



Illinois Department of Commerce & Economic Opportunity

JB Pritzker, Governor

Percentage of Income Payment Plan (PIPP) Steering Committee Recording of Webex Meeting Held on April 15, 2021

Recording

Topic	Password
Special PAC & PIPP Steering Committee Webex Meetings-20210415 1853-2	No password

Attendance:

Jason Decker, ComEd; Melanie Brown, Ameren Illinois; Sarah Moskowitz, Citizens Utility Board (CUB); Barbara Eskildsen, Illinois Area Agency on Aging; Wanda Hopkins, South Austin Coalition; Joan Howard, Illinois Commerce Commission (ICC); Ellen Rendos, Nicor Gas; Dalitso Sulamoyo, Champaign County Regional Planning Commission; Terri Vaniter, Department of Human Services; Kris White, Will County Center for Community Concerns; Julie DeSalvo, MidAmerican Energy Company; Linda Rhodes, ComEd; Latoya Butler, CEDA; Lauren Pashayan, Office of the Illinois Attorney General; Abby Helms, Madison County Community Development; Jennifer Marten, Nicor Gas; Diana Fuller, IACAA; Tyrone Pickens, CEDA; Kimberly Roberts, CEDA; Granada Williams, CEDA; Allen Cherry, Low Income Utility Advocacy Project; Abigail Miner, Office of the Illinois Attorney General; Mindy Browning, ERBA; Manuel Alicea, CEDA; James Agnew, ICC; Martha Strawser, Rockford; Foluke Akanni, CUB; Ashley Miller, DuPage County; Eric Schrader, Peoples Gas; Shahi Nawab, CEDA; Larry Dawson, IACAA; Karen Lusson, National Consumer Law Center (NCLC); Barbara Richardson, Legal Aid Chicago; Aarian Smith, ComEd, Shelby Montgomery, CEDA; Deborah Burse, Ameren Illinois; Nichole Owens, ComEd; Brian Maruyama, Nicor Gas; Anthony White, Ameren; Michelle Machay, Peoples Gas; Kathy Walk, CEFS; Kimberly Bond, Ameren; David Wortman, Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO).

DCEO Staff: Deirdre Coughlin, Leslie Ann Lesko, Maria Gallardo, Ben Moore, Cassandra Vaughn, Evans Spencer, Kurt Verduin, Addrena King, Brigitte Hunter, Garrett Vaughn, Janet Hawes-Davis, Aaron DeWeese, Marie Mueller

Percentage of Income Payment Plan (PIPP) WebEx Meeting Transcript April 15, 2021

WEBVTT

267

david wortman 00:52:59.614 --> 00:53:12.913

Okay, so, uh, the recording has started, so we will move into the PIP steering committee meeting of Thursday, April 15th and we will do the call to.

268

david wortman 00:53:12.940 --> 00:53:21.275

And introductions, I think, uh, Maria, this probably doesn't start a new chat. Does it.

269

Maria Gallardo 00:53:24.005 --> 00:53:33.095

Know, how, whether we, we can afford the we ask folks earlier to.

270

Maria Gallardo 00:53:33.184 --> 00:53:33.364

They're.

271

david wortman 00:53:33.364 --> 00:53:34.204

Names.

272

Maria Gallardo 00:53:34.204 --> 00:53:50.134

So, those that have type their names, if you can please type it at this time, would greatly appreciate it. And we always copy the chat discussion as a follow up and attendance purposes. So we can divide those 2.

273

david wortman 00:53:51.034 --> 00:53:53.254

Yeah, very good. So, yeah, if you're on and you have.

274

david wortman 00:53:53.259 --> 00:54:13.414

Typed your name into the chat please do so and we will use that for the attendance of this Pip meeting. So that, I think takes care of the introductions. So we will move to the approval of the steering committee.

275

david wortman 00:54:13.654 --> 00:54:33.574

Meeting minutes so, Maria, why don't I, if I don't say this correctly, uh, jump in, but Maria sent out a document that has a link that you can click on to watch the last steering committee meeting and then also has attached transcripts to the meeting.

276

david wortman 00:54:33.579 --> 00:54:44.134

Invite that was the automatic transcript from that meeting. So those 2 are available to everyone. Is that correct?

277

Maria Gallardo 00:54:44.164 --> 00:54:48.664

Maria, that is correct. David. Yeah, we published the 2 of them. Yeah.

278

david wortman 00:54:49.324 --> 00:54:53.314

Okay, so, uh, approval, I guess we need to.

279

david wortman 00:54:54.065 --> 00:55:06.665

Even though they're not exactly minutes. I guess we still need to approve them. So, uh, I don't, um, I don't know the, uh, steering committee member, so.

280

Mindy Browning 00:55:06.935 --> 00:55:13.835

Would this is this is Mindy and quite honestly the transcript it kind of. It's it's funny, but.

281

Mindy Browning 00:55:13.899 --> 00:55:23.974

They didn't get all of the words, right? We've got alligators in there so you might want to read it just for the fun of it, but with it being the recording and we know it was there. I will make a motion that we approve the minutes.

