

REQUEST OF INTERESTED STAKEHOLDERS

To the Missouri Public Service Commission:

The undersigned coalition of advocates for low-income Missourians appreciates the hard work and dedication of the Commission and Staff displayed during the successful inaugural Energy Affordability Workshop held on June 2. The in-person presence of Commissioner Coleman and Chair Hahn bolstered conversations and held evident the importance of addressing the affordability crisis.

We appreciate the Commission's attention and care to our prior recommendations, and acting in our capacity as community advocates, wanted to bring a few more recommendations to the Commission's attention to help the upcoming workshop be as successful as possible:

- **Preparation Time:** Many Community Action Agencies and other agencies that have not historically been typical intervenors in cases may require additional time to familiarize themselves with concepts that are more pervasive throughout the world of utility regulation. To that end, it would be beneficial for workshop participants to receive questions and materials in advance to allow time for thoughtful preparation and better understanding of conversation topics.
- **Continuation of Workshops:** These workshops opened a venue for typically contrasting interests to set aside their differences for the open discussion of a better way forward for the customers and citizens we all serve. This coalition would appreciate the opportunity to create recurring future workshops, allowing us to navigate the rapidly deteriorating affordability landscape in a focused and forward-thinking manner. The varied nature of existing programs and inherent challenges presented by the current patchwork program coverage were evident, and will take time, creative collaboration, and iterative processes to ensure that recommendations are made and the resulting change to programming is fruitful.
- **Stakeholder Feedback Opportunities:** With these programs serving the public, it is vital to receive feedback from the public on proposed programs to help ensure that programmatic changes will be effective for the populations under the largest amount of duress, while ensuring that we are not causing harm to other ratepayers.

We look forward to continuing this discussion on June 30, and hope to see a more robust discussion on the current affordability crisis, best practices, and ways to streamline and improve access to programming. The continuation of these efforts are vital for the survival of our most vulnerable citizens, and we greatly appreciate the space to come together and have these forward-thinking conversations in a unified manner.

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| Ed Bryant, Consumers Council of Missouri | Tori Cheatham, Renew Missouri |
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| Jeremy Al-Haj, MO Workers Center | Kristian Blackmon, Tenants Transforming Greater STL |
| Gretchen Waddell Barwick, Missouri Sierra Club | |