



A NiSource Company

Incorporating Equity and Social Considerations into Energy Provider-delivered EE Programs and Policies

PEPDEE North American Regional Policy Dialogue

April 19, 2012

Overview of Columbia Gas of Ohio (COH)

- Subsidiary of NiSource, Inc.
- Investor-owned, natural gas utility
- Publicly-regulated by the PUCO
- Largest natural gas local distribution company (LDC) in Ohio
 - 61 of 88 counties
 - 1.4MM customers
 - 19,000 miles of distribution main
- Began energy efficiency initiatives in 1983





The Problem(s)

Poverty – 2006-2010, 14.2%

- Gap between income and ability to pay bills
- Defining Low-Income: 100%-200% FPG?; 80% HUD AMI?

LI Housing Stock

- Age and Type of construction, deferred maintenance, health, safety and building durability issues
 - Walkaways

Energy Price Volatility

Energy Markets, Energy Security

Ohio Weather

- Heating dominated climate, but also some cooling load
- Appropriate cost effective measures for housing stock

Housing Stock

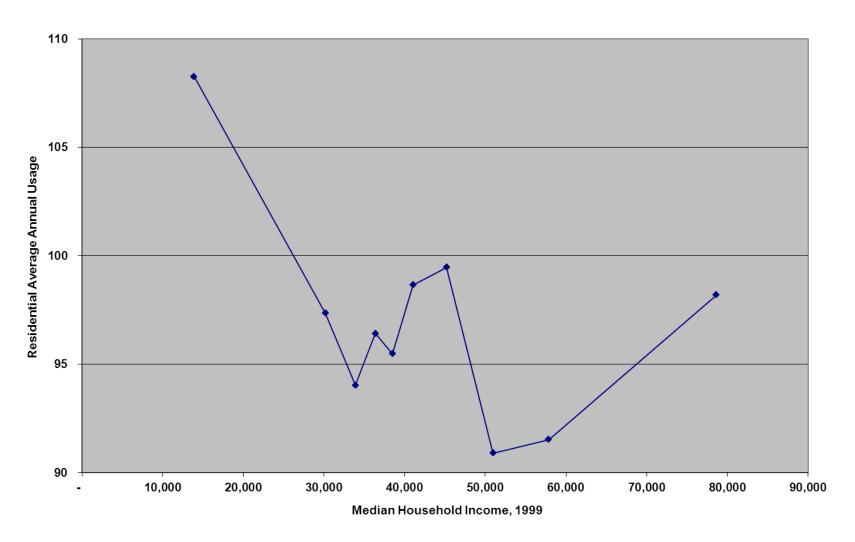
Large share of pre-energy code homes

Columbia Gas of Ohio: Residential Customer Buildings estimated count by construction type & vintage (Source: 2000 Census, mapped to service territory, gas heat only)

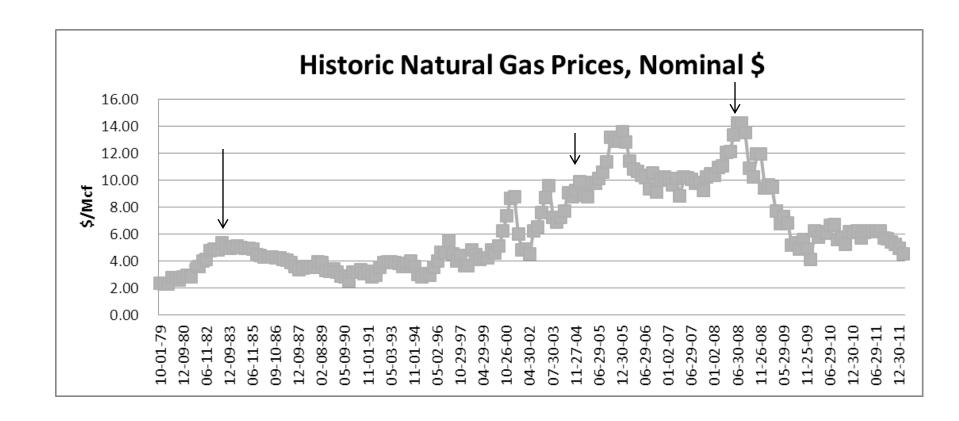
	Single	Mobile	Multifamily	Multifamily	
Year Built	Family	Home	2-4 units	5+ units	Total
1999-Mar 2000	18,970	1,226	421	239	20,856
1995-1998	66,433	6,002	1,861	896	75,192
1990-1994	61,680	6,130	1,413	910	70,133
1980s	76,718	10,623	3,272	1,645	92,258
1970s	110,372	14,590	6,012	2,726	133,700
1960s	165,230	5,571	6,376	1,756	178,933
1950s	214,890	1,204	7,555	948	224,597
1940s	108,716	387	6,484	528	116,115
pre1940	278,193	1,238	20,570	1,107	301,108
Total	1,101,202	46,971	53,964	10,755	1,212,892