282

david wortman 00:55:24.694 --> 00:55:28.354

Thank you Mandy can we get a 2nd.

283

Page | 3

Melanie Brown 00:55:38.344 --> 00:55:39.604

This is Melanie. 2nd.

284

david wortman 00:55:40.384 --> 00:55:55.654

Okay, so now that we have a motion in a 2nd, I will talk a little bit about it. On Monday. We did notice that we also noticed on the last time we did this. It actually it breaks it up by time. And when when the person was speaking, and it puts.

285

david wortman 00:55:55.660 --> 00:56:15.815

Their name, and this time it doesn't put their name. So it's a little difficult to you'd have to kind of read and follow to see who's talking. So, we're trying to make sure that this we're, we're working on this so that the name of the person is speaking will be above the what is said.

286

david wortman 00:56:16.234 --> 00:56:34.924

Uh, so we're still learning these things, but, uh, um, that's where we're at. So, given all that, I'll do the same thing, uh, if, uh, any member, uh, we, we have a motion to approve in a 2nd. So, anyone that's against that can say, nay, at this point.

287

david wortman 00:56:37.924 --> 00:56:48.634

So, hearing none, we will, uh, say that those the meeting minutes were accepted and move on to the discussion items. So the program update I think that's you Maria.

288

Maria Gallardo 00:56:52.415 --> 00:57:06.719

Sorry, I was trying to get my bought and actually we'll start off with the program update and they will move with myself with the program year. 22 program changes.

289

Maria Gallardo 00:57:08.915 --> 00:57:09.515

Leslie.

290

Leslie Ann Lesko 00:57:10.805 --> 00:57:28.730

Hi, yes. Hello. So I hope you can't hear the graph cutting guy outside the program update. So, a total of 30,257,568.

291

Leslie Ann Lesko 00:57:29.674 --> 00:57:49.045

Is obligated annually on behalf of 31,106 customers who are enrolled in Pip the average foot benefit is currently 972 dollars a year. And there's a breakdown that was included in the email.

292

Leslie Ann Lesko 00:57:49.354 --> 00:58:09.154

Uh, with the agenda, and you can see by agency how many total enrolled households they have last year, the average benefit was 917 dollars, and we were at that time obligated about 27.7.

293

Leslie Ann Lesko 00:58:09.334 --> 00:58:29.351

1Million on behalf of 30,216 customers and that was as of April 16th last year, as we discussed discussed previously ca, asked the, all the to accept new customers.

294

Leslie Ann Lesko 00:58:29.380 --> 00:58:41.846

July 27th, or at any time between July, 2008, and September 1st, and that would be per funding availability by utility and by county.

295

Leslie Ann Lesko 00:58:44.794 --> 00:59:03.550

County was the only 1 that started later they started accepting tip new customers on January 4th and that was due to their funding availability. New tip applications ended on March 31st this year. Instead of December 31st.

296

Leslie Ann Lesko 00:59:05.195 --> 00:59:24.005

And the agencies, the, they, they'll have time to process on to enrollment or denial, or live week. They have until April 2000 starts to finish any, any Pip applications that they took by on.

297

Leslie Ann Lesko 00:59:24.574 --> 00:59:37.132

March 31st, starting April 1st or after, and L. A. runs out of pit funding all applicants will be offered the traditional.

298

Leslie Ann Lesko 00:59:38.914 --> 00:59:58.654

Um, as you know, we have been serving and documented Illinois residents with state funds for both Y, heap and PIP. We deployed this change. And my net in December and stars did not, which is our Pip database that did not require any changes.

299

Leslie Ann Lesko 00:59:59.705 --> 01:00:18.815

So applicants who don't have a social security number, but are Illinois residency, they might have an individual taxpayer identification number and we can use that instead of a social security number. And then, if they don't have either an, or a social security number.

300

Leslie Ann Lesko 01:00:18.844 --> 01:00:37.681

That's not restricted then we can issue a special ID number. All the agencies in the state have access to a special numbering format that we created. And to date a total of 1446 households had been served in.

301

Leslie Ann Lesko 01:00:39.184 --> 01:00:43.804

And a total of 53 have been served through PIP.

302

Leslie Ann Lesko 01:00:45.819 --> 01:01:04.744

During the month of May, we usually start preparing the PIP recertification activities that are needed to start with the research in July. And at that time, we will provide agencies with procedures and new income guidelines. And other guy.

303

Leslie Ann Lesko 01:01:06.904 --> 01:01:25.894

Um, excuse me, need to run a recertification report and looks for customers who are in what's called ready for client status. And that helps them to know which ones need to be recertified. And then the last.

304

Leslie Ann Lesko 01:01:27.304 --> 01:01:46.294

Um, is working with our stars contractors, cast, consulting incorporated to offer a stars document, upload site, similar to the customer inquiry portal where customers will be able.

305

Leslie Ann Lesko 01:01:46.325 --> 01:01:49.145

To upload their own documents if they would like to.

