

GRANT ANNOUNCEMENT
Utility Consumer Participation Fund (UCRF)
2015 Grants

PURPOSE AND ELIGIBILITY: Michigan Public Act 304 of 1982, as amended (Act 304) provides for the establishment and implementation of gas and power supply cost recovery clauses in the rates and rate schedules of public utilities. The Utility Consumer Participation Board (UCPB) and the Utility Consumer Representation Fund (UCRF) were further created by the Act to achieve equitable representation of interests of energy utility customers in energy cost recovery proceedings. The purpose of the UCPB is to make grants from the Act 304 Utility Consumer Representation Fund (UCRF) to qualified nonprofit organizations and local units of government in the State of Michigan to represent the interests of residential utility customers in energy cost recovery and reconciliation proceedings before the Michigan Public Service Commission, other state and federal agencies, and the courts.

FUNDING: Approximately \$900,000 (subject to the State of Michigan appropriation process) is anticipated to be available for grants for the fiscal year beginning 10/01/2014. Grant applications from eligible nonprofit organizations and local units of government are being sought by the Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs (LARA) on behalf of the Utility Consumer Participation Board (UCPB). Successful applicants will propose strategies to be pursued by qualified legal representatives experienced with utility regulation and Act 304 proceedings.

REVIEW: Applications submitted for 2015 UCRF grant funds will begin to be reviewed at the UCPB Board meeting scheduled Monday, August 25, 2014. Thereafter, grant applications will continue to be received and reviewed subject to availability of funds.

DEADLINE: The deadline for submission of 2015 UCRF grant application(s) for consideration at the August 25, 2014 meeting is **Monday, July 28, 2014, 4:00 p.m.**

SUBMISSION: Eight (8) copies of the complete grant application must be submitted on or before the deadline:

- (1) electronically via email to bennetr1@michigan.gov. If submitted electronically to meet the deadline, one (1) original with signed attestation letter and seven (7) additional paper copies must also be mailed or delivered by the next business day to the address below.
- (2) via mail, courier or hand delivery to the address below.

APPLICATION: The 2015 UCRF Grant Application is available for download from the website, www.michigan.gov/lara (select "Agencies & Commissions" then "Utility Consumer Participation Board"). To receive a copy by mail, please contact Robin Bennett per the contact information below. Mail requests for the application must be submitted no later than 12:00 noon on Monday, July 14, 2014.

GRANT APPLICATION SUBMISSION ADDRESS

Attn: Robin C. Bennett
Finance and Administrative Services
Michigan Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs
Mail: P.O. Box 30004
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QUESTIONS: For questions or further information on the UCPB, UCRF or the grant process, contact Michelle Wilsey, UCPB Board Assistant at wilseym@casair.net or 517.282.8609.