

# DEPARTMENT POLICY & PROCEDURE

ENERGY EQUITY RATE PILOT			
DPP NUMBER	DPP 500 P III-429		
EFFECTIVE DATE	January 3 <sup>rd</sup> , 2020	SUPERSEDES New	
APPROVED BY	Dehra Smith		

# 1.0 **PURPOSE**

1.1 To establish rules for the Energy Equity Rate Pilot (EERP), which is a small-scale pilot program offered by the City Light Department ("Department") under authority conferred by Ordinance 125957. The pilot tests rate incentives and a suite of wraparound services to make electricity services more affordable for very low-income customers.

# 2.0 ENROLLMENT

- 2.1 Enrollment Criteria. To qualify for this program a customer must meet the following conditions: (1) reside in the City of Seattle, (2) be a primary City Light account holder for the past 12 months, (3) be enrolled in the Utility Discount Program (UDP) or be eligible for the UDP, (4) have a household annual income under \$50,000 for the most recent year available, (5) have an energy burden (ratio of electricity costs to income) greater than 10% (or more than 4% after receiving the UDP discount) using billing data for in the last 12 months of available data. The Department will limit this pilot to the first 300 eligible households that sign up for the program.
- 2.2 **Enrollment Process.** The Department will partner with Byrd Barr Place (BBP) to solicit, verify enrollment criteria and sign up eligible pilot participants. Income verification will be determined using the same income documentation as Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP). The Department and BBP will sign a data sharing agreement ensuring that BBP will follow all the Department's policies for privacy and use of the Department's customer data.
- 2.3 **Unenrollment.** Customers can unenroll from this program at any time for any reason. If either by customer notification or other means the Department discovers that the customer is not eligible, the Department will remove the customer from the Energy Equity Rate Pilot rate and return the customer to either the UDP or the standard residential rate.

#### 3.0 RATE INCENTIVES

3.1 **Rate Subsidy**. Pilot participants will receive a subsidy that covers 100% of their base service charge, as well as a portion of the per kWh charge such that their resulting effective rate is 3.3 cents per kWh. For illustration, the computed rate incentives for 2019 and 2020 given adopted rates listed in SMC 21.49 would be:

# 8.0 **REFERENCES**

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- 8.1 City of Seattle Ordinance #125957
- 8.2 Seattle Municipal Code 21.49.040, 21.49.042 and 21.49.085
- 8.3 RCW 74.38.070

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# **REVISION HISTORY**

DATE	CHANGES MADE	REVISED BY
12/20/19	This DPP was created to establish rules for the Energy Equity Rate Pilot (EERP). The pilot will be testing rate incentives and a suite of wraparound services to make electricity services more affordable for very low-income customers.	Author: Brian Hawksford, Carsten Croff Coordinator: Kim Kinney