

Bridge Period Efficiency Programs

Ensuring a Smooth Transition



The Bridge Period is NOT the time for new utility-administered low income and public sector programs.

- ▶ Both new Section 8-103B(I) (electric) and Section 8-104(o) (gas) call for the continuation of existing programs approved in the 2013 EE plan dockets.

Sec. 8-103B(I) states:

- ▶ (I)(1) The (electric) energy efficiency and demand-response plans of electric utilities serving more than 500,000 retail customers in the State that were approved by the Commission on or before the effective date of this amendatory Act of the 99th General Assembly for the period June 1, 2014 through May 31, 2017 ***shall continue to be in force and effect through December 31, 2017*** so that the energy efficiency programs set forth in those plans continue to be offered during the period June 1, 2017 through December 31, 2017.

Sec. 8-104(o) states:

- ▶ (Gas) Utilities' 3-year energy efficiency plans approved by the Commission on or before the effective date of this amendatory Act of the 99th General Assembly for the period June 1, 2014 through May 31, 2017 *shall continue to be in force and effect through December 31, 2017* so that the energy efficiency programs set forth in those plans continue to be offered during the period June 1, 2017 through December 31, 2017.

Calculating additional savings and budgets for this 7-month time period should be straightforward.

- ▶ The General Assembly calls for simple, proportional calculations of energy savings goals and budgets for the Bridge Period based on existing EE plans approved in the 2013 dockets.

Section 8-103B(I)

- ▶ Each such (electric) utility is authorized to increase, *on a pro rata basis*, the energy savings goals and budgets approved in its plan to reflect the additional 7 months of the plan's operation, provided that such increase shall also incorporate reductions to goals and budgets to reflect the proportion of the utility's load attributable to customers who are exempt from this Section under subsection (m) of this Section.

Section 8-104(o)

- ▶ Each (gas) utility is authorized to increase, *on a pro rata basis*, the energy savings goals and budgets approved in its plan to reflect the additional 7 months of the plan's operation.

Message to Utilities:

- ▶ Let's not reinvent the wheel and threaten disruption of EE programs for customers who already face financial challenges in participating in efficiency and were neglected for more than a year due to the state budget impasse.

Bridge Period Proposal

Default approach:

- Negotiate contract extensions with existing DCEO implementers;
- Retain existing programs;
- Calculate proportional energy savings and budgets for the 7-month Bridge Period;
- Discuss numbers with SAG stakeholders;
- File pleading (and supporting workpapers) with the ICC in April in each utility's 2013 EE Plan Approval docket, which are implicitly referenced in the statutory provisions highlighted above.

Questions?