306

Leslie Ann Lesko 01:01:51.339 --> 01:02:04.654

Those were all the dot points for program updates and if you have any questions, I think you can unmute yourself. Our I don't know if there's anything in the chat.

307

Maria Gallardo 01:02:07.714 --> 01:02:09.814

There is nothing on the chat right now.

308

Leslie Ann Lesko 01:02:13.714 --> 01:02:24.604

Okay, well you can always speak up later and ask your questions if something comes up. And then at this time, I will turn it over to Maria.

309

Maria Gallardo 01:02:27.005 --> 01:02:42.962

Thank you so much less than good afternoon. Everyone. So now we're going to be moving to the BI, 2022 big program changes before we start diving into.

310

Maria Gallardo 01:02:45.874 --> 01:03:05.494

To implement, and being the energy assistance at authorization. I like to take a little step back and either remind everyone on this group or if this is the 1st time that you are hearing, just to bring you up to speed. So.

311

Maria Gallardo 01:03:05.794 --> 01:03:25.570

Basically, the last year the a group called energy, affordability and discussion group was formed by the Congress commission in a stipulation back on June of 2020, as part of.

312

Maria Gallardo 01:03:26.405 --> 01:03:45.248

20 dash 0309 and the goal of forming this group was basically intended to take a deep, deep, deep dive into the energy assistance in Illinois. And Pete was part of.

313

Maria Gallardo 01:03:46.294 --> 01:04:01.894

So everyone on the group that has been part of those discussions, I think we, we spent around, like, 7 month of great discussion. A Saturday sold.

314

Maria Gallardo 01:04:04.205 --> 01:04:23.885

There were recommendations, made to the energy assistant act. So currently there are 3 meals the legislature that basically are proposing changes to the energy assistance. So, 2 of them are identical pretty much in their wording.

315

Maria Gallardo 01:04:25.594 --> 01:04:44.224

Feel that we have been aware of was, I think, submitted by the utilities through the climate, doing our jobs act or so, based on those changes to the energy assistant act, it's what we're going to be talking.

316

Page | 7

Maria Gallardo 01:04:45.214 --> 01:05:04.474

In terms of what is planning to implement our pain being the passing of the energy assistant and those changes basically or or or the department being authorized to make those changes. So we make a pause.

317

Maria Gallardo 01:05:04.925 --> 01:05:22.775

Because I know that there are a lot of people in these group that were part of that energy affordability discussion. Do you Lord utilities want to chime in at this time and talk a little bit more about the deals that are out there, or just provide some insights.

318

Maria Gallardo 01:05:30.994 --> 01:05:45.694

Okay, um, okay, I'm not hearing anything at this time. So let's move now to the based on these changes in the 3 deals. What.

319

Maria Gallardo 01:05:45.934 --> 01:06:05.842

Uh, basically explaining to implement in the passing of the changes in the energy assistant act. So the 1st, 1 is to serve peak costs, diverse with incomes, add on there and then 200% of the federal poverty level guidelines. So though, 1 of the changes in.

320

Maria Gallardo 01:06:05.914 --> 01:06:13.384

Energy assistant act that it has been proposals through the Beatles, is that basically to lining.

321

Maria Gallardo 01:06:14.254 --> 01:06:34.144

Income threshold to follow a, where basically we can set a little bit higher than 150% of the federal poverty level, or 60 of the state, median income. So, as, you know, last year we have been.

322

Maria Gallardo 01:06:34.300 --> 01:06:54.236

Serving customers, other than 200% of the poverty level guidelines. So, 80 salary content that also we won't be aligning the people customers to also utilize the income treshold ad or that or the 200% of the.

323

Maria Gallardo 01:06:54.694 --> 01:07:14.494

Poverty level, which is less than our 60% of the state need any. So that's 1 of the changes that we are planning to implement. Then the 2nd change is the maximum benefit basically 1 of the changes.

324

Maria Gallardo 01:07:15.425 --> 01:07:34.775

Appeals is that we have now some flexibility to determine the amount of the benefit through consultation with the pack, et cetera. So these tiny your plan to leave.

325

Maria Gallardo 01:07:34.779 --> 01:07:54.774

The maximum benefit at 1800 dollars per year. However, we are 1 of the changes. Is that the ratio between what goes to the primary be participating utility versus the secondary.

326

Maria Gallardo 01:07:55.025 --> 01:08:14.945

The protein utility will That'll change to 50% range to 50%. So, in other words, previously, up to 1800 dollars per year at the benefit level was basically divided with 5th of that amount was going to go to the gas.

327

Maria Gallardo 01:08:15.814 --> 01:08:34.632

And then once it was going to go to the secondary, which is the electric company, so now the change is to be 50, 50. so, as a result, the plan is that the 900 dollars of the up to 1800 dollars per year will go toward the gas.

328

Maria Gallardo 01:08:35.825 --> 01:08:54.904

And then up to 900 per year, we'll go to the secondary utility. No other change going kind of on these lines is the customer painting responsibility, which is the part that our customers pay on a monthly basis, stored their utility bill.

