

## Weatherization Assistance Program Overview

### Mission Statement

"To reduce energy costs for low-income families, particularly for the elderly, people with disabilities, and children, by improving the energy efficiency of their homes while ensuring their health and safety."

### History

The Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP) was created in 1976 to assist low-income families who lacked resources to invest in energy efficiency. WAP is operated in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Native American tribes, and U.S. Territories. Funds are used to improve the energy efficiency of low-income homes using the most advanced technologies and testing protocols available in the housing industry. The energy conservation resulting from the efforts of state and local agencies helps our country reduce its dependence on foreign oil and decrease the cost of energy for families in need while improving the health and safety of their homes.

WAP is governed by various federal regulations designed to help manage and account for the resources provided by DOE. WAP funding is derived from annual appropriations from Congress. Each year, the Senate and House Interior Appropriations committees decide how much funding to allocate to the Program.

### Weatherization Program Facts

Since the inception of the WAP, over 6.2 million homes have been weatherized with DOE funds. This year, an estimated 100,000 homes will be weatherized with DOE funds.

An average of 30.5 MBtu of energy per household is saved as a result of Weatherization. This equates to a 23% reduction in primary heating fuel use.

Low income families will save an average of \$350 in reduced first-year energy costs, at current prices.

Taken together, for every \$1 invested in the Program, Weatherization returns \$2.73 in energy and non-energy related benefits.

Weatherization creates 52 direct jobs and 23 indirect jobs for every \$1 million invested.

Weatherization measures reduce national energy demand by the equivalent of 18 million barrels of oil per year.

Weatherization saves an average of 32% in gas space heating. This comprises a total fuel consumption reduction of 23%. Net savings for each home weatherized average 30.5 MBtu/year.

Reducing energy demand decreases the environmental impacts of energy production. Weatherization mitigates approximately 1.61 metric tons of carbon dioxide per year in a home heated primarily with natural gas and even more for homes heated with fuel oil. Weatherization also reduces emissions of methane and nitrous oxide.

Weatherization creates non-energy benefits as well, including increased property value, reduced incidence of fire, reduced utility arrearages and bad debt, federal taxes generated from employment, income generated from indirect employment, avoided costs of unemployment benefits, and reduced pollution.

Additional benefits that are more difficult to quantify include improved health and safety conditions, increased comfort for occupants, a reduction in homelessness and mobility, and extended lifetime of affordable housing

**Status Update**  
**Revision of the Austin Energy Free Weatherization Program**  
**March 19, 2012**

**Background:** In late 2009 Austin Energy was awarded a Department of Energy (DOE) American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) grant through the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (TDHCA). The initial grant was for two (2) years in the amount of \$5.8 million dollars. The grant has received three (3) addition funding increases and now totals \$9.2 million dollars with an April 30, 2012 termination date.

One of the initial goals in accepting the ARRA funded grant was to use the grant as a starting point for the redevelopment of Austin Energy's existing weatherization program. The previous program design was as follows:

- A two tier income qualification table
- A \$150,000 maximum value allowed for home value
- An average expenditure of \$1,700 per unit
- Provision of weatherization services consisting of; attic insulation, solar screens, addressing air infiltration, minor duct repair and minor weatherization related repairs.
- Services were provided by there (3) vendors under contract with AE
- Delivery of services with an approximate funding level of \$800,000

**Currents status:** AE weatherization staff has developed the attached draft proposal for the redesign of the Austin Energy weatherization program. The proposal has been sent to potential stake holders of the program. Meetings regarding the draft are beings scheduled and held to obtain input and feedback from the various stake holder groups.

AE staff has already met with:

1. Low income interveners and housing advocates
2. DSMBR and AE minority business development
3. AE purchasing

Additional meetings will be scheduled with:

1. Current weatherization contractors
2. Current weatherization sub-contractors
3. addition low-income housing advocates
4. COA building inspections department
5. Related COA Committees (DSMBR WX sub committee, WX Committee, EUC, RMC
6. Others stakeholders identified during the meeting process

After input and feedback from all the meetings is gathered a final all stake holders meeting will be held to present a draft of the final proposal. The final draft will then be presented to the appropriate COA committees for review.