Low-income Customer Gas Usage – The Need for LI Wx.

Household Income By Decile and Annual Average Natural Gas Usage

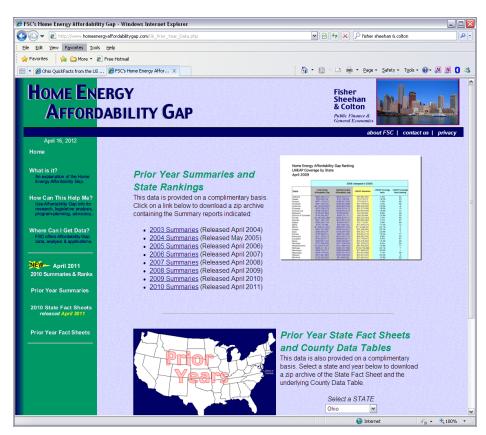


Price Increases that Impacted LI Wx Funding at COH

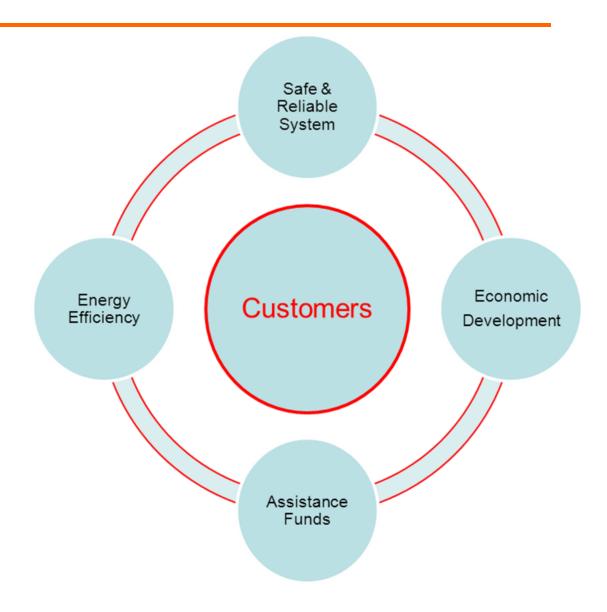


Income vs. Energy Bills

- 2010 in Ohio the LIHEAP allocation covered 46.9% of the Heating/Cooling Affordability Gap
 - \$250MM Gap after LIHEAP
 - http://www.homeenergyaffordabilitygap.com/



Protecting Our Most Important Asset



Program Resources

Program	Federal	LDC	
Energy (Bill) Assistance	Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)	HeatSharePipeline RefundsOther Negotiated Amts.	
DSM/Energy Efficiency	USDOE Weatherization Assistance Program for Low-income Persons (WAP)	Low Income Weatherization (WarmChoice)Home Performance	
Payment Programs	n/a	Percentage of Income Payment Program (PIPP)	
Low-Income Customer Rates	n/a	n/a	

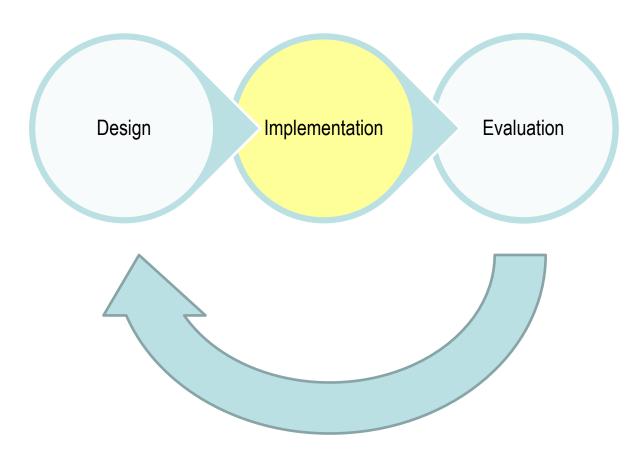
Columbia Gas of Ohio Ratepayer Historical Funding

