

MEDIA ADVISORY

LPSC TO DECIDE WHAT'S NEXT FOR PROGRAM THAT SAVES LOUISIANANS MONEY

Energy Efficiency Is Back Up For Discussion On May 19

May 19, 2025 – The future of energy efficiency in Louisiana is back on the table at the Louisiana Public Service Commissions upcoming meeting on Monday, May 19 at 10am in Lafayette, Louisiana.

What: Louisiana Public Service Commission Business & Executive Meeting
When: Monday, May 19, 2025 at 10am
Where: Lafayette Consolidated Government, 705 W. University Avenue, Lafayette, LA 70506
Livestream: tinyurl.com/lpscyoutube
Agenda: https://lpsc.louisiana.gov/docs/agenda/May%2019%202025%20B&E%20Agenda2.pdf

At their meeting last month the LPSC voted 3-2 to <u>terminate its contract with APTIM</u>, the independent contractor they had previously hired to run the new statewide energy efficiency program approved in January of 2024. After nearly an hour of discussion, it became clear there was extreme confusion among Commissioners themselves about what they were voting on. Now, there are a lot of options on the table for how to proceed.

The Alliance believes the best path forward is the one that saves residents and businesses the most money. **"When an independent expert runs the program, it's about outcomes, not profits—that means more savings, more oversight, and less waste for Louisiana residents,"** said Alaina DiLaura, AAE's LPSC Policy Coordinator.

APTIM was hired by the LPSC seven months ago, and awarded a ~\$24.5 million contract, to design and roll out the new statewide program, over the next 4 years. APTIM was scheduled to submit their implementation plan to the Commission on May 1 — before their contract was terminated. Which begs the question, why doesn't the LPSC want the public to see that report? How much money could we be saving? We want to see the report we paid for.

Under Louisiana's current energy efficiency program, known as Quick Start, if a utility company sells less energy because customers use less as a result of energy efficiency programs (thanks to appliance upgrades, insulation, weatherproofing, etc.), the utility is reimbursed for that "lost revenue"—a cost that is passed on to customers. The now scrapped statewide energy efficiency program would have ended this practice, saving customers approximately \$6 million per year.

"Right now utilities are double earning on energy they didn't sell. If Commissioners really want to save people money, eliminating these 'ghost charges' is a clear and easy way to do that," said DiLaura.

Currently Quick Start is set to continue through the end of 2025, after which the Commission will need to decide whether to renew it. We're calling on the Commission to make sure Louisiana ratepayers are getting what they paid for, which is an efficiency program that benefits everyone and could save Louisianans millions.

About The Alliance for Affordable Energy

Since 1985, The Alliance for Affordable Energy has been working to ensure affordable, equitable and environmentally responsible energy policy for ALL Louisiana energy consumers. As Louisiana's only dedicated Watchdog we monitor, educate, and participate in state and city utility regulation to ensure the public's best interests.

Contact

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