



EAAC Definitions Subcommittee Road Map

https://www.michigan.gov/mpsc/0,9535,7-395-93307_93312_93320_94834-558075--,00.html

DEVELOP A PROPOSAL FOR AN ENERGY AFFORDABILITY STANDARD

Include energy security/self-sufficiency concepts.



RESOURCES TO INFORM OUR WORK

SHARED, DISCOVERED, SHARED

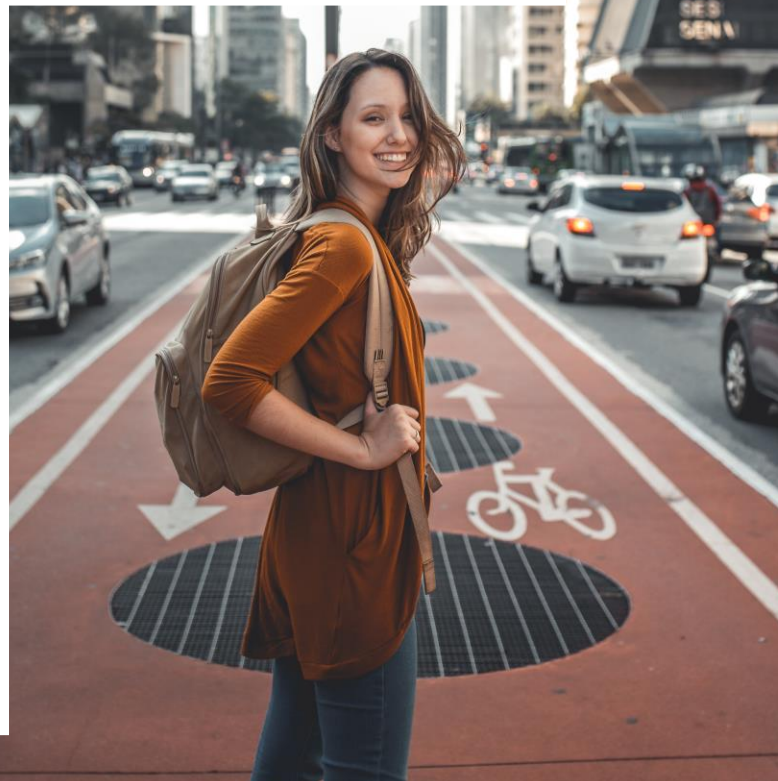


SELF - SUFFICIENCY

Getting to a Definition of Self-sufficiency
Presented by Kristin Bolds on 06/14/21

Self-sufficiency:

“Household’s basic needs are
being met while minimizing
reliance on public assistance.”



KICK OFF MEETING

TODAY

1. To what definition are we trying to arrive? Self-sufficiency? Energy security? Energy affordability?
2. Should we refine it as home energy security or affordability (as opposed to municipal, national, etc.)?

Goal: to discuss, hear each other, and work toward consensus.





PIT STOP

Let's take a poll.

Do we have consensus?

Evaluating our Decisions



Revised Definition

- Self-sufficiency/energy security/energy affordability is: “A household’s basic needs (for energy security/ home energy/home energy security) are being met while minimizing reliance on public assistance.”




Reflection

Will this definition, as refined, help us to develop an energy affordability standard and measure success?

MEETING 2

Next Time

1. Further define **basic needs** as it relates to an energy affordability standard.
Should we or should we not include any or all the following uses of energy in a definition?
 - Cooking
 - Heating
 - Lighting
 - Communications
 - Cooling
 - Other productive uses
 - None of the above



Goal: to discuss, hear each other, and work toward consensus.



