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FY21 Safe Appliance Installation Rebate Program

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this program is to ensure the safe installation of propane appliances.

II. AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS

This program is funded through assessments paid by propane dealers. At the beginning of each fiscal year, the Council determines a budget allocation it deems sufficient to carry out the goals of the program. The program for FY20 is limited to the budget of \$400,000. Water heater and furnace rebates are \$400 each. The program is also offering a bonus appliance rebate of \$100 for a stove/cooktop, fireplace, generator, or clothes dryer. The bonus appliance **MUST** be used in conjunction with at least one water heater or furnace, a solo \$100 appliance will not qualify. **All appliances must be purchased on or after July 1, 2020.** An applicant is allowed up to \$1,000 for any combination of water heater, furnace, or bonus appliances. Unanticipated demand may cause the program to be discontinued or suspended at any time. Participating dealers should call MO-PERC to determine adequacy of funding prior to implementing a widespread customer outreach. A rebate reservation number must be acquired from MO-PERC before submitting any application. Securing a reservation number assures the dealer that there is funding to honor the request. If funds become unavailable during a program year, MO-PERC may elect to carry over applications until the next program year.

III. ELIGIBILITY

A. Dealers: Only Missouri propane dealers are eligible to participate. The program is designed only for propane dealers and is not available to the public except through dealers. The dealer is responsible for documenting that an eligible installation has been performed, that all appliances (installed and/or replaced) have been correctly identified, and that a safety inspection has been completed. Dealers must submit the completed application to MO-PERC for consideration.

An eligible dealer is one who:

1. has been issued a current Missouri LP Gas registration number by the Missouri Propane Gas Commission;
2. operates or manages a retail business, including any branch, outlet or outlets, delivering odorized propane to consumers;
3. has completed and submitted a Dealer Participation Form approved by the Council for participation;
4. is a regular supplier or potential regular supplier of propane to an applicant.

B. Consumers: Consumers may only receive a rebate through a participating dealer. The customer must agree to the regulations and conditions stated on the application form, including allowing an inspection of the installation, agreeing not to modify or move the installation for the prescribed period and making the installation available for marketing or advertising purposes.

IV. ELIGIBLE INSTALLATIONS

Appliances that replace existing propane appliances are not eligible for this program.

Water heater: The current program authorizes a \$400 rebate for water heaters for new construction, replacing natural gas, or replacing electric units. Installations performed on motor vehicles, travel trailers, mobile homes or manufactured homes that are not in permanent residential or commercial use in this state are not eligible for rebates under this program. The installation must take place on real property owned by the applicant and located in this state or within the trade territory normally served by the eligible dealer and occurs within the effective dates of this program.

Eligible water heaters are defined as: a propane-fueled water heater, either a storage-type rated at not less than 30 gallons water capacity or an instantaneous-type rated at not less than 50,000 Btu/hour input; in compliance with the Energy Policy and Conservation Act; approved and listed by the American Gas Association's GAMA

“Consumer Directory of Certified Efficiency Ratings for Residential Heating and Water Heating Equipment.”
Propane pool heaters are eligible under this program.

Furnace: The current program authorizes a \$400 rebate for furnaces for new construction or replacing existing natural gas, electric, wood, or oil furnaces.

Eligible furnaces are defined as: Appliances designed as the central or main heating for an occupied structure. Propane furnaces used as backups for heat pumps or heat pumps DO NOT qualify. Space heaters, barn heaters, and tube heaters will also NOT qualify. Installations performed on motor vehicles, travel trailers, mobile homes or manufactured homes that are not in permanent residential or commercial use in this state are not eligible for rebates under this program. The installation must take place on real property owned by the applicant and located in this state or within the trade territory normally served by the eligible dealer and occurs within the effective dates of this program. A furnace must be at least 45,000 BTUs to qualify for the rebate.

- C. **Limits:** No more than one rebate shall be paid for each eligible installation. However, an applicant may apply for a rebate for any number of eligible installations (as long as the rebate is available). Each rebate will be issued a separate reservation number. MO-PERC may limit the total number of rebates that may be paid to an applicant.
- E. **Compliance:** MO-PERC approves each application individually. Missing data or factual errors may delay or disqualify the application. Here are criteria for rejecting applications:
1. **Rebate reservation numbers now required:** In order to ensure an orderly program, MO-PERC now requires that a rebate reservation number be acquired before submitting any application. Failure to obtain number will disqualify the application. Rebates received without a reservation numbers will be returned to the dealer.
 2. **Rebates must be mailed in within 60 days of acquiring reservation number.** If rebate is not received within 60 days of the date the reservation number was acquired, the reservation will be cancelled.
 3. **Incomplete application (signatures missing, copies not attached, etc.).** Dealer will be contacted to submit information, which must be received within the original 60-day deadline. Failure to submit within this time period will disqualify application and return funding to the pool.
 4. **False or misleading information.** An applicant or propane dealer may be suspended from, or declared ineligible to participate in, the rebate program if the Council adjudges that the applicant or dealer has submitted false information or otherwise violated program rules. Within 30 days after the Council suspends or declares a participant ineligible, the applicant or propane dealer may appeal the action by submitting the appeal in writing to the Council. Actions taken by the Council with respect to such appeals will be final.
- F. **Application:** Rebates must be submitted on forms agreed upon by the Council for this purpose. Applications will be considered on a first-come, first-served basis according to receipt dates of complete and correct applications. Applications must contain original signatures; rebate forms and attached documentation may be mailed or hand-delivered to MO-PERC.
- G. **Payment:** MO-PERC may approve rebate payments to an applicant subject to availability of funds. Applicants have no legal right or other entitlement to receive rebates under this program, and receipt of a complete and correct application does not bind MO-PERC to approve payment of a rebate to any applicant. MO-PERC will process rebate applications promptly and send rebate checks to corresponding dealers at the end of each month.
- MO-PERC may authorize payment of a rebate to a propane dealer only by assignment from a consumer. Rebate amounts assigned will be those in effect at the time an application is approved. A propane dealer or applicant who submits false information pertinent to the assignment of a rebate is subject to criminal and civil penalties.
- H. **Verification:** A safety inspection, conducted by or on behalf of the participating dealer, must be conducted prior to submission of any rebate application. An appropriate safety inspection consists of an on-site inspection, including any necessary pressure tests, of an operating eligible installation by a propane dealer or a propane dealer’s designated agent, for the purpose of verifying that the LP-gas system, including all equipment, is or was installed in compliance with Missouri Propane Gas Commission safety rules and is in safe operating condition.
- I. **Agreement.** By submitting a rebate application, the dealer acknowledges agreement with all guidelines and requirements and is bound by the terms of the program therein.