The current draft proposal contains the following:

- An income qualification level of 200% or less of the Federal Poverty income
- Elimination of the \$150,000 maximum value allowed for home value
- Two levels of average expenditure per unit; \$1,800 for non-HVAC and \$5,000 units with HVAC
- Two tiers of Weatherization contractors; Non-HVAC and HVAC included
- Two levels for provision of weatherization services; one consisting of; attic insulation, solar screens, addressing air infiltration, minor duct repair, minor weatherization related repairs and a second level including the same measures plus HVAC equipment.

**Proposed timeline for program revision:**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Objective</b>
<b>Oct 31, 2012</b>	<b>End of FY 2011-2012</b>
<b>Oct 15, 2012</b>	<b>WX Final Inspections completed</b>
<b>Oct 1, 2012</b>	<b>Last of WX work completed</b>
<b>Sept 21, 2012</b>	<b>Last of WX work assigned</b>
<b>September 1, 2012</b>	<b>All WX assessments assigned</b>
<b>August 30, 2012</b>	<b>Assign initial WX final inspections</b>
<b>August 15, 2012</b>	<b>Assign initial WX work files</b>
<b>August 1, 2012</b>	<b>Assign assessments for WX work</b>
<b>July 30-31, 2012</b>	<b>Conduct WX training sign WX contracts</b>
<b>July 15, 2012</b>	<b>Complete WX procurement efforts</b>
<b>June 2012</b>	<b>Conduct WX procurement</b>
<b>May 2012</b>	<b>Present to RMC/EUC/DSMBR-WX-sub-committee</b>
<b>April 2012</b>	<b>Complete Stakeholders meetings</b>
<b>March 2012</b>	<b>Begin Stakeholders meetings</b>

**Additional Issue:** The rate proposal currently under consideration includes potential funds for the delivery of weatherization services as part of the Customer Assistance Program (CAP). Currently discussions are underway between AE Customer Service Division (CSD) and Energy Efficiency Services (EES) to develop a combined plan to deliver weatherization services for the CSD’s CAP. Current customer data will be used to identify the CAP recipients with the greatest need based on energy consumption. These customers will be the initial recipients of weatherization services in an effort to reduce their energy burden.

The interface of a case management approach of client education with a technically driven weatherization approach will provide a maximized effort to addressing the needs of a low-income household in resolving current issues surrounding the household’s energy burden

**TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY AFFAIRS  
DOE ARRA Monthly Performance Report**

**PART I. Identification Data**

Contract: 16090000753  
 Contract Period: September 1, 2009 - April 30, 2012  
 Contractor: City of Austin - Austin Energy  
 Vendor ID: 17460000858  
 Report Date: February 1, 2012  
 Report Type: Monthly

**PART III : Number of Dwelling Units Receiving Weatherization**

		Month	Cumulative
A.	Number of Units in Progress	127	
B.	Number of Applications Pending	52	
C.	Number of Shelters Weatherized	0	0
D.	Average Size of Weatherized Units in a Shelter	0	0
E.	Number of NonShelter Dwelling Units Weatherized	24	1444
F.	Number of Shelter Equivalent Units Weatherized	0	0
Total number of units completed ( E. + F.)		24	1444

**PART III-B : Units Weatherized by Primary Heating Fuel**

		Month	Cumulative
A.	Natural Gas	17	920
B.	Electric	7	515
C.	Propane	0	9
D.	Wood	0	0
E.	Kerosene	0	0
F.	Heating Oil	0	0
G.	Other	0	0
		24	1444

**PART VI : Services**

**1. Dwelling Units Completed**

		Month	Cumulative
a.	Owner-Occupied	11	683
b.	Renter: Single Family	3	93
c.	Renter: Multi-Family	7	461
d.	Unoccupied Unit	1	154
e.	Over Income	0	38
f.	Shelters	0	0