329

Maria Gallardo 01:08:55.624 --> 01:09:15.004

So previously also was this change also was following that to 3rd versus 4th rate of the benefit Rachel. So, in order to align it with the 50% to 50% of the benefit amount, we also want to align the.

330

Maria Gallardo 01:09:15.693 --> 01:09:23.341

Different payment of responsibility, so now out of the 6% 3% will go toward the primary.

331

Maria Gallardo 01:09:25.685 --> 01:09:31.256

Utility, and then the 50% of the CPR will also go to the utility.

332

Maria Gallardo 01:09:33.754 --> 01:09:53.584

Uh, a change that we are planning to implement is also increasing the percentage that the local agencies received to basically administer all these energy affordability discussions groups. The group.

Page | 9

333

Maria Gallardo 01:09:53.740 --> 01:10:09.065

Questions about it was very clear that we all agree that the local agencies spend way much more time taking the application, but also maintaining recertify.

334

Maria Gallardo 01:10:11.884 --> 01:10:31.174

High labor intensity program, so, as a result 1 of the changes on the fields that are out there also basically increase the admin change and with these, by the way just so, you know, the this year we are.

335

Maria Gallardo 01:10:31.325 --> 01:10:51.332

That is showing a state peak grant to the local agencies, which is going to be separately from the state grant, and the other clients that the agency has received. So we already have allocated a new big for program here. 22.

336

Maria Gallardo 01:10:51.454 --> 01:11:11.314

And then also have increase already the add new percentage to the local agencies, another change that and it will be the drop date. Now on these deals, it's changing the drop date from.

337

Maria Gallardo 01:11:11.499 --> 01:11:30.777

45 days to 75 days 1, I guess observation or or or part to share with the steering committee today, is that previously, even though the energy assistant act authorize us to drop.

338

Maria Gallardo 01:11:31.925 --> 01:11:51.305

Payment day 45 we had a grace period where eventually the customer was gonna be dropped from the program. They 60 so at this time because now has to be expanded to 75 days.

339

Maria Gallardo 01:11:51.904 --> 01:12:11.383

Anticipate having an extra race period above that 75 days, but we have been discussing too, because currently we are issuing 2 letters to the customers when they are facing payments prior to the final warning before they get dropped.

340

Maria Gallardo 01:12:12.484 --> 01:12:31.385

Discuss it internally to trigger a 3rd ladder. So then that's another reminder that the program will provide to these customers. Also, in terms of the changes that we are envisioning for per year, 22 as far as.

341

Maria Gallardo 01:12:32.195 --> 01:12:52.025

Goes it's also and I think they didn't talk about these earlier today. We're planning to increase the liking benefit matrix. So these pieces import them because we currently for those customers with the participating utility we offer the choice between.

342

Maria Gallardo 01:12:52.685 --> 01:13:12.155

And so, so starting July 1st, but we need to provide that new or updated, like, benefit matrix to the agency. So then those customers can make their informed decision. So, as I said earlier, all of these is part of the.

343

Maria Gallardo 01:13:12.904 --> 01:13:32.614

You know, proposed changes that are happening on the 3 deals right now. So, as we know, that's a process that in order for to implement these changes, we need to be authorized by the energy assistant act to implement those changes. So, at this time.

344

Maria Gallardo 01:13:32.735 --> 01:13:52.265

We are working with the customer consulting Inc to be ready to implement or to stars to support these changes. Just changes, depending upon the passing of the energy assistant act. So this time, and make.

345

Maria Gallardo 01:13:54.514 --> 01:13:58.144

And it's open the floor for questions certain confidence.

346

david wortman 01:13:58.654 --> 01:14:12.934

Yeah, Maria, let me hop in 1st so I just you said it a couple times I just want to let people know that just timing wise. These changes take us time to do. So we need to prepare for them and.

347

david wortman 01:14:12.964 --> 01:14:33.094

They happen, so, you know, the legislative session is supposed to end at the end of May, but it doesn't always and tip starts July 1. so it doesn't give us a lot of time to turn around. So, we recognize that all of these, or some of these, or none of these may end up being.

348

david wortman 01:14:33.635 --> 01:14:46.505

Uh, but we're preparing for them so that we can handle it and we're also looking at the alternative bill and so we want to be ready for whatever it comes, you know, whatever ends up being lost.

Page | 11

349

Maria Gallardo 01:14:49.084 --> 01:14:49.924

Thank you David.

350

karenlusson 01:14:52.625 --> 01:15:09.489

Uh, David Maria, this is Karen lesson. Are you similarly also preparing for the possibility that the service territory restriction could be lifted as proposed in the Kofi Bill Senate bill 265.

351

david wortman 01:15:09.935 --> 01:15:12.335

Yeah, because that that wouldn't actually.

352

david wortman 01:15:12.934 --> 01:15:27.424

I don't believe that would take any changes that would be more on, like, what been more does with the, the grants and the way that we allocate the money internally to our system. So that 1, we can handle whenever it comes.

353

karenlusson 01:15:28.084 --> 01:15:28.864

Okay, thank you.

354

david wortman 01:15:28.864 --> 01:15:29.224

To you.