MEETING 2

CONTINUED

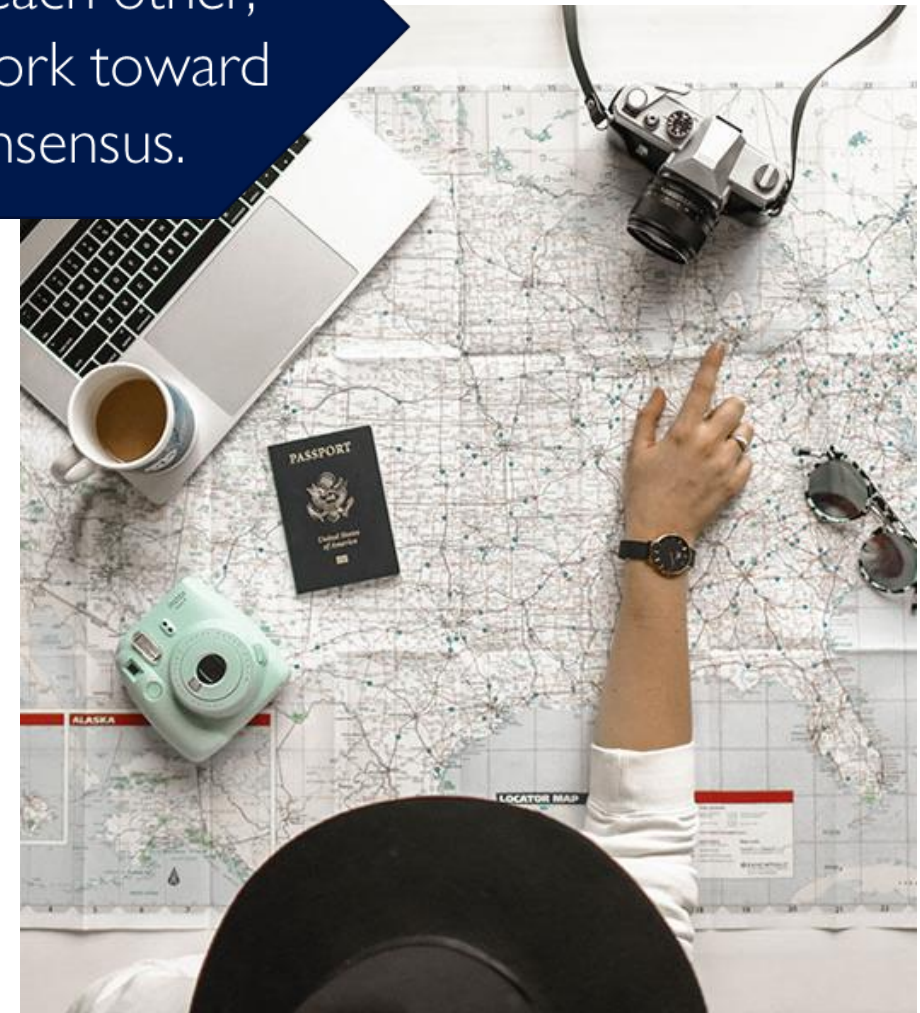
2. Should we define types of fuel as they relate to an energy affordability standard?
3. Should non-energy utilities such as internet or water/sewer be included for use in this collaborative?

MEETING 3

WE'RE ON OUR WAY

1. Should the concept of a **reasonable temperature** be included regarding an energy affordability standard?
2. Is it important to include concepts of **consistency or lack of interruption**?
 - If so, shall we narrow our definition to the time of need or define it to address continuous service without interruption?
 - What language do you propose we use to include this concept?
3. Is the concept of **sufficient quantities** of energy important to include?

Goal: to discuss,
hear each other,
and work toward
consensus.



MEETING 4

CLIMBING HIGHER

Affordability – consider whether and how to include the following:

1. Consent or agreement to price or cost
2. “Reasonable” pricing
3. Payment predictability
4. Ability to pay bills today or over time, month after month
5. Ability to pay bills without use of savings or credit
6. Ability to pay on time

Goal: to discuss,
hear each other,
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MEETING 5

ARE WE THERE YET?

Household - How do we define or narrow the concept of household – low-income households? Vulnerable households? Elderly, disable, small children in the home? What households are we referring to, targeting, or including in our scope?

Clean energy – How do concepts of clean energy apply to this definition?



Reliance - How do we define reliance as it relates to public assistance? - Is one time assistance included in the concept of reliance? At what point is a household considered reliant? The first time they require assistance due to a crisis? Once they have received assistance twice in one year, in two years? Our working definition refers to minimizing reliance on public assistance.

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hear each other,
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consensus.

MEETING 6

REACHING OUR DESTINATION

Public Assistance – What constitutes public assistance for this purpose? Do we include or exclude things like social security disability, food benefits, child-care assistance, etc. Are we only referring to energy assistance programs? If so, do we include low-income rates? LIHEAP, MEAP, other sources of assistance such as EFSP? What about private sources like United Way or church contributions?



EVALUATING OUR WORK

HAVE WE ARRIVED?

- Will this definition, as refined, help us to develop an energy affordability standard and measure success?
- Does this definition point us to data that will be useful to consistently collect in rate cases?



THOUGHTS AND FEEDBACK

SUGGESTIONS WELCOMED!



THANK YOU

HOPE WE ALL ENJOY THE JOURNEY!

