

**Department of Energy and Environment**

**Clean and Affordable Energy Act of 2008**  
**and**  
**Renewable Energy Portfolio Standard Act of 2004**  
**Quarterly Report**

**January 1, 2017 – March 31, 2017**

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## **INTRODUCTION**

The Department of Energy and Environment's (DOEE) Clean and Affordable Energy Act and Renewable Energy Portfolio Standard Act Quarterly Report to the Council of the District of Columbia covers the period from January 1, 2017 – March 31, 2017.

This report: 1) describes significant program status; 2) provides timelines and milestones to track the progress and success of each program; 3) offers highlights of ward specific data; and 4) presents the status of administrative and programmatic expenditures.

## **BACKGROUND**

The Clean and Affordable Energy Act of 2008 (CAEA) effective October 22, 2008 (D.C. Law 17-250; D.C. Official Code § 8-1773.01 *et seq.*), established the Sustainable Energy Trust Fund (SETF) and the Energy Assistance Trust Fund (EATF), which are funded by assessments on the natural gas and electric companies. The SETF finances the District of Columbia Sustainable Energy Utility, and the EATF provides annual support for the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program.

Additionally, the Renewable Energy Portfolio Standard Act of 2004 (REPS) effective April 12, 2005 (D.C. Law 15-340; D.C. Official Code § 34-1431 *et seq.*), established the Renewable Energy Development Fund (REDF), which is funded by compliance fees paid by electricity suppliers under the District's Renewable Energy Portfolio for the purpose of funding eligible solar projects in the District.

Pursuant to sections 210(e) and 211(e) of the CAEA and section 8(f) of the REPS, DOEE is required to submit a quarterly report detailing EATF, SETF, and REDF expenditures and program performance.

## **Sustainable Energy Trust Fund**

The DCSEU submits quarterly reports to DOEE, and DOEE files these reports with the Council on behalf of the DCSEU. These reports include programs funded by the SETF. Both reports can be found on DOEE's website.

## **Energy Assistance Trust Fund**

### **Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program Background**

DOEE administers the Low Income Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP), which assists low-income households in the District, particularly those with the lowest incomes that pay a high proportion of household income for home energy, primarily in meeting their immediate home heating and cooling needs. LIHEAP benefits are provided for households using electric, natural gas, or home heating oil. DOEE provides energy assistance benefit payments to income qualified households by providing a direct credit, on behalf of the customer, to the respective utility company that provides service to the household.

LIHEAP is funded by three sources – US Department of Health and Human Services (US HHS), District General Funds, and the Energy Assistance Trust Fund (EATF), a special purpose revenue fund. DOEE applies for an annual formula grant from US HHS through a State Plan, which is submitted by September 1 each year.

Energy assistance benefits are determined through a benefit matrix that is approved by the US HHS. DOEE provides two types of benefits: Regular energy assistance benefits and emergency energy assistance benefits. The regular benefit is a one-time benefit the household may receive each year, and is calculated based on four factors: household size, total household income, heating source, and type of dwelling. Regular energy assistance benefits range from \$250 to \$1,500 and the average benefit payment per household is \$500-\$600. The emergency benefit is available to low-income District residents who have received a disconnection notice for electric or gas service, or are already disconnected. Households that are out of home heating oil are also eligible to receive an emergency benefit.

### **Program Accomplishments**

The total number of LIHEAP benefits given to District households this quarter from all funding sources, including EATF, was 5,025 (See Table 1).

**Table 1: LIHEAP Benefit Payments by Ward**

	Ward 1	Ward 2	Ward 3	Ward 4	Ward 5	Ward 6	Ward 7	Ward 8	Total
<b>Current Quarter</b>	380	51	13	379	777	423	1,166	1,836	<b>5,025</b>
<b>Cumulative Quarter</b>	1,187	171	49	1,049	2,623	1,331	3,569	4,872	<b>14,851</b>

**Table 2: LIHEAP Benefit Payments Quarter 2 Timeline and Milestones**

Milestone	Goal Date	Actual Date
<b>Quarter 2: January 1, 2017 – March 31, 2017</b>		
Serve additional eligible District households	March 2017	March 2017

**Next Quarter’s Projected Goals****Table 3: LIHEAP Benefit Payments Quarter 3 Timeline and Milestones**

Milestone	Goal Date	Actual Date
<b>Quarter 3: April 1, 2017 – June 30, 2017</b>		
Serve additional eligible District households	June 2017	

**Renewable Energy Development Fund**

On February 10, 2017, two Requests for Applications (RFA) were issued for the Solar for All DC Innovation and Expansion Grants: 1) Low-Income Single-Family Homes, Small Businesses and Owner-Occupied Nonprofits and 2) Multi-Family, Commercial and Institutional Buildings and Non-Residential Surface Spaces. These RFAs are part of the initial phase of the Solar for All implementation Plan. The purposes of these projects are to: expand solar energy in the District; provide the benefits of solar power to low-income District residents; and identify innovative solutions to overcome core barriers to installing more solar energy systems in the District. The deadline for application submissions was March 31, 2017.

On February 27, 2017, DOEE received applications in response to a Request for Applications that was issued for Solar Works DC, the District’s Solar Photovoltaic (PV) Systems Installation and Job Training Program. The purpose of this grant is to establish and operate a comprehensive year-round solar photovoltaic (PV) systems job training program for District residents, ages 18 and over. DOEE sought qualified applicants to: increase the District’s solar capacity by installing

solar photovoltaic systems on at least 60, and up to 100, low-income single family homes in the District; maximize the benefits related to the installation of the solar systems for low-income homeowners or renters; and create pathways to the middle class by preparing District residents for part- or full-time employment in the solar industry. DOEE awarded the grant to GRID Alternatives Mid-Atlantic, and the program is ongoing. Progress reports and program achievements will be provided in subsequent quarterly reports.

On March 10, 2017, a Request for Application (RFA) was issued for the Low Income Energy Efficiency and Conservation Programs. The purpose of these grants is to provide high quality, cost-effective weatherization and solar energy services to income-qualified households. These services are provided free of charge to all qualifying households. To deliver services, DOEE provides grants to grantees, which are responsible for performing weatherization. The deadline for application submissions was May 12, 2017.

Administrative funds from the REDF were used this quarter to support all these program development activities.