355

Maria Gallardo 01:15:30.514 --> 01:15:32.344

Yeah, that's a good point. David.

356

Maria Gallardo 01:15:32.524 --> 01:15:52.174

Just to reiterate to the group, these change, there are more changes propose on all these 3 deals. So the, the goal for today was to bring to the group's attention for the changes that it will have any impact on the system and also the policy. So.

357

Maria Gallardo 01:15:52.865 --> 01:16:12.815

That I mentioned earlier is that also we will have to update our portion of the energy is assistance procedures manual. So that's another in terms of quality. So, that's another, I guess, document that we will have to update and maintain the grouping form.

Page | 12

358

Maria Gallardo 01:16:23.344 --> 01:16:25.864
Any other comments or questions at this time.

359

david wortman 01:16:28.084 --> 01:16:34.624
There is 1 in the chat. I don't I don't know how to answer that. But did you see that from.

360

Maria Gallardo 01:16:36.094 --> 01:16:37.864
They have seen these room bar.

361

Maria Gallardo 01:16:39.544 --> 01:16:58.174
She's bringing up that there are some like that both things has been running a little slower and if we're taking that into consideration so dark, can you, can you unmute yourself and better? Explain that? So, are you talking.

362

Maria Gallardo 01:16:58.955 --> 01:17:02.195
About our letters or.

363

Barbara Richardson 01:17:04.385 --> 01:17:23.675
No, I've had a few Pip, uh, customers who have said to me, like, they're mostly most of my cost my clients are on social security. So I've had a few to say that that they've been told that their bills were arriving late. But that when they got their social security check, they, you know, they would get them.

364

Barbara Richardson 01:17:24.459 --> 01:17:39.814
Whatever, and they mail it and I know personally I've had problems with the Postal Service delivering mail. So I was just saying, was that being considered for, for people receiving the arrears reduction, when they pay on time.

365

Maria Gallardo 01:17:44.315 --> 01:18:01.745
Yeah, that's a good point. I don't know how to best respond to that because so the, when when the customer doesn't pay their their.

366

Maria Gallardo 01:18:02.405 --> 01:18:22.405

I invite the due date then the, the utility on their side will apply that 112 Redox right up to a 1000 dollar 3 year. So that's something that the utilities they feel can chime in here. But the base, if the customer doesn't.

367

Maria Gallardo 01:18:22.444 --> 01:18:42.544

Make the pain in on time, then they get to little usually it triggers a communication via stars and then that will trigger our ladders to remind the customer that they need to make payments etc. So we're bringing a good point.

368

Maria Gallardo 01:18:43.084 --> 01:18:47.974

Um, that's what I'm saying, that I'm not, I'm not sure how to best, you know, address with the.

369

Maria Gallardo 01:18:49.024 --> 01:18:52.414

Uh, you know, I guess flow of of events.

370

Wanda 01:18:59.344 --> 01:19:13.522

I just wanted to be a little clearer new to the meeting when you say that the utility amount for the PIP change 50 50 does that mean up to 75 dollars per.

371

Wanda 01:19:14.705 --> 01:19:21.365

So, people's gas, which is costing more, would get less. Is that what we're saying?

372

Maria Gallardo 01:19:22.715 --> 01:19:34.765

So, basically, so, right now 5th of the maximum 1800 dollars that have been customer good received, and only, it's going.

373

Maria Gallardo 01:19:34.779 --> 01:19:54.934

Forward the gas utility, so these change there right now the on the big on these 3 deals you're right. Basically it's changing that ratio to now the gas utility will receive less of the total amount.

374

Maria Gallardo 01:19:55.414 --> 01:20:01.354

And then a little bit more will be going toward the electric side.

375

Wanda 01:20:02.404 --> 01:20:09.964

Page | 14

Yes, again, I'm, I'm new again, but can someone share with me? Some of the rationale for that.

376

david wortman 01:20:13.924 --> 01:20:32.374

Well, um, yeah, it was based on data it's been several months since I, since we presented this to the, the group. Um, I think, uh, the, uh, when it was talked about, uh.

377

david wortman 01:20:32.405 --> 01:20:52.331

I can remember peoples asking about what that would mean for their customers inside the Cook County. But, I mean, the idea would be that a customer would get 75 on each side, rather than the previous 150.

378

david wortman 01:20:52.624 --> 01:21:07.318

102 gas and 50 to electric so on an individual account with the concern me that your utility, your electric utility doesn't get to 75 in a month.

379

david wortman 01:21:10.894 --> 01:21:19.044

You would be getting the same amount. You would be getting 150 a month. It would just be instead of 150. it would be 75 and 75.

380

Wanda 01:21:20.134 --> 01:21:29.524

Yes, I'm aware of that. I'm just I'm just concerned of did anyone do a study of the amount of money that.

381

Wanda 01:21:29.795 --> 01:21:41.825

Is being charged by the utility company for gas versus conmed the bills I'm seeing. I'm direct. I'm seeing the client's 1st.

382

david wortman 01:21:41.825 --> 01:21:42.125

And.

