



### Fact Sheet: Nevada Senate Bill 150

#### SB 150 Synopsis

- Finds that electric utilities should help their customers maximize the implementation of cost-effective energy efficiency measures;
- Directs the Public Utilities Commission (PUCN) to establish energy savings goals for the programs that NV Energy implements to help its customers save energy and money;
- Allows the PUCN to approve energy efficiency programs as long as they are part of an overall energy efficiency plan that is cost effective;
- Requires that at least 5% of total utility energy efficiency expenditures assist low-income households in saving energy, as long as the utility's overall energy efficiency plan is cost effective;
- Directs NV Energy and the PUCN to include non-energy benefits in energy efficiency program and plan benefit-cost analysis; and
- Allows the PUCN to adopt a rate adjustment mechanism so that utilities are not harmed financially due to energy efficiency improvements made by their customers.

#### Benefits

- SB 150 will result in NV energy implementing more comprehensive and more effective energy efficiency programs for its customers. The amount of energy savings achieved could increase by 50% or more.
- More customers will take advantage of NV Energy's energy efficiency program offerings, thereby increasing the equity of the programs.
- Low-income households will pay lower utility bills, freeing up money for other vitally important expenditures on food, health care, education, etc.
- Expanded energy efficiency programs means hundreds of millions of dollars of additional utility bill savings for households and businesses in Nevada over the next decade.
- Expanded energy efficiency programs means more jobs throughout the state producing, selling and installing energy efficiency measures.

- Expanded energy efficiency programs means less electricity generation in the state, which in turn reduces water consumption by power plants and cuts down on air pollution.

## **Background**

- NV Energy implements incentive programs to help its customers obtain more energy-efficient lighting, appliances, air conditioning equipment and the like. Over the past 10 years, these programs have helped households and businesses in Nevada save over \$400 million.
- Saving energy through utility energy efficiency programs costs less than supplying energy from new power plants; in fact, helping households and businesses save energy is the most cost-effective energy resource available to NV Energy.
- Saving energy also reduces water consumption and air pollution.
- Today, NV Energy's programs have significant gaps and are no longer as effective as they were seven or eight years ago. For example, NV Energy no longer implements programs providing incentives for home retrofits, energy-efficient light bulbs used in homes, weatherization of homes occupied by low-income families, or construction of energy-efficient new homes.
- Every three years NV Energy prepares energy efficiency program plans that the Public Utilities Commission of Nevada approves. These plans spell out the strategies, programs and budgets that NV Energy will implement to help its customers become more energy efficient and reduce their energy consumption.

For more information, contact:

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