Energy Aggregation: Get Plugged In

Ratepayer Advocate Issues New Publication

Manual For Government Energy Aggregators: A Guide to Aggregation Procedures Pursuant to the Electric Discount and Energy Competition Act As Amended

The Ratepayer Advocate consistently supported energy aggregation as the best way to provide the lowest possible energy rates for residential, small business and state and local governments since the passage of the Electric Discount and Energy Competition Act (EDECA) in 1999. On February 27, 2003, Governor James E. McGreevey signed into law legislation simplifying the energy aggregation process for municipalities in New Jersey, paving the way for money-saving opportunities for residential and business customers throughout the state, by ordering the Board of Public Utilities to adopt rules and regulations requiring electric or natural gas public utilities to assist municipal and county aggregators in establishing a government energy aggregation program at the request of the governing body of a county or municipality. The law also provides a role for the Ratepayer Advocate in the municipal aggregation process as a reviewer and analyst of bid notices, bidding documents and written agreements.

One of the new provisions, supported by the Ratepayer Advocate, requires the residents of a municipality to affirmatively decline to participate in the government aggregation program. This approach will help to make the program attractive to energy suppliers, while streamlining the process for government aggregators and maintaining the highest level of consumer protection. The Ratepayer Advocate strongly supports governmental aggregation as the best opportunity to achieve lower rates for small businesses, government agencies, and residential customers in communities throughout the state.

In October 2003, Ratepayer Advocate Seema M. Singh and her staff completed a step-by-step, how-to guide: ***Manual For Government Energy Aggregators: A Guide to Aggregation Procedures Pursuant to the Electric Discount and Energy Competition Act As Amended*** to provide guidance for municipal and county officials planning to aggregate their communities' energy needs which includes the most recent Board of Public Utilities aggregation rules and regulations.

To order a copy of the ***Manual For Government Energy Aggregators: A Guide to Aggregation Procedures Pursuant to the Electric Discount and Energy Competition Act As Amended***, please complete the attached form and mail it to the address indicated, and include a check payable to the Treasurer, State of New Jersey. The costs for the manual, mailing and handling are: **$50.00** for municipalities, other government agencies, and non-profit agencies and organizations. **$100.00** for profit making entities.

DIVISION OF THE RATEPAYER ADVOCATE

Working for *ALL*
New Jersey Utility Consumers

Richard J. Codey
Acting Governor
Seema M. Singh, Esq.
Ratepayer Advocate

31 Clinton Street, 11th Floor ? P.O. Box 46005 ? Newark, New Jersey 07101 ? Phone (973) 648-2690 ? Fax (973) 624-1047

Manual For Government Energy Aggregators: A Guide to Aggregation Procedures Pursuant to the Electric Discount and Energy Competition Act As Amended

ORDER FORM

TO: The Division of the Ratepayer Advocate
31 Clinton Street, 11th Floor
P.O. Box 46005
Newark, New Jersey 07101
Phone: (973) 648-2690/ Fax: (973) 648-4848

We would like to order ____ copies of "Manual For Government Energy Aggregators: A Guide to Aggregation Procedures Pursuant to the Electric Discount and Energy Competition Act As Amended."

NAME:_____

TITLE:_____

ORGANIZATION: _____

ADDRESS: _____

_____

_____

PHONE NUMBER: _____

FAX NUMBER: _____

E-MAIL: _____

____Our check or purchase order in the amount of $_____, payable to the Treasurer, State of New Jersey has been put in the mail.

Costs for each manual, including production, mailing and handling, are: $50.00 for municipalities, other government agencies and non-profit agencies and organizations. **$100.00** for profit making entities.