383

Wanda 01:21:42.335 --> 01:21:46.445

Uh, huh. The bills from people's gas is definitely not the same as.

384

david wortman 01:21:47.915 --> 01:21:48.305

Right.

Page | 15

385

david wortman 01:21:50.074 --> 01:21:56.490

Right, but do you have households where the comment isn't hitting 75 does that happen often?

386

Wanda 01:21:59.074 --> 01:22:04.354

Well, those households are the 1 where it's secondary. Yes, but not for the ones who primary.

387

Mindy Browning 01:22:05.014 --> 01:22:05.374

Right.

388

david wortman 01:22:05.374 --> 01:22:12.955

Margaret, my question is, do the comment Bill's not. Do you have commented bills that aren't 75 a month?

389

Wanda 01:22:16.384 --> 01:22:18.394

Are you saying more or less? Which 1 I.

390

david wortman 01:22:18.394 --> 01:22:23.516

You going with LANCE that they're not getting 275 a month yeah.

391

Wanda 01:22:24.994 --> 01:22:35.362

I have some yes, I got I got about 100 right here in front of me, but that, that has more. I mean, it just depends.

392

Wanda 01:22:35.499 --> 01:22:46.876

I'm just saying directly, I can put my hand on right now. I should put my screen back up of a build. That's almost 2000 dollars for.

393

david wortman 01:22:46.894 --> 01:22:48.604

Yes, right.

394

david wortman 01:22:51.485 --> 01:22:59.549

As long as their comment, Bill is 75 dollars a month then the household is getting the same amount. They're getting 150 a month.

395

Wanda 01:23:00.845 --> 01:23:01.475

Okay.

396

david wortman 01:23:02.195 --> 01:23:10.745

Okay, so that's that's why, when we looked at this, the, the concept was that we didn't think it would hurt an individual household.

397

david wortman 01:23:10.779 --> 01:23:30.903

Because they would still be getting 150, but when you looked at it in aggregate, it enabled us to fund more applications because people's gas is running out of money and inside of Cook County. So we have to stop giving the benefit. So we were looking at.

398

david wortman 01:23:31.024 --> 01:23:43.764

The photo picture versus a household, and if their households are getting to 75 dollars with their comment and Bill, so their comment bill is 75 or higher than from the household perspective. It should be the same.

399

Mindy Browning 01:23:45.814 --> 01:23:51.094

Barbara, this is Mindy, and I was part of this group and comment was 1 of the.

400

Mindy Browning 01:23:51.100 --> 01:24:11.255

The reasons we did this, this went from what we're proposing takes it from being a heating assistance program to be in a year around program and we were seeing so much of the proportion of the household. We were short changing that electricity bill for the summer months. Especially.

401

Mindy Browning 01:24:11.260 --> 01:24:17.525

But this should be helpful to your electricians even if they're secondary.

402

Maria Gallardo 01:24:21.364 --> 01:24:34.294

This is Maria, I was going to say that to that. My recollection in terms of the rationale was that people or regionally or up this day was family life as a heating.

403

Maria Gallardo 01:24:34.414 --> 01:24:53.014

As well, as you said, it's based on an annual deal, and with these 50 to 50 ratio, it will make more affordable. The, the bills holistically that household.

404

Wanda 01:24:59.074 --> 01:25:14.614

So, what it looks like to me that we moved away from a heating program to what we just called the name for the printed percentage of income payment plan, which is, I guess, I don't know, I'm, I'm cross between a rock and a hard place.

405

Wanda 01:25:14.645 --> 01:25:16.775

For my, my clients, I don't know.

406

Mindy Browning 01:25:18.755 --> 01:25:34.745

Well, what our premise was, we felt like that with this particular program, the electricity was just as important as keeping them warm, keeping them cool in the summer with the electricity was just as big a proponent of this program.

407

Jason Decker 01:25:40.594 --> 01:25:59.974

This is Jason from comment that was that thinking like, he being designed as a, as a winter eating program Pip being that program all year around. That's tied to the percentage of income relative to the, the utility bill. So, just looking at the cost of service across the electric and gas looking at it throughout.

408

Jason Decker 01:26:00.004 --> 01:26:06.304

Year that better aligned proportionately in terms of what those costs were relative to income. If that makes sense.

409

Wanda 01:26:08.945 --> 01:26:09.485

Okay.

410

Barbara Richardson 01:26:15.514 --> 01:26:18.544

Well, the record that was 1, the Hopkins, not Bob.

411

david wortman 01:26:21.064 --> 01:26:33.004

Very good. That was good. Uh, it, it's good conversation to have. Thank you. Wanda. Maria, are you do you have more? You have any other comments.

412

grwilliams@cedaorg.net 01:26:35.945 --> 01:26:55.415

This is sod Grenada from SITA. I was just wondering, do you have a target date for when you believe the bill would pass? And it sounds like the expectation is that were passed before the program starts what the depth I mean, will you do a mid stream change or.

413

grwilliams@cedaorg.net 01:26:55.419 --> 01:27:02.164

Will stay consistent throughout the whole of the program here.

