

Appendix J: PSC Fall Update

The following email was originally sent by the Public Service Commission, and subsequently distributed by MEUW and WECA to each of their members.

From: Jolene Sheil, PSC
Sent: Wednesday, September 09, 2009
To: David Benforado; Share Brandt
Cc: Carol Stemrich, PSC; Jessica Kurtenbach; Martha Grasty; Greg Laubmeier, PSC
Subject: Fall 2009 Update

As we move into Fall of 2009, some are beginning to ask when the next official "opt in / opt out" notice will be announced to municipal utilities and electric cooperatives regarding participation in Focus on Energy for 2010.

There are several planning activities in process at both the Public Service Commission and the legislature that will affect the participation renewal timing. Following is the status of those activities:

- The Potential Study has been finalized. (The study, titled "Energy Efficiency and Renewable Resource Potential in Wisconsin" was prepared by the Energy Center of Wisconsin. A copy of the report and related press releases can be found at www.ecw.org/potentialstudy.)
- Phase I and II of the PSC's Quadrennial Planning process will be completed sometime in early or mid-November. (Quadrennial planning is required under Act 141 to evaluate energy efficiency and renewable programs and to set or revise goals, priorities and measurable targets for programs.)
- PSC staff are currently reviewing Commitment to Community Annual Reports for July 2007 - December 2008 that were filed April 30, 2009. A summary of the results of these programs' effectiveness in reducing customers' demand for electricity will be provided to the legislature.
- Soon after completion of the Quadrennial Planning, RFPs for the Focus program administrator(s) will be posted. This process, including a possible transition period, will not be completed until Spring of 2010 or possibly later. Timing of the re-bid may also be affected by potential Global Warming Task Force legislation. (For more info on the GWTF recommendations, visit <http://energytaskforce.wi.gov>.) Focus programs in early 2010 will be essentially the same as 2009. Changes to programs will be implemented when the new Program Administration contract(s) become effective.

Given all of this, the next opportunity for municipal electric utilities and rural electric cooperatives to make renewal decisions is after the new Program Administrator(s) are selected and we know what the programs are for the remainder of 2010. At that time, all municipal utilities and electric cooperatives will be contacted to make a participation decision. The length of that commitment period will also be announced during the renewal process. With all of the

above activities, we did not think it was an efficient use of time to ask utilities to make renewal decisions twice within a three-to-six month time period. If you have concerns about extending participation beyond 2009 until the new contract is in place, please contact Greg Laubmeier with the PSC at 608.266.5990 or greg.laubmeier@psc.state.wi.us

*Please note that or those utilities that are not currently participating in the statewide Focus on Energy Program *that would like to join at any time*, please contact Jessica Kurtenbach at WECC (jessicak@weccusa.org). The effective date of participation is flexible, and would continue until the formal renewal process in 2010, following the selection of the Program Administrator(s).

Thank you-

Jolene A. Sheil

Director, Focus on Energy

Public Service Commission of Wisconsin