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RESOLUTION #14-02

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AZ CORP COMMISSION
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A RESOLUTION OF WESTERN ARIZONA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENT

2014 DEC 2 PM 4:24

IN SUPPORT OF THE ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION'S CURRENT ENERGY EFFICIENCY STANDARDS

WHEREAS, A bipartisan Corporation Commission unanimously adopted the Electric and Natural Gas Energy Efficiency Standards in 2010, requiring the state's monopoly electric and natural gas utility companies to work with consumers and make investments to save energy, reduce utility bills, and cut total energy costs; and

WHEREAS, the Standards were adopted to rein in costs, support local job creation, and prevent future spikes in utility bills; and

WHEREAS, the Standards have led to the creation and expansion of energy-saving programs that have served hundreds of thousands of Arizona residents and businesses;¹ and

WHEREAS, the Standards, if fully implemented, will save Arizonans billions on their utility bills and create more than 10,000 in-state jobs; and

WHEREAS, energy efficiency is the cheapest means of providing energy resources, a conclusion drawn by both the American Council for an Energy Efficient Economy² and Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory;³ and

WHEREAS, implementation of energy efficiency decreases air pollution, greenhouse gas emissions, and water usage; and

WHEREAS, weatherization services consist of cost-effective energy efficiency measures for existing residential and multifamily housing with low-income residents which encompass the building envelope, its heating and cooling systems, its electrical system, and electricity consuming appliances; and

WHEREAS weatherization is an energy efficiency measure funded by several utilities' Energy Efficiency Implementation budgets; and

WHEREAS, weatherization is the only energy efficiency program available to low-income residents; and

WHEREAS, Department of Energy Weatherization Assistance Program funding is leveraged with weatherization funding from utilities to maximize the savings delivered to weatherization clients; and

WHEREAS, weatherization funding from utility ratepayers is more than a third of all the available resources in the Weatherization Assistance Program Network;⁴ and

¹ Arizona Public Service, "APS DSM Program Overview," Presented at the 2013 ACEEE National Conference on Energy Efficiency as a Resource.

² <http://www.aceee.org/press/2014/03/new-report-finds-energy-efficiency-a>

³ <http://eetd.lbl.gov/news/article/57600/program-administrator-cost-of-s>

Arizona Corporation Commission

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Docket No. E-00000XX-13-0214

WHEREAS, low-income residents typically spend 20% of their income on utility bills, compared to the average residents spending 3% of their income; and

WHEREAS, weatherization saves an average family \$400 per year on utilities;⁵ and

WHEREAS, weatherization clients, in addition to saving energy, experience improved health and safety and more affordable housing as a result of receiving weatherization assistance;⁶ and

WHEREAS, families receiving weatherization assistance reported less difficulty paying energy bills, having more money to buy healthy food, and no longer had to choose between filling prescriptions and paying their utility bills;⁷ and

WHEREAS, on November 4, 2014, the Arizona Corporation Commission (ACC) staff filed a draft amendment to the state EERS that would have the effect of rescinding the mandatory Standards;⁸ and

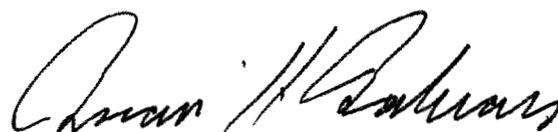
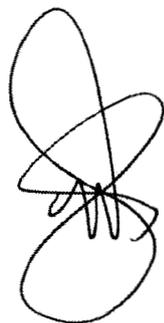
WHEREAS rescinding the Standards would result in regulated utilities no longer being required to cut energy waste, jeopardizing energy-saving programs; and

WHEREAS, reducing or eliminating the utility funding for weatherization would result in many low-income residents failing to receive the benefits of energy efficiency.

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved that:

1. WESTERN ARIZONA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENT supports the Energy Efficiency Standards approved in 2010; and
2. WESTERN ARIZONA COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENT opposes the proposed changes to the Energy Efficiency Standards.

Passed and adopted this 25th day of November, 2014



⁴ <http://www.opportunitystudies.org/2014/06/11/june-9-2014-newsletter/>

⁵ http://weatherization.ornl.gov/pdfs/ORNL_TM-2010-66.pdf

⁶ http://weatherization.ornl.gov/pdfs/ORNL_CON-484.pdf

⁷ http://www.iea.org/media/workshops/2013/energyproviders/Session1_4_Tonn_CanadaIEANEBs.pdf

⁸ http://energypolicy.asu.edu/wp-content/uploads/2014/11/Draft-Amendment-to-Change-EERS_FINAL.pdf