Ensuring Affordability and Energy Cost Savings for SJV DAC Pilot Residents



Bill Protections Workshop February 1. 2019 Presented by Pilot Team

AGENDA

- Current Energy Conditions
- Community Support
- Defining Affordability
- Discount Programs
- Rebound Effects
- Billing Issues
- Success Models
- Next Steps



Current Energy Conditions

- Propane prices and fees
- Home conditions
- Underutilization of propane to save money
- Cold winters
- Health risks
- Actual costs are unknown
- One of many issues that DAC's face



Community Support and Expectations

Concern for Cost Increases

- Large families
- Medical needs
- Mobile homes
- Poor insulation

Support for Bill Increase Protection

- The unknown costs
- Requires behavior change
- Peace of mind
- Increases pilot participation



What is Affordability?

- Cost of propane vs cost of natural gas
- Baseline for measuring savings
- Calculating years of overpaying
- Considering qualitative data



Home Energy Burden

- Poverty in SJV
- Home energy cost in SJV
- Income percentage
- Shelter and basic needs
- SJV cost compared to other areas of the state



Rebound Effect

Securing a Significant Discount

- Many unknowns
- Housing conditions
- Time to adapt to new energy source
- Time to learn how to conserve energy



Discount Programs

Existing programs should be in addition to bill protections!

- DAC GT
- CARE
- ESA

SJV DACs need additional discount specific to them to compensate for years of over paying for propane, health risks and environmental effects of wood burning



Appropriate Discount

- Appropriate discount is critical to success of pilot
 - Some of the highest energy bills in the state
 - Consider income, other costs associated with living in a DAC (water, sewer, gas, groceries, etc.)
- Pilot and data gathering allow us to learn what can be replicable
- Legislation requires a cost savings for residents



Billing Issues

Discount should be:

- Straightforward and clear
- Monthly
- Transparency

Examples

- CARE
- Climate Credit

Pilots, opportunity to:

- Try new things
- Learn what works for DACs



How to be successful in the SJV

NO checks NO gift cards Why not?

- Bank accounts
- Place to cash checks
- ID/documentation challenges
- Elderly mobility
- Language barrier

Should be:

- Simple
- Easy to use
- Easy to understand



SJV DAC residents have over paid, lived without basic utilities and health risks for too long. We must ensure they experience a true cost savings



Questions?

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