Program	Program Costs	Cost/Year, Ave.
Low-Income DSM/Energy Efficiency (WarmChoice and predecessors, 1983- 2011)	• \$124MM	• \$4.9MM (current funding \$12MM)
Percentage of Income Payment Plan (PIPP, 1985 - 2011)	• \$681MM	• \$26.2MM





Continuous Program Development Cycle







COH, CBOs jointly designed the program

Integrated what we learned together from WAP

- Formal program policies and procedures
- Robust technical Standards for Energy Conservation Measure (ECM) inspection, installation and post-inspection
- Diagnostic inspections and work orders for installers
- Building science and Installation practices that result in performance; risk mitigation; do no harm
- Competency-based Training (Ohio Weatherization Training Center)
- Continuous, multi-level Quality Assurance
- Electronic data tracking and reporting; Metrics
- Impact Evaluation (billing analysis based, PRISM)





Key components

- Flexibility, continuous improvement approach
- Management and Operations fees as % of total funding
- Fee for service for ECMs, etc. (price schedule)
- Income Verification, Referrals from and to WAP
- Cost share (encouraged) or stand alone services allowed
- Furnace replacements to help keep WAP H&S costs down
- Diagnostic testing: Required combustion analysis, blower door testing
 - IR thermography added over time
- COH internal QA staff
- Targeting (weather normalized usage); customer lists
- Service Providers/CBOs with different Implementation Models





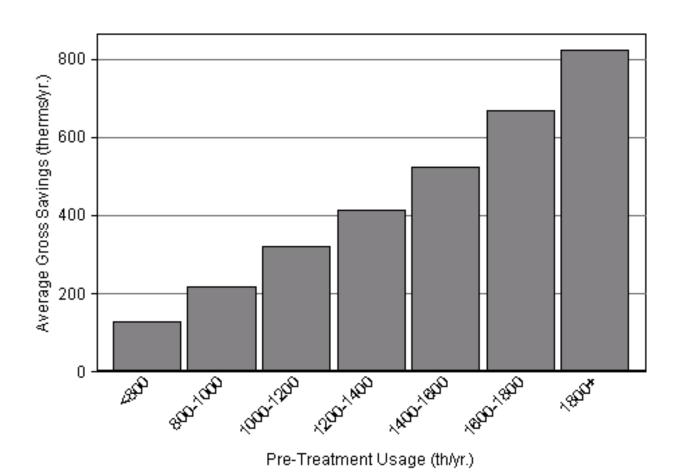
Energy Conservation Measure (ECM) Savings

EE Improvement	Savings Potential, ccf/yr	Savings Potential, other	Typical, Average Evaluation Results, ccf/yr
Attic Insulation	65-150	.1 ccf/yr/ft2	56
Wall Insulation	190	.2 ccf/yr/ft2	100
Air Sealing	50-100	7 ccf/yr/100CFM50 reduction	56
High Efficiency Heating System	100-180	12%-20% of heating load	90
Programmable Thermostat	50		30
EE Showerhead	13		10

