

April 20, 2010

James McNulty, Secretary  
Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission  
Commonwealth Keystone Building  
400 North Street  
Harrisburg, PA 17120-3265

RECEIVED

APR 21 2010

PA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION  
SECRETARY'S BUREAU

RE: Training Certification for Weatherization Installations and Audits  
Docket #M-2010-2152691

Dear Secretary McNulty,

WeTheePeople submitted comments on March 26 concerning "Training Certification for Weatherization Installation and Audits", and after studying many of the other submissions, takes this opportunity to respond to comments from other submitters and add further suggestions particularly in reference to Suggestion #4 in our original comments.

1. *On page 6 of the Exelon submission it is stated: "No cost impacts are expected during the period in which the stimulus grant is funding weatherization training for WAP. However, stimulus funds expire in 2012 and federal and state governments expect that the training program will continue thereafter. In the event that the training program becomes permanent.....the estimated cost impacts to PECO's vendors are significant"*
2. *On page 4 of the NISource submission it is stated: "Columbia acknowledges that federal stimulus dollars are available now, and for the next couple of years, and supports the use of such dollars for weatherization training, but urges the Commission to consider the cost impact to low income programs once the federal dollars have been expended"*
3. *On page 8 of the PPL submission it is stated: "A longer term concern involves what happens to the L & I weatherization training centers when they exhaust the federal stimulus dollars? Will DCED have access to federal dollars to continue funding these centers? Will the commission require Electric and Gas Utilities to use rate payer dollars to fund the training centers? In addition, will there be a need to train as many weatherization workers when federal dollars disappear?"*

As mentioned in Suggestion #4 of the initial WeTheePeople submission, funding for AmeriCorps including "energy efficiency/clean energy" programs, recently tripled in the 6 billion dollar 2009 Edward M. Kennedy "Serve America Act (SSA)". These federal dollars do not expire until 2016. Even when SSA expires, established AmeriCorps service programs will doubtlessly continue. A solution for expanding and funding the "energy auditing and weatherization installation"

workforce in Pennsylvania, might lie in a partnership between AmeriCorps and the public utilities of Pennsylvania.

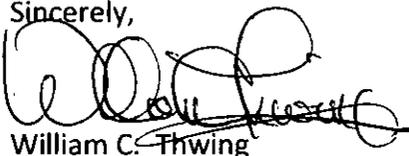
Thousands of young people serve in Pennsylvania communities thru 500, 900 or 1700 hour AmeriCorps contracts statewide in over 100 programs administered by PennSERVE ([www.pennserve.state.pa.us](http://www.pennserve.state.pa.us)). Slippery Rock University's Connector Corps ([www.sru.edu/pages/10655.asp](http://www.sru.edu/pages/10655.asp)) had 5 young people (of a total of 234 contracts) conducting energy audits and weatherization projects with the Lawrence County Community Action Agency and the CCP. Unfortunately, this program even though it could be funded thru 2012, is being discontinued because of unexpected training and equipment costs and matching grant requirements.

If the public utilities of Pennsylvania partnered with AmeriCorps to create arrangements for training, mentoring, equipping, and work oversight, they would have a significant source of funding and an unlimited supply of idealistic, enthusiastic, trainable young people to meet and exceed the requirements of Act 129. Furthermore, they would create a model that would be the envy of other states and a public relations bonus as electricity rates are deregulated and carbon caps imposed. It is quite likely that many of these AmeriCorps volunteers would go on after graduation to work for the public utilities or in other sectors of Pennsylvania's emerging Green economy.

Pennsylvania Interfaith Power and Light ([paipl.org](http://paipl.org)) whose mission is to reach out to all Pennsylvania faith communities to "advocate for energy conservation, energy efficiency and clean renewable energy" could also benefit greatly from this partnership (See attached Congregational Covenant). In fact, it would be hoped that PAIPL might be able to partner on some projects with appropriate public utilities in Pennsylvania as other state Interfaith Power and Light programs have done (<http://www.gipl.org/>)

Thank you for the opportunity to offer these suggestions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'William C. Thwing', written over a horizontal line.

William C. Thwing

WeTheePeople

610 Luzerne Street

Johnstown, PA 15905

814-539-9333

AmeriCorps, a service organization that focuses on picking up some of this country's most downtrodden communities, is getting a helping hand from the federal government, in the form of a massive boost in funding.

This increase in federal funds to AmeriCorps will allow more students from the University and across the country to participate in the program.

Late last month, Congress sent legislation to President Barack Obama's desk that will pump more than \$6 billion into community service programs over the next five years. Because of this boost in aid, funding for AmeriCorps tripled, allowing the organization's participant capacity to increase from 75,000 to 250,000.

The bill, named after Sen. Edward Kennedy (D-Mass.), will provide for the largest expansion of national service in 50 years.

AmeriCorps, which was created by President Bill Clinton in 1993, offers students over the age of 18 the chance to live in subsidized housing and receive health care while serving in communities around the country. Following their service, participants receive a financial award to pay for college or graduate school or to pay back loans.

The Edward M. Kennedy Serve America Act will increase the amount students receive for service from \$4,725 to \$5,350, the maximum financial aid offered through the Federal Pell Grant. The AmeriCorps award will also be tied to the Pell Grant to match any future increases in the financial aid.

Rep. George Miller (D-Calif.), chairman of the U.S. House of Representatives Education and Labor Committee, wrote in a press release that the bill comes at an especially important time, given the current economic climate.



