

organizations totaling up to \$20 million on February 27, 2003; (6) to eight organizations totaling nearly \$6.8 million on October 14, 2003; and (7) to four organizations totaling \$13 million on November 18, 2003.

On August 31, 2004, the Commission invited organizations to submit proposals to provide energy assistance to low-income households. By the September 24, 2004 deadline, proposals were received from ten organizations seeking a total of more than \$57 million. Those submitting proposals were the Community Self-Sufficiency Center, D.A. Home Improvements, Inc., Downriver Community Conference, the Family Independence Agency (FIA), Lighthouse Emergency Services, the Michigan Community Action Agency Association (MCAAA), Newaygo County Community Services (Newaygo County), the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, The Heat and Warmth Fund (THAW), and The Salvation Army.

The Commission expresses its appreciation to the applicants for providing thoughtful proposals. In awarding the grants, the Commission gave a preference to organizations with a proven record in distributing energy assistance to low-income residents, an existing administrative structure to handle additional distribution activities, and the ability to coordinate assistance with other service providers and serve multiple counties.

Based on its review of the applications, the Commission awards the following grants:

- Community Self-Sufficiency Center - \$50,000 for energy assistance to low-income households in the greater Detroit and Wayne County areas.
- Downriver Community Conference - \$50,000 for energy assistance to low-income households in the Monroe and southern Wayne County areas.
- FIA - \$10 million for the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program for low-income household to restore energy services already disconnected and to prevent threatened shutoffs of energy services.
- Lighthouse Emergency Services - \$100,000 to assist clients in the Pontiac and Oakland County areas who are ineligible for assistance from the FIA or for whom

such assistance is insufficient or would not be provided in time to avert an emergency.

- MCAAA - \$2.5 million for direct heating assistance and deliverable fuels programs for low-income households.
- Newaygo County - \$500,000 to assist clients in a ten county area ineligible for the State Emergency Relief Program or for whom such assistance is insufficient or would not be available in time to avert an emergency.
- THAW - \$3.4 million for the THAW Safety Net Program.
- Salvation Army - \$3.4 million to serve households statewide ineligible for assistance from FIA or for whom such assistance is insufficient or not available.

For those grantees receiving less than requested in their proposals, the proportion of funds for direct assistance to indirect costs and overhead will remain the same as in their original requests. The Commission directs the Commission Staff to complete the necessary grant agreement documents with the grantees. The Commission expects that, following approval by the appropriate agencies, the grant recipients will make these additional funds available to low-income customers as soon as possible.

The Commission FINDS that:

- a. Jurisdiction is pursuant to 1909 PA 106, as amended, MCL 460.551 et seq.; 1919 PA 419, as amended, MCL 460.51 et seq.; 1939 PA 3, as amended, MCL 460.1 et seq.; 1982 PA 304, as amended, MCL 460.6h et seq.; 1969 PA 306, as amended, MCL 24.201 et seq.; and the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, as amended, 1999 AC, R 460.17101 et seq.
- b. Grants from the LIEEF should be distributed as described above.

THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED that:

- A. The following grants for a total of up to \$20 million are approved:

- Community Self-Sufficiency Center - \$50,000 for energy assistance to low-income households in the greater Detroit and Wayne County areas.
- Downriver Community Conference - \$50,000 for energy assistance to low-income households in the Monroe and southern Wayne County areas.
- Family Independence Agency - \$10 million for the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program for low-income households to restore energy services already disconnected and to prevent threatened shutoffs of energy services.
- Lighthouse Emergency Services - \$100,000 to assist clients in the Pontiac and Oakland County areas who are ineligible for assistance from the Family Independence Agency or for whom such assistance is insufficient or would not be provided in time to avert an emergency.
- Michigan Community Action Agency Association - \$2.5 million for direct heating assistance and deliverable fuels programs for low-income households.
- Newaygo County Community Services - \$500,000 to assist clients in a ten county area ineligible for the State Emergency Relief Program or for whom such assistance is insufficient or would not be available in time to avert an emergency.
- The Heat and Warmth Fund - \$3.4 million for The Heat and Warmth Fund Safety Net Program.
- Salvation Army - \$3.4 million to serve households statewide ineligible for assistance from the Family Independence Agency or for whom such assistance is insufficient or not available.

B. The Commission Staff shall complete the necessary grant agreement documents with the grantees.

The Commission reserves jurisdiction and may issue further orders as necessary.

Any party desiring to appeal this order must do so in the appropriate court within 30 days
issuance and notice of this order, pursuant to MCL 462.26.

MICHIGAN PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

/s/ J. Peter Lark
Chair

(S E A L)

/s/ Robert B. Nelson
Commissioner

/s/ Laura Chappelle
Commissioner

By its action of October 14, 2004.

/s/ Mary Jo Kunkle
Its Executive Secretary

Any party desiring to appeal this order must do so in the appropriate court within 30 days after issuance and notice of this order, pursuant to MCL 462.26.

MICHIGAN PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Chair

Commissioner

Commissioner

By its action of October 14, 2004.

Its Executive Secretary

In the matter of, on the Commission's own motion,)
regarding administration and operation of the)
Low-Income and Energy Efficiency Fund.)
_____)

Case No. U-13129

Suggested Minute:

“Adopt and issue order dated October 14, 2004 approving low-income energy assistance grants from the Low-Income and Energy Efficiency Fund, as set forth in the order.”