

Board continues participation in CARE Program Income-qualified program provides free energy-efficiency improvements

The MPE Board of Directors approved the continued participation in Colorado's Affordable Residential Energy (CARE) Program, which provides free energy-efficiency improvements to income-qualified households.

Through MPE's investment from the Unclaimed Capital Credits Fund (UCC) in this Energy Outreach Colorado (EOC) initiative, 12 households across Grand and Jackson counties received the energy efficiency makeovers in 2024. Additionally, for each dollar that MPE invested in the 2024 program, CARE was able to unlock an additional \$4.39 in other funding. The MPE Board approved funding for 2025 from the UCC that will allow for an additional 12 households to benefit.

Eligible participants receive a home energy audit to identify needed upgrades, followed by installation of improvements. All of this is at no cost to the participants. Improvements can include insulation, efficient appliances, LED lights, low-flow shower heads, air sealing, and qualifying furnaces or water heaters.

There are five MPE members on the wait list going into 2025. CARE plans to do outreach to promote application submissions in MPE's service territory. The program is open for both homeowners and renters to apply. The income qualifications and a link to the CARE Application can be found online at www.energyoutreach. org/care. If renting, there is also a link to the landlord consent waiver. For questions about the program, contact memberrelations@mpei. com or the CARE program directly at apply@ energyoutreach.org.

Other Board Meeting Items

 Following the November Board Meeting in which a 2025 rate increase was approved, the Board approved changes to Tariff 202: Rate Schedules, to become effective Feb. 1, 2025. A recent cost-of-service study and proposed rate design was completed by industry experts at PSE. It provided insights on the needed adjustments to MPE's rate classes to properly achieve the needed 10.4% increase in revenues. This upcoming rate increase is only the second for MPE in 9 years. To help mitigate future anticipated rate increases, MPE spent the last 2 years exploring alternate power supply options. MPE has secured a 20-year power purchase agreement with Guzman Energy to follow its exit from Tri-State. The proposed tariff revisions are available for review online at www.mpei. com/rates-tariffs and at each business office of MPE – 321 West Agate Ave. in Granby and 600 3rd Street in Walden.

The Board Meeting Bulletin summarizes highlights from the recent MPE Board Meeting. MPE Board Meetings are open to the public, and agendas, minutes, and more information can be found at www.mpei.com/board-meetings or by contacting memberrelations@mpei.com.