414

david wortman 01:27:04.144 --> 01:27:04.414

You know.

415

david wortman 01:27:04.419 --> 01:27:19.084

I haven't been around this legislative stuff long enough to know, Alan or Karen or someone else that's done this longer. How late could the bill? How could it go.

416

Allen Cherry 01:27:20.494 --> 01:27:24.454

Especially if it gets caught up as part of a package.

417

Allen Cherry 01:27:24.964 --> 01:27:28.654

I mean, we might not fit this done until the veto session, which is.

418

david wortman 01:27:29.224 --> 01:27:29.824

November.

419

Allen Cherry 01:27:29.824 --> 01:27:34.384

November, so anybody who wants to make projections about how the legislative.

420

david wortman 01:27:34.384 --> 01:27:34.984

Process.

421

Page | 19

Allen Cherry 01:27:36.034 --> 01:27:39.814

Work is free to make them and I'm free to ignore whatever you.

422

david wortman 01:27:39.814 --> 01:27:44.734

Say, yeah, so, you know, we talked about it dropped.

423

david wortman 01:27:44.765 --> 01:27:56.435

Dead date I don't know where we wouldn't we wouldn't be able to implemented if we were into a program year. I don't do we have 1, Maria Leslie and.

424

Maria Gallardo 01:27:56.975 --> 01:28:03.725

So so the thought, so that's an excellent question. Good address. So thank you for bringing that up.

425

Maria Gallardo 01:28:05.314 --> 01:28:25.054

So, we typically have been taking the approach that might ever change. We don't receive the authorization by align that we put on the stand. We basically implement the following career.

426

Maria Gallardo 01:28:25.714 --> 01:28:45.184

So, what are we talking internally that we feel that the energy affordability discussion group, and all the stakeholders have been working so hard for all these changes that we feel it's in the best interest of everyone to basically.

427

Maria Gallardo 01:28:46.384 --> 01:29:05.374

Be ready to implement these changes when, whenever we are authorized. So, going to 1 of the predictions, let's pick up for the sake. Think example alleys, Burt date the thought is that if we get authorize the November.

428

Maria Gallardo 01:29:05.705 --> 01:29:25.295

And we started reading and researching fine, but the costumers with basically our normal program outlined starting November, we will switch to the to these changes because we feel that isn't the best interest of everyone, particularly after spending.

429

Maria Gallardo 01:29:26.014 --> 01:29:45.484

All, you know, all this time, and I think we all agree that we want to these changes customers. So that that's the current thought. But I think that's a good point that if the big steering committee has members have any insight or.

430

Maria Gallardo 01:29:45.699 --> 01:30:05.464

Would like to chime in there please let us know, but that it's a caveat that it will require our off this as well as the agencies to adapt to that switch at that time. So that we will have to manage that process and train.

431

Maria Gallardo 01:30:06.034 --> 01:30:07.444

Agencies accordingly.

432

grwilliams@cedaorg.net 01:30:09.874 --> 01:30:16.324

Okay, thanks. I just wanted to get get a sense of that, uh, in terms of thought and preparation.

433

david wortman 01:30:18.004 --> 01:30:29.614

Yeah, it would be hard to, you know, if I'm just thinking about all the things that would have to change, we would have to do modifications on all the grants between Visio and all the agencies because of the admin change.

434

david wortman 01:30:29.620 --> 01:30:36.335

There would be there would be a lot of work if it's mid year. So let's hope that it's not mid year.

435

Maria Gallardo 01:30:39.275 --> 01:30:58.715

So, 1 other point, David for that, and the other agencies on this group. So we typically, in less than spoke about this earlier, we typically provide training to the agencies for the paper recertification in May. So, the time that.

436

Maria Gallardo 01:30:58.779 --> 01:31:16.409

We have right now it's may 24th, which basically that webinar, it's being, I would say, formally announce through a procedure letter that we issued to the agencies in preparation for the recertification. So.

437

Maria Gallardo 01:31:19.414 --> 01:31:38.734

Is to basically work with the 2 approaches and train the agencies accordingly and then we will have to keep them informed when if we're not ready by July 1st, then we will tell them. Okay, go ahead. And recertify the customers, you know.

438

Maria Gallardo 01:31:38.975 --> 01:31:48.785

The approach and whatever the changes pass through the energy assistance, then we will switch to the approach so to speak.

439

karenlusson 01:32:01.059 --> 01:32:20.944

David, this is, this is Karen lesson. Is there any thought or openness this year to putting more of the state lie heap funding into Pip as a result of the fact that we have those additional federal dollars?

440

karenlusson 01:32:21.219 --> 01:32:27.634

As a result of the new federal legislative acts that have taken place.

441

david wortman 01:32:28.864 --> 01:32:36.994

Yeah, let me see, Ben, are you, it's been on and can you speak to that? I, thank you.

442

Ben Moore 01:32:38.374 --> 01:32:40.774

That yeah, yes, David.

443

Ben Moore 01:32:41.380 --> 01:32:59.005

So, we did allocate typically, we've, in the past several years, we've allocated 40Million of the of the available state heap funds to the program this year. We did increase that to 50Million as far as what we allocated. So we have increased to.