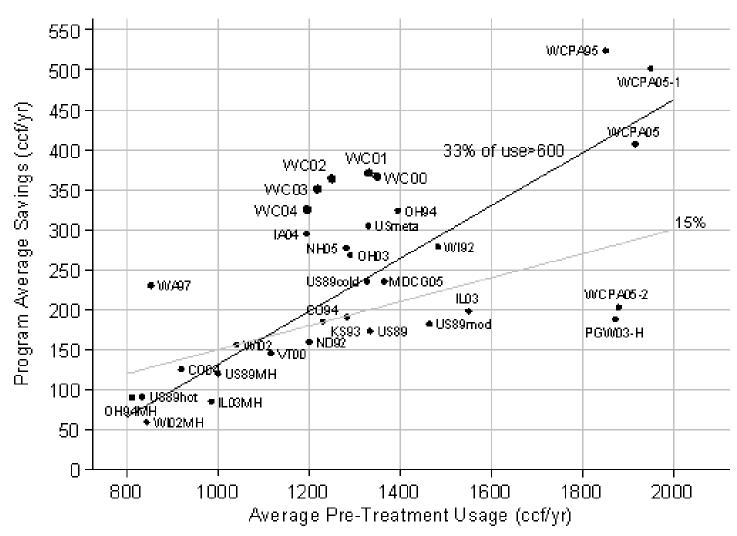
Note: other measures include duct sealing in unconditioned spaces, water heater, duct and pipe insulation, heating system and water heater repairs, general repairs to protect Wx measures, floor insulation over unconditioned spaces

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Targeting on Pre-Wx. Normalized Annual Consumption



LI Wx. Program Billing Analysis-based Impact Evaluation Results

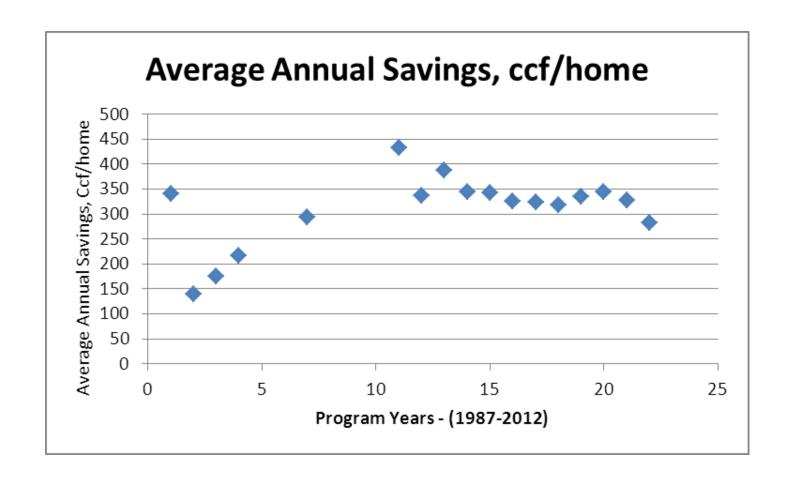


Courtesy Michael Blasnik

WarmChoice®







WarmChoice Columbia Gas of Ohio A Nisource Company

Key Results and Takeaways

- Partnering with the Federal Weatherization Assistance Program was important
- Cost Share opportunities with other EE and Housing program resources
- ~57,000 LI households served via WarmChoice; about 70% cost shared with WAP
- Average natural gas usage reductions of 26-29%; ~320 Ccf/year
- Long life of major energy efficiency measures means long term savings
 - 24,546,515 Mcf over 25 year life of WarmChoice
- Quality Assurance inspections improved/maintained work quality; Callbacks
- Program Design, Evaluation, and Policies and Procedures need to be data driven, peer-reviewed
- Capacity building is time consuming, must be planned, controlled growth
- Weatherization is not performed by unskilled labor
- Developed a Home Performance program that serves above income customers, subsidizes Wx. cost for incomes up to 80%AMI

More Key Results

LI Customer Benefits

- Lower bills
- PIPP arrearage growth control
- Comfort, Health and Safety
- One Stop Shop for Federal and Utility EE Services

Utility Company Benefits

- PIPP arrearage growth control
- Professional partnerships and business relationships with Key Stakeholders, CBOs
- Customer Satisfaction
- Recovery of Program Costs
- Customer Retention
- Community Relations and Corporate Citizenship
- Dow Jones Sustainability Index

Key Barriers, Challenges

Federal Budget

- Reduced funding for energy and weatherization assistance for LI customers
- Loss of Service Provider Delivery Network Capacity (Human Resources)

Lower Natural Gas prices

- Program Cost Effectiveness challenges
- Reduced interest in Energy Efficiency by customers?

Repairs prior to Wx.

- Need outstrips home repair program funds
- Adding to Total Resource Cost test negatively impacts cost effectiveness

Cost Tests/Program match

 In federal programs, can count as leverage to get extra funds; in TRC just adds to total cost and lowers cost-effectiveness

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