*Pennsylvania Interfaith Power and Light is a community of congregations, faith-based organizations, and individuals of faith who respond to climate change as a moral issue through advocacy, energy conservation, energy efficiency, and the use of clean, renewable energy.*

## Congregational Covenant of Support

Our faith community, \_\_\_\_\_, pledges to support the mission of Pennsylvania Interfaith Power and Light, by making an annual financial contribution (see recommendations), and by agreeing to do **one or more** of the following:

\_\_\_\_\_ **1. Educate ourselves and our congregation** about the consequences of our energy choices for ourselves, our world and our future, about how our faith applies to our energy choices, and about how we can best become effective advocates for responsible change.

\_\_\_\_\_ **2. Reduce our energy use** by conducting an energy audit of our buildings to identify sources of energy waste and potential financial and energy savings and/or by making energy efficiency improvements to our buildings.

\_\_\_\_\_ **3. Use renewable energy sources** like wind, solar and geothermal, and/or offsetting non-renewable energy sources by purchasing green power in some way.

\_\_\_\_\_ **4. Energize our worship** by regularly including prayers, scripture readings, liturgies and sermons in adult and children's worship services that point to our responsibility to be good stewards of Creation, that explain the threat of climate change, and that celebrate steps taken by the congregation and individual members which reduce that threat.

\_\_\_\_\_ **5. Help advocate** for local, state and national policies to reduce carbon emissions.

Date \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_ Contact Person \_\_\_\_\_ Title \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Faith Community Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Send to:

Pennsylvania Interfaith Power and Light  
105 Pasquerilla Spiritual Center University Park, PA 16802  
info@paipl.org

PAIPL is a project of the Religion and Society Center, Harrisburg, a tax exempt organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code; checks made out to the Religion and Society Center are tax deductible to the fullest extent of the law.

WeTheePeople  
610 Luzerne St.  
Johnstown, PA 15905

JAMES McNULTY SECRETARY  
PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION  
COMMONWEALTH KEYSTONE BUILDING  
400 NORTH STREET  
HARRISBURG, PA 17120-3265

AGENCY: PUC  
 Floor:  
 External Carrier:

U.S. POSTAGE  
 PAID  
 JOHNSTOWN, PA  
 15901  
 APR 21 2010  
 AMOUNT



\$13.65  
 00034313

**VERY URGENT**

Please Rush To Addressee



at usps.com



Addressee Copy  
 Label 11-B, March 2004

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE® Post Office To Addressee

**ORIGIN (POSTAL SERVICE USE ONLY)**

PO ZIP Code <b>15901</b>	Day of Delivery <input type="checkbox"/> Next <input type="checkbox"/> 2nd <input type="checkbox"/> 2nd Del. Day	Postage \$ <b>13.65</b>
Date Accepted <b>4 21 10</b> Mo. Day Year	Scheduled Date of Delivery Month <b>4</b> Day <b>23</b>	Return Receipt Fee \$
Time Accepted <b>11:30</b> <input type="checkbox"/> AM <input type="checkbox"/> PM	Scheduled Time of Delivery <input type="checkbox"/> Noon <input type="checkbox"/> 3 PM	COO Fee \$ Insurance Fee \$
Flat Rate <input type="checkbox"/> or Weight lbs. <b>4</b> ozs.	Military <input type="checkbox"/> 2nd Day <input type="checkbox"/> 3rd Day	Total Postage & Fees \$ <b>13.65</b>
	Int'l Alpha Country Code	Acceptance Emp. Initials <b>DST</b>

**DELIVERY (POSTAL USE ONLY)**

Delivery Attempt	Time <input type="checkbox"/> AM <input type="checkbox"/> PM	Employee Signature
Mo. Day		
Delivery Attempt	Time <input type="checkbox"/> AM <input type="checkbox"/> PM	Employee Signature
Mo. Day		
Delivery Date	Time <input type="checkbox"/> AM <input type="checkbox"/> PM	Employee Signature
Mo. Day		

**CUSTOMER USE ONLY**

WAIVER OF SIGNATURE (Domestic Mail Only)  
 Additional merchandise insurance is void if customer requests waiver of signature.  
 I wish delivery to be made without obtaining signature of addressee or addressee's agent (if delivery employee judges that article can be left in secure location) and I authorize that delivery employee's signature constitutes valid proof of delivery.

NO DELIVERY  
 Weekend  Holiday  Mailer Signature

**FROM: (PLEASE PRINT)** PHONE ( )

**WE THREE PEOPLE**  
**610 LOZERS ST**  
**JOHNSTOWN, PA 15905**

**TO: (PLEASE PRINT)** PHONE ( )

**JANE M. NULTY, Secretary**  
**PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITIES COM**  
**COMMONWEALTH KEYSTONE BUILDING**  
**400 NORTH STREET**  
**JOHNSTOWN, PA**

ZIP + 4 (U.S. ADDRESSES ONLY, DO NOT USE FOR FOREIGN POSTAL CODES.)

**1 7 1 2 0 + 3 2 6 5**

FOR INTERNATIONAL DESTINATIONS, WRITE COUNTRY NAME BELOW.

**FOR PICKUP OR TRACKING**  
 Visit [www.usps.com](http://www.usps.com)  
 Call 1-800-222-1811



Please Recycle



YOU ARE MAKING 3 COPIES.