

STATE OF COLORADO

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

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Bill Ritter, Jr.
Governor

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EXECUTIVE ORDER

Directing the Colorado Commission on Low-Income Energy Assistance to Coordinate the State's Low-Income Energy Services

Pursuant to the authority vested in the Office of the Governor of the State of Colorado, I, Bill Ritter, Jr., Governor of the State of Colorado, hereby issue this Executive Order directing the Colorado Commission on Low-Income Energy Assistance to coordinate the state's low-income energy services.

1. Background and Purpose

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services is the recipient of funds under the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Act of 1981 (P.L. 97-35), hereafter referred to as the Low-Income Energy Assistance Program ("LEAP"). The Colorado Department of Human Services is the administrator of LEAP and receives state and federal funds to provide utility bill assistance and crisis intervention services. The Colorado Department of Human Services allocates up to 15% of the Federal LEAP Block Grant to the Governor's Energy Office, which in turn, is combined with other federal and state funds to provide weatherization services. Pursuant to C.R.S. § 40-8.7-103(4), Energy Outreach Colorado, also receives state funding to assist low-income energy consumers. The Colorado Commission on Low-Income Energy Assistance was established pursuant to C.R.S. § 40-8.5-103.5, and its membership includes representatives from LEAP, the Governor's Energy Office, and Energy Outreach Colorado. Based upon its membership and expertise, the Colorado Commission on Low-Income Energy Assistance is the appropriate body to coordinate the state's low-income energy services.

2. Mission, Scope, and Directives

I hereby designate the Colorado Commission on Low-Income Energy Assistance ("Commission") as the entity responsible for coordinating the state's low-income energy assistance services.

The administrators of the state's LEAP and weatherization services shall report to the Commission on a quarterly basis. At a minimum such reporting shall include: proposed policy or regulatory changes; information regarding funding and expenditures; and information

regarding service goals and measurable results. The Commission shall request comparable information from Energy Outreach Colorado concerning state-funded services.

The Governor's Energy Office, the Colorado Department of Human Services, and Energy Outreach Colorado shall provide to the Commission other data or information relevant to assessing the current status of Colorado's low-income energy consumers. The Commission is to engage other state departments, agencies, and any utilities that receive LEAP funds on behalf of their low-income customers in the sharing of pertinent data and information.

The Commission is to make recommendations to the Governor concerning opportunities to improve the state's overall response to low-income energy consumers, including, but not limited to:

- how best to target the state's low-income energy services resources toward the identified needs;
- how best to coordinate public and private energy assistance activities with the objective of minimizing the financial burden of energy costs for Colorado's most needy;
- how best to streamline administrative processes, such as outreach, intake, and eligibility determination;
- a process for annually reviewing anticipated needs, determining anticipated available resources, recommending an allocation of the available resources via the various service delivery channels; and
- proposals for changes in state statutes, rules, or policies pertinent to low-income energy consumers in Colorado.

3. Duration

This Executive Order shall remain in effect until modified or rescinded by the Governor.



GIVEN under my hand and
the Executive Seal of the
State of Colorado, this 24th
day of October, 2007.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Bill Ritter, Jr." followed by a large, stylized flourish.

Bill Ritter, Jr.
Governor