Family-Supporting, Career Tracking, Sustainable Jobs

To support this program, the Institute for Sustainable Energy has helped facilitate a partnership between **the CT Community Colleges** and the **CT Technical High Schools**. Connecticut's community colleges are responsive to changing job requirements and providing both business and job certification training. On the other hand, the CT Technical High Schools are known for their technology laboratories and success in producing job ready technical graduates. These two educational systems must, however, coordinate their programs and activities to be responsive to these developing job markets and the needs of multiple stakeholders, including; the Department of Social Services, the Department of Labor, Department of Economic and Community Development, the Community Action Agencies, the Workforce Investment Boards, the utilities and the private sector business community.

The job training goal should be to create a continuum of practical courses making progress toward achieving long-term private sector careers and small business development. The minimal training requirements and energy audit for federal weatherization compliance should be the lowest common denominator for all trainees. Recognized **national standards and certification** are available for most Green Collar Jobs, including; weatherization specialist, envelope specialists, energy auditor, commissioning agent, health and safety inspectors, renewable site analyst, renewable equipment installer, green building certifiers, certified building operator, and certified energy manager. By preparing participants in an appropriately coordinated progression for nationally recognized certification, job skills will be easily transferable to multiple positions and geographically, not merely limited to just meeting short-term local task-oriented two and one half year program needs.

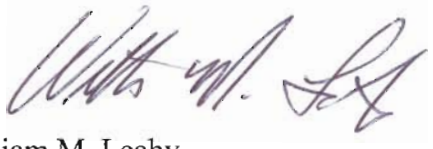
The ARRA funding limits for the low income weatherization program has a **higher funding level and a lower cost/benefit threshold** than past programs, encouraging more **comprehensive improvements** in participating households. As a result, heating system equipment replacement and building repairs will likely be offered. This will necessitate energy efficiency and green building re-training for contractors in the recognized trades, such as carpentry, electrical, HVAC and plumbing, who will be responsible for making major, more capital intensive improvements as part of the program. Both the CT Community Colleges and the CT Technical High Schools are developing programs to address these technologies and efficiency strategies.

ISE has the capabilities of assisting DSS and other state agencies in the coordination of this massive expansion of training capabilities needed to create the ARRA Green Job workforce. Such coordination is essential to maximize the potential of training available under these funds. Currently, ISE provides local school systems with energy management training for their maintenance staffs, energy code training for local building officials, Green Building training to boards of education and school building committees, as well as teacher workshops on climate change and energy efficiency. I am the chief operating officer of the ISE, I have an advanced degree in curriculum development for technical education, as well as an advanced degree in business. I am a Certified Energy Manager through the Association of Energy Engineers and a LEED Accredited Professional through the US Green Building Council. My work experience includes twelve years of teaching and supervision of technical education, twenty-one years in energy efficiency program development and implementation with national recognition for several programs, and nearly seven years in my position at ISE, which has received numerous awards at the federal and regional levels for its environmental merit and program initiatives, including national EnergyStar Partner of the Year for

Excellence in Energy Education in 2004. I am also the Green Energy/Green Building committee co-chair of the B-Green 2020 initiative in Bridgeport.

ISE could provide services, such as researching and selecting the most appropriate nationally recognized certification standards and securing the rights as an affiliate member to utilize that certification for the range of positions needed for the Weatherization Assistance Program; developing the curriculum and regionally appropriate educational materials to support training and certification of participants; providing coordination of the educational service providers, including the community colleges, technical high schools, and outside training agents; coordinating regional training resources, schedules and sessions to meet the workforce requirements and timelines and developing and submitting timely reports on training program activity and progress. In addition, ISE could support regular meetings of a stakeholder council necessary to facilitate open communication between all participating agencies and organizations. As an administrative department within the Connecticut State University System, the cost of these services to DSS would be based on the recovery of staff salaries and benefits, transportation, supplies and overhead costs for time and materials dedicated to this project.

Thank you for the opportunity to speak with you today and to offer our services. We share the common goal to make this and all the ARRA initiatives a success for the citizens of our state and the economy of our country. I would be happy to answer any questions that you may have on this testimony or on Green collar Jobs.



William M. Leahy
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Preparing Connecticut's Workforce for Green Collar Jobs

"...a major shift to renewable energy and efficiency is expected to produce 2 million new Green jobs during the next decade."
US Conference of Mayors

"...a clean energy economy will help the private sector create 4 million new jobs." President Barack Obama

William Leahy, Director
Institute for Sustainable Energy
At
Eastern Connecticut State University
www.sustainenergy.org

Why we Need Green-Collar Jobs

Green-Collar Jobs provide opportunities and advantages:

- Creating new jobs or retraining the unemployed in a time of economic downturn.
- Providing opportunities for career advancement in the sustainability fields.
- Reducing our dependence on foreign oil, and strengthening national security.
- Promoting the use of domestic renewable energy resources and advanced technologies.
- Reducing the tax burdens of inefficient public buildings and public housing.
- Mitigating climate change by cutting green house gas emissions.

