



OCC REACTS TO DEEP'S FINAL APPROVAL IN THREE-YEAR C&LM PLAN

As a member of the Energy Efficiency Board (“EEB”), the Office of Consumer Counsel (“OCC”) has played an active role in the development of the 2016-2018 Conservation and Load Management Plan (“Plan”).

The EEB evaluates, advises, and assists the state’s utility companies in the creation and implementation of comprehensive, cost-effective energy conservation plans. The EEB guides the distribution of the Connecticut Energy Efficiency Fund (“CEEF”) dollars, which support energy efficiency programs and initiatives. The CEEF is a product of a surcharge on customer electric and gas bills.

Connecticut’s utility companies act as program administrators of the CEEF, and file a plan with the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (“DEEP”) every few years. The 2016-2018 C&LM Plan was filed with DEEP on October 1st. DEEP issued its Draft Approval With Conditions on December 14th and its Final Approval With Conditions on December 31st.

The OCC is pleased with the addition of financial and operational audits to this new Plan, which will begin in 2016, but concerned with DEEP’s decision to cut both the EEB Consultants’ budget and the Evaluation Consultants’ budget. The EEB will have to revisit all consultant work plans and redesign the specifics of tasks and budgets. The OCC supports the increase in the Home Energy Solutions co-pay, but doesn’t agree with the timeline that DEEP has requested in its Approval.

OCC remains committed to its work on the EEB and looks forward to seeing what the next three years brings as the new Plan is implemented.