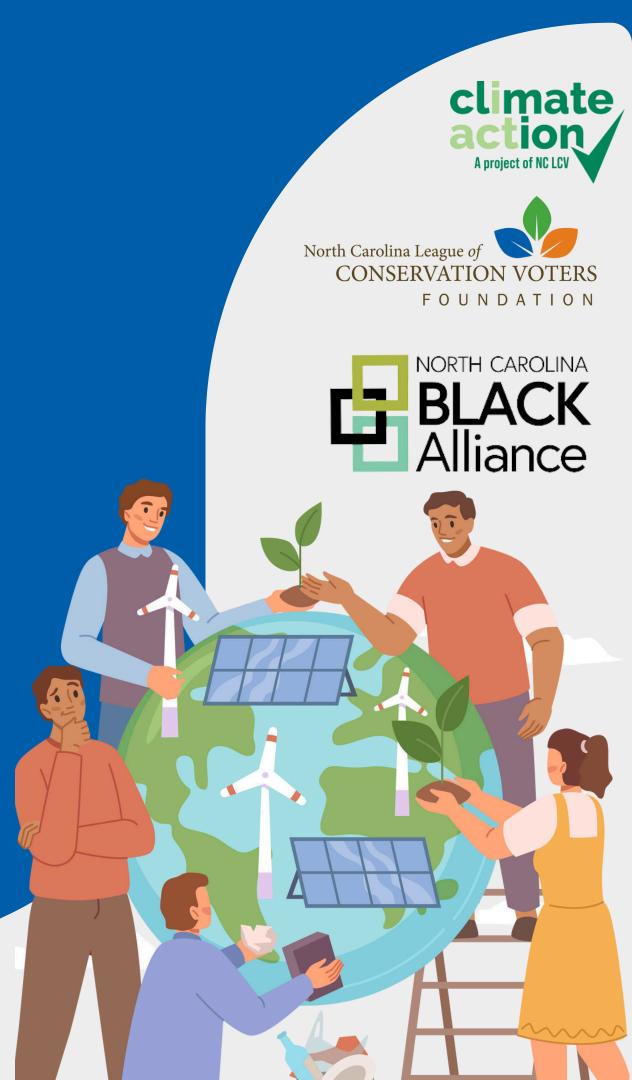
PUBLIC COMMENT WORKSHOP:

UNPACKING THE HOME ENERGY
REBATE PROGRAMS

JULY 25, 2024

Michelle (Meech) Carter meech@nclcv.org



PROCESS FROM NC DEQ:

- Public input session on August 1st at 6:30 pm
- Program design and finalization throughout 2024
- Rebates are intended to launch January 2025 or before
- DEQ has stated their initial outreach will target rural, low income homeowners in areas of high energy burden

WHAT WE WANT TO SEE:

- An easily understandable program that is also easy to apply for
- Comprehensive and accessible advertisement
- Training, education, and support for contractors submitting these applications to the State
- Clear guides for program implementation and stacking options

ELIGIBILITY:

- Ensure 100% of the costs up to program limits will be covered for low-income applicants
- Single-family and multi-family units should be eligible
- Determine final eligibility by consulting community-based organizations or service providers

STACKING PROGRAMS:

- Use a centralized website for information on rebates and other federal incentives
- Let individuals stack rebates with other programs, including Duke Energy rebates
- Provide written information on other programs, like the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund's low interest loans

COMMUNITY EDUCATION:

- Publicize that low- and moderate-income residents will get upgrades at little to no cost
- Advertise that rebates, combined with the Weatherization Assistance Program, can prepare homes for Solar for All
- Work with community-based nonprofits to educate consumers on equipment maintenance

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT:

- Provide transparent criteria for contractor certification and selection
- Require accessibility and cultural training for all contractors
- Make a hotline or website to report contractors that violate best practices

ACCESSIBILITY:

- Ensure that new rebate-eligible appliances will be cost competitive with used models
- Simplify the application process, including but not limited to income self-reporting
- Educate retailers on these rebates to pass this information to consumers

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

- Two minutes to speak on August 1st or any size of written comments by August 6th
- Things to cover:
 - Any experience with rebate programs you may have or what you'd like to see
 - How you best receive information (emails, mail, etc.)
 - Barriers you might see in getting people help
 - Consider recommending energyfundsforall.org as a resource

QUESTIONS?

meech@nclcv.org