RE: revised text and CCAP

From: "Greenberg, Martha (CAB)" <"/o=govon/ou=exchange administrative group (fydibohf23spdlt)/cn=recipients/cn=greenberg, martha (cab)3ff">
To: "Chochla, Megan (CAB)" <megan.chochla2@ontario.ca>
Date: Tue, 28 Feb 2017 14:17:40 -0500

Minor change to yellow, does it read ok?

From: Chochla, Megan (CAB)
Sent: February-28-17 1:58 PM
To: Greenberg, Martha (CAB)
Subject: revised text and CCAP

Proposed edits on the CCAP connection – I've removed some program detail and added the new text in yellow.

New Affordability Fund

The existing Home Assistance Program provides eligible low-income customers with energy efficiency upgrades (such as new energy efficient appliances, energy-saving light bulbs (LEDs), power bars, and other energy efficiency measures) and education, at no cost, to help improve the energy efficiency and comfort of their homes. Program eligibility is aligned with other low-income support programs such as the OESP and the program is delivered by LDCs.

The low income household definition is derived from Statistics Canada's income measures. The most commonly used measure is the after tax Low Income Measure (LIM), which takes into account household size. Some electricity customers who struggle to pay their electricity bills do not meet the definition of a low-income household and therefore are not eligible for the Home Assistance Program.

The ministry is proposing to:

- Establish an Affordability Fund in 2016/17 that would help struggling customers who do not qualify for low income programs and cannot undertake energy efficiency measures without financial assistance. The Fund would be paid for by the government with a one-year fiscal impact of $200M in 2016/17. ~~The program would be offered through LDCs and would be capped at $200M. The Fund would be expected to cover between15,000 to 65,000 households, depending on energy efficiency measures and uptake over a one year period (as the intention is to address the immediate needs of customers who are struggling).~~
- Over time the Fund could help targeted customers based on standardized eligibility criteria and get back on track with their bills and also avoid disconnection costs by assisting them to lower their bills through energy conservation.
- The Fund would be targeted to customers on an as-needed basis (vs. widely marketed as an open-intake program).

~~Eligibility could involve a number of factors and metrics:~~

- ~~Do not meet the definition of "low-income";~~
- ~~May have triggered action by an LDC collection department (e.g., are in arrears, have been placed on one or more payment plans, are due to be disconnected, etc.);~~
- ~~Priority could be given to eligible customers in electrically-heated homes, or other unique~~

~~circumstances; and~~

- ~~Require financial assistance to pay for energy efficiency measures.~~

~~**Recipients could receive measures ranging from an average $3,000 to $5,000 per customer, at no or minimal cost. For example,**~~ Measures available in the Home Assistance Program could include:

- Energy-saving light bulbs (LEDs); power bars; energy efficient window ACs, refrigerators, freezers, dehumidifiers; low-flow showerheads, hot water blankets, pipe wrap and faucet aerators (in homes with electric water heating);
- Programmable thermostats, weather stripping, insulation (in homes with electric heating); and
- Cold climate air source heat pumps would also be an eligible measure under the Affordability Fund. Heat pumps range in cost from $7,000 to $13,000.

Energy and MOECC will work together to avoid consumer confusion with respect to the support this Fund will provide alongside the newly established agency, as committed through the C limate Change Action Plan, which will serve as a one-window for the delivery of climate change-related programs (e.g., energy management programs).

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