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DOE ARRA Monthly Performance Report**

**PART VI : Services**

**1. Dwelling Units Completed (continued)**

		Month	Cumulative
g.	Mobile Homes: Owner Occupied	2	14
h.	Mobile Homes: Rental	0	1
<b>(Total of a. thru h.)</b>		<b>24</b>	<b>1444</b>
i.	Elderly	8	491
j.	Persons with Disabilities	5	420
k.	Native American	0	6
l.	Children (0 - 5 yrs)	6	263
m.	High Residential Energy User	13	799
n.	Household with a High Energy Burden	18	839

**PART VI : Services**

**2. People Assisted**

		Month	Cumulative
	Total People Assisted	49	1897
a.	Elderly	12	553
b.	Persons with Disabilities	6	485
c.	Native American	0	6
d.	Children (0 - 5 yrs)	12	352
e.	Children (3 - 5 yrs)	9	202
f.	Children (6 - 11 yrs)	10	340
		98	3835

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DOE ARRA Monthly Performance Report**

**PART VI-B : Units Weatherized Receiving**

		Month	Cumulative
A.	Wall / Floor Insulation	1	39
B.	Attic Insulation	13	947
C.	Replacement Heating Systems	13	841
D.	Replacement Cooling Systems	16	922
E.	Doors	6	51
F.	Windows (i.e. primary, piggyback, storm)	20	20
		69	2820

**PartVII Section A: Income Level**

		Month	Cumulative
1.	less than 2.0	6	228
2.	2.0 - 3.999	1	38
3.	4.0 - 5.999	1	37
4.	6.0 - 7.999	0	44
5.	8.0 - 9.999	0	72
6.	10.0 - 11.999	4	95
7.	12.0 - 14.999	1	141
8.	15.0 - +	10	594
9.	Unoccupied	1	155
10.	Over Income	0	40
		24	1444

**PartVII Section B: Poverty Level**

		Month	Cumulative
1.	0% to 50%	15	610
2.	50+ to 75%	4	357
3.	75+ to 100%	4	265
4.	100+ to 125%	0	6
5.	125+ to 150%	0	5
6.	Over 150%	0	8
7.	Unoccupied	1	155
8.	Over Income	0	38
		24	1444

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**PartVII Section C: Ethnicity**

		Month	Cumulative
1.	Anglo	4	358
2.	Black	7	425
3.	Hispanic	11	419
4.	Native American / Eskimo / Aluet	0	6
5.	Asian / Pacific Islander	1	14
6.	Other	0	28
7.	Unoccupied	1	155
8.	Over Income	0	39
		24	1444

**Part IX. Inventory**

		Month	Cumulative
Inventory Value on Hand		0	0
		0	0

**Part X. Reweatheringization**

		Month	Cumulative
1.	Persons Assisted	0	0
2.	Number of Units	0	0
		0	0

**Part XI. Poverty Level Range : Applicant Households**

		Month	Cumulative
1.	0% to 75%	19	967
2.	75+ to 100%	4	265
3.	100+ to 125%	0	26
4.	125+ to 200%	0	20
5.	Over 200%	0	11
6.	Data Unavailable	1	155
		24	1444

**TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY AFFAIRS  
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<b>PART XII Service Area 1. Work By County</b>		<b>Completed Units</b>		<b>Completed Shelters</b>	
		<b>Month</b>	<b>Cumulative</b>	<b>Month</b>	<b>Cumulative</b>
453	TRAVIS	24	1444	0	0
		24	1444	0	0

<b>PART XII Service Area 2. Work By City</b>		<b>Completed Units</b>		<b>Completed Shelters</b>	
		<b>Month</b>	<b>Cumulative</b>	<b>Month</b>	<b>Cumulative</b>
AUSTIN		24	1444	0	0
		24	1444	0	0

**APPROVAL**

Preparer Approval	Approved By zzdsaenz	Approved Date 03/05/2012 15:14 PM
Department Approval	Approved By	Approved Date