Where are Green Collar Job Opportunities:

- Weatherization (top priority)
- Building Energy Assessment
- Energy Efficient Building Construction
- Building Operations and Maintenance
- Buying and Selling Energy Related Products
- Project Engineering and Implementation
- Energy Transmission and Distribution
- Transportation Systems and Services

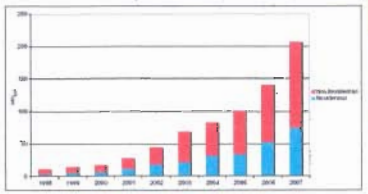
From: The Advanced Technology Environmental and Energy Center

Emerging Occupations

Green Job Opportunities

- Power Purchaser & Carbon Trader
- Renewable energy site assessor
- Geothermal assessment specialist
- Tradesmen and Supervisors for energy efficiency construction
- Renewable energy systems installer
- Building automation specialist
- CHP Installers and operators
- Ice storage Technician
- Biofuel Processing Technician
- Fuel Cell Technician
- Sustainability Coordinator
- Advanced Transportation Systems technician

Growth in Solar PV

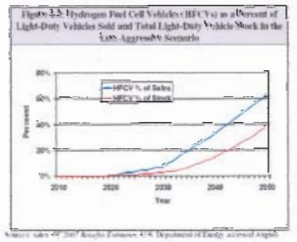


CONNECTICUT CLEAN ENERGY FUND

www.ctcleanenergy.com

Fuel Cell Technology

Connecticut is the Fuel Cell State

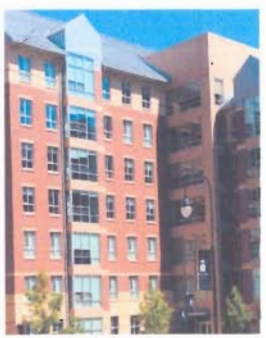


A UTC PAFC Stationary Fuel Cell Unit

Connecticut Hydrogen-Fuel Cell Coalition

LEED Building Standards

"Connecticut Standard"



South Residential Village

Science Building

Geothermal Heating/Cooling

High Rise Apartments at ECSU

1. Removed electric heat
2. Drilled three 800 foot wells
3. Utilize four heat pumps
4. Adds air conditioning
5. Saves 500,000 kWh annually

Steps for Career Tracking Jobs

1. **Introduction & General Awareness**
2. **Skill Development**
   1. **Classroom & Labs**
   2. **Apprenticeship**
3. Certificate
4. National Certification
5. Licensing
6. Career Credentials

National Credentials

- Building Performance Institute (BPI)
- Interstate Renewable Energy Council
- North American Board of Certified Energy Practitioners
- US Green Building Council

Weatherization Training can lead to Family-Supporting, Career Tracking, Sustainable Jobs

The Association of Energy Engineers

CERTIFICATION PROGRAMS

CEM – Certified Energy Manager
CMVP – Certified Measurement & Verification Professional
DGCP – Distributed Generation Certified Professional
CBCP – Certified Building Commissioning Professional
CGD – Certified GeoExchange Designer
GBE – Certified Green Building Engineer
CIAQP – Certified Indoor Air Quality Professional
CLEP – Certified Lighting Efficiency Professional
CPQ – Certified Power Quality Professional
CSDP – Certified Sustainable Development Professional
CRM – Certified Carbon Reduction Manager
CEA – Certified Energy Auditor

www.aeecenter.com

Strategy #1:
Connecticut has a Educational Continuum for "Green Collar" Workforce Development

Preparing for Green Collar Jobs

- *Tier 1 Research Opportunities*
  University of Connecticut, Yale
- *Business and Public Policy Applications*
  Connecticut State University System
- *Tomorrow's High-Tech Technicians*
  Community and Technical Colleges
- *Upgrade the Trades and Apprenticeships*
  Connecticut Technical High School System
- *Urban Revitalization and Small Business Development*
  Dept of Labor, CAP Agencies, DECD

Strategy #2:
Greening Can Differentiate Businesses

Being a Green organization or community means changing the way you purchase, develop, produce, and provide products and services so you have a positive impact on the environment.

Decision-making utilizes the Triple Bottom Line: Financial, Social Justice and the Environment.

- Attracts new clients
- Improves business image
- Become a recognized environmental leader
- Reduces risk of higher energy cost
- Enjoys lower operating cost
- Improves employee morale and health

From: Green Energy Council

Strategy #3:
Greening Can Revitalize of our Urban Areas

- Weatherization, energy efficient retrofits and energy management for existing buildings;
- Pedestrian and bike friendly, mass transit options, automotive retrofits for reduced emissions and use of alternative fuels;
- Community farming and markets, sustainable landscaping, urban forestry, waterfront restoration, and green roofs;
- Clean "Green" energy; renewable energy systems (solar photovoltaic, solar thermal, geothermal, small wind, landfill gas, anaerobic digesters), biofuel production, and cogeneration;
- Recycling; waste reduction, and single stream separation;
- Deconstruction; recycling of building construction waste, and reuse of building materials;
- Brownfield Remediation; Clean-up abandoned, idle or under used sites, restore value to tax rolls.

New York City Apollo Alliance

Institute for Sustainable Energy
at Eastern CT State University

The Institute's Mission is ***"...to be an objective energy and educational resource regarding the means for achieving a sustainable energy future for Connecticut."***

Established 2001

At Eastern Connecticut State University