444

david wortman 01:33:00.515 --> 01:33:01.025

And.

445

david wortman 01:33:01.539 --> 01:33:21.664

We'll have at the pack meeting the benefit matrix for lie heap. So, like I said, earlier on the app discussion, we don't want to find ourselves in this position a year from now. So, we're going to make efforts between raising the PIP and also increasing the benefit of matrix. We're going to.

446

Page | 22

david wortman 01:33:21.964 --> 01:33:41.854

Um, we're going to do the best that we can to get the money out the door next year. We're also we're currently working on an, for a state wide marketing as well. So we're gonna try to get it from both sides where we try to increase the demand, but also increase the benefit amounts.

447

karenlusson 01:33:45.394 --> 01:34:01.999

And 1 more question, David, is there an ability during the fiscal year to sort of adjust amounts and perhaps even add more above and beyond the 50Million if you find yourself in the situation that we're in now, where there is.

448

karenlusson 01:34:02.044 --> 01:34:18.274

Just significantly more Ly, heap dollars in in the pot versus Pip dollars. Is there an ability to kind of shift and allocate more dollars to Pip? If, if you see that that pattern developing again?

449

david wortman 01:34:20.675 --> 01:34:21.935

And I.

450

Ben Moore 01:34:21.935 --> 01:34:32.675

I don't know about, I mean, there is, it would it would require grant modifications, which we could do. Yes. I mean, it it, we have the capacity to do that.

451

david wortman 01:34:33.665 --> 01:34:40.535

I'll I'll just say, I, um, Karen with mid, mid year change.

452

david wortman 01:34:40.564 --> 01:35:00.694

Or why he, that really to be fair to all of the people who came in that year. We would need to go back and that's kind of what the supplemental is and why we're doing this supplemental. If we did a mid year, we would increase going forward. But instead we're.

453

david wortman 01:35:00.699 --> 01:35:15.154

Waiting till the end of the year, so we just do it once. So we handled an excess funding this year that way, but we're going to try next year to do adjustments so that we don't end up.

454

karenlusson 01:35:18.905 --> 01:35:19.325

Okay.

Page | 23

455

david wortman 01:35:25.444 --> 01:35:28.204

All right any other comments.

456

david wortman 01:35:31.654 --> 01:35:37.564

Maria, are we finished or do you have more? Um, let's see other business maybe.

457

Maria Gallardo 01:35:39.874 --> 01:35:58.954

So, that's it from from myself, unless there are any final thoughts or questions and yeah. Other basis. It's just always if you have any agenda items, please let us know ahead of time tell her we can include in the discussion for sure.

458

david wortman 01:36:01.655 --> 01:36:19.895

Okay, are put in, is there any way to help the customers who have arrears with the supplemental money? And I think the answer is, I don't think I don't think we can. The thing I will say is that the.

459

david wortman 01:36:19.924 --> 01:36:39.964

The average tip benefit is already quite a bit above the average, like, heat benefit and this is going to lie he customers. So the on average I know that individual households with very, but on average, even with the supplemental, the PIP customers are still.

460

david wortman 01:36:40.084 --> 01:36:46.354

And I have a larger benefit this year than the, uh, in the light heat clients.

461

david wortman 01:36:49.954 --> 01:36:56.194

So, um, where are we at and Maria are we.

462

david wortman 01:36:56.285 --> 01:36:57.215

Do we have, uh.

463

Maria Gallardo 01:36:57.845 --> 01:37:08.495

I think we're ready now, if there group has any other business or any, any females at the group would like to talk at this time.

464

david wortman 01:37:15.844 --> 01:37:35.614

Okay, well, uh, I think that's it then our next meeting is in July for the PIP subcommittee. Uh, so we've had a, uh, a good discussion here today but if there's no other, um.

465

david wortman 01:37:36.874 --> 01:37:41.584

Nothing else to discuss, I would request a motion to adjourn.

466

Mindy Browning 01:37:54.724 --> 01:37:59.794

Well, this is Mindy, I guess I'll make the motion to adjourn. Nobody's wanting to do anything about their today guys.

467

david wortman 01:38:00.274 --> 01:38:02.284

I would like to unmute someone and.

468

david wortman 01:38:04.414 --> 01:38:06.694

Call on, so we have a motion.

469

david wortman 01:38:11.674 --> 01:38:29.134

Okay, I think that was Kathy, so thank you, Mindy and Kathy. I'll do the same. Anyone wishes to say nay can do so in the next few seconds, and hearing none we will adjourn. You'll likely be getting some information about the.

470

david wortman 01:38:29.165 --> 01:38:42.065

In the next week, just to inform people, and we'll also have another meeting in 2 weeks where we can tell you how it's going. So thank you everyone for your time. And we'll talk to you in a couple of weeks.

471

Maria Gallardo 01:38:44.795 --> 01:38:45.305

Bye guys.

472

karenlusson 01:38:45.305 --> 01:38:46.355

Thank you thank you.