

In The Matter Of:
*DNREC - Department of Energy's
Weatherization Program*

*Docket 2019-WAR-CCE-0032
January 9, 2020*

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DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES & ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL
OF THE STATE OF DELAWARE

RE: Public Hearing Regarding)
Application for the Department of)
Energy's Weatherization Assistance)
Program 2020 Grant Funds Hearing)
Docket No.: 2019-WAP-CCE-0032)

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DNREC Richardson & Robbins Building
89 Kings Highway
Dover, Delaware 19901

Thursday, January 9, 2020
1:00 p.m.

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BEFORE: Theresa Newman, Hearing Officer

PRESENT FOR THE DIVISION:
Cheryl Gmuer, Program Manager
Delaware Weatherization Assistance Program

-- Transcript of Proceedings --

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EXHIBITS

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1 MS. NEWMAN: Good afternoon. We
2 are going to begin tonight's proceedings.

3 I want to thank everyone for
4 attending today's hearing. My name is
5 Theresa Newman, and Secretary Garvin has
6 appointed me to be the hearing officer in
7 today's proceedings.

8 The time is now 1 p.m. on
9 January 9, 2020.

10 This is the public hearing for the
11 Department of Natural Resources and
12 Environmental Control to provide a formal
13 platform for the 2020 Weatherization
14 application.

15 Before we begin, the Department's
16 opening statement. Please be advised of the
17 following rules as it applies to this
18 hearing:

19 Number one, please silence all
20 electronic devices.

21 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: (Phone
22 rings) My apologies.

23 MS. NEWMAN: That's okay. Number
24 two, there will be no Q and A permitted for



1 this proceeding. DNREC staff and I here to
2 facilitate comments from the public on the
3 application before us today and not to
4 participate in a Q and A session.

5 Number three, if you have brought
6 written comment with you, please provide
7 those to me after your verbal comments have
8 been made so that the same can be entered
9 into the record.

10 And number four, written comments
11 provided after this hearing will be accepted
12 until the record closes.

13 This hearing record will remain
14 open through the end of the business today,
15 and the record will formally close at 4:30
16 today.

17 This completes my initial remarks,
18 and I will now hand it over to the Department
19 for their opening statement.

20 MS. GMUER: Good morning. Thank
21 you, Hearing Officer Newman. My name is
22 Cheryl Gmuere. I serve as the program manager
23 for the Delaware Weatherization Assistance
24 Program.



1 This hearing is being held pursuant
2 to 10 CFR Section 440.14, which requires a
3 public hearing to be held on weatherization
4 grant applications prior to submission to the
5 U.S. Department of Energy, now referred to as
6 DOE.

7 We have one grant application
8 before us today for the Federal Fiscal Year
9 2020 for the Weatherization Assistance
10 Program.

11 The application is available at the
12 table outside the room and was posted to the
13 DNREC Weatherization website, posted on the
14 State Calendar, and was the subject of legal
15 notices in a newspaper of statewide
16 circulation published on Sunday, December 29,
17 2019, namely the News Journal and the
18 Delaware State News.

19 This application is a continuation
20 of the 2017 Weatherization Grant,
21 representing the fourth year of a three-year
22 term grant that has been extended by one year
23 as per the guidance in the DOE Memorandum 055
24 dated November 4, 2019.



1 It is required by DOE that I inform
2 you that President Trump signed into law the
3 budget for federal departments and programs
4 on December 16, 2019.

5 Next, the Department of Energy will
6 determine the state allocations of the
7 approved budget.

8 While the Department of Energy is
9 determining the state allocation, states have
10 been instructed to develop their State Plans
11 using the same funding level as the DOE 2019
12 Appropriated Funds outlined in WPN 19-2A.

13 The Delaware Weatherization
14 Assistance Program will make the required
15 adjustments to the State Plan when the
16 allocations are announced. The WPN 19-2A
17 used for the 2020 application allocation is
18 \$717,370, as you will see in the grant
19 application that is before us today.

20 In program year 2020, DNREC will be
21 seeking a Subgrantee to provide
22 weatherization services to Kent and Sussex
23 Counties by using a state-approved
24 procurement process.



1 The current Subgrantee providing
2 services in New Castle County, called the
3 Energy Coordinating Agency, will continue to
4 provide services in that county.

5 DNREC is proposing to use the same
6 rules and procedures currently in place in
7 the Weatherization Assistance Program to
8 deliver weatherization services to clients
9 between now and March 31, 2021.

10 That concludes my prepared
11 testimony here today. I do, however, wish to
12 enter here three exhibits as follows:

13 The News Journal Print Confirmation
14 of the Weatherization Assistance Program
15 Public Notice that was advertised on
16 December 29, 2019.

17 Number two: The Delaware State
18 News Print Confirmation of the Weatherization
19 Assistance Program Public Notice that was
20 advertised on December 29, 2019.

21 And third, a copy of the 2020
22 Weatherization Assistance Program grant
23 application.

24 I now will turn it back over to our



1 hearing officer, Theresa Newman.

2 MS. NEWMAN: Thank you. I have
3 here Exhibits Number 1 through 3, as provided
4 by the Department, and formally marked as
5 Department's Exhibits 1 through 3.

6 We have had one more person join us
7 today, and I don't believe I have your name
8 on the sign-in sheet. Would you like to
9 speak today or provide a comment?

10 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: No.

11 MS. NEWMAN: And were you able to
12 sign in in the back?

13 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I will sign
14 on the way out.

15 MS. NEWMAN: Thank you. I
16 appreciate that.

17 So per the sign-in sheet that was
18 provided to me, I do not have anybody who
19 would like to make a formal comment for the
20 record.

21 But I would like to note that at
22 the conclusion of this hearing, DNREC may
23 make revisions to the grant application, and
24 it will be formally submitted to DOE.



1 With that being said, there is no
2 comments that anyone would like to make. It
3 is now 1:06.

4 Oh, I'm sorry. Let me go back. I
5 apologize.

6 With no comments, you may submit
7 additional comments up until 4:30 p.m. today,
8 January 9, 2020, and at that time the record
9 will officially close.

10 So I want to thank you all for
11 coming out today. And please allow the
12 record to reflect it is now 1:06 p.m. and
13 that the public hearing is now adjourned.

14 (Concluded at 1:06 p.m.)

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CERTIFICATE

I, Lorena J. Hartnett, a Notary Public and Registered Professional Reporter, do hereby certify that the foregoing is an accurate and complete transcription of the proceeding held at the time and place stated herein, and that the said proceeding was recorded by me and then reduced to typewriting under my direction, and constitutes a true record of the testimony given by said witnesses.

I further certify that I am not a relative, employee, or attorney of any of the parties or a relative or employee of either counsel, and that I am in no way interested directly or indirectly in this action.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my seal of office on this 12th day of January 2020.



Lorena J. Hartnett
Registered Professional Reporter

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