

## **DETAILED MODEL PLAN (LIHEAP)**

**Program Name:** Low Income Home Energy Assistance

**Grantee Name:** CHEROKEE NATION

**Report Name:** DETAILED MODEL PLAN (LIHEAP)

**Report Period:** 10/01/2025 to 09/30/2026


**Report Status:** Submission Accepted by CO

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# Mandatory Grant Application SF-424

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES		August 1987, revised 05/92, 02/95, 03/96, 12/98, 11/01 OMB Clearance No.: 0970-013 Expiration Date: 02/28/2027							
<b>LOW INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM(LIHEAP)</b> <b>MODEL PLAN</b> <b>SF - 424 - MANDATORY</b>									
<b>* 1.a. Type of Submission:</b> <input checked="" type="radio"/> Plan	<b>* 1.b. Frequency:</b> <input checked="" type="radio"/> Annual	<b>* 1.c. Consolidated Application/ Plan/Funding Request?</b>  <b>Explanation:</b>	<b>* 1.d. Version:</b> <input checked="" type="radio"/> Initial <input type="radio"/> Resubmission <input type="radio"/> Revision <input type="radio"/> Update						
		<b>2. Date Received:</b>	<b>State Use Only:</b>						
		<b>3. Applicant Identifier:</b>							
		<b>4a. Unique Entity Identifier (UEI)</b> TBAHLIWANLF3							
		<b>4b. Federal Award Identifier:</b>	<b>5. Date Received By State:</b>						
			<b>6. State Application Identifier:</b>						
<b>7. APPLICANT INFORMATION</b>									
<b>* a. Legal Name:</b> Cherokee Nation									
<b>* b. Address:</b>									
<b>* Street 1:</b>	P.O. BOX 948	<b>Street 2:</b>	17675 S. Muskogee Ave						
<b>* City:</b>	TAHLEQUAH	<b>County:</b>	Oklahoma						
<b>* State:</b>	OK	<b>Province:</b>							
<b>* Country:</b>	United States	<b>* Zip / Postal Code:</b>	74465 -						
<b>c. Organizational Unit:</b>									
<b>Department Name:</b> Human Services		<b>Division Name:</b> Family Assistance							
<b>d. Name and contact information of person to be contacted on matters involving this application: (person will be listed on Notice of Funding Awards and on the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' LIHEAP contact list webpage)</b>									
<b>* First Name:</b> Janet		<b>* Last Name:</b> Ward							
<b>Title:</b> Manager		<b>Organizational Affiliation:</b> Cherokee Nation							
<b>* Telephone Number:</b> 918-453-5327		<b>Fax Number:</b> 918-456-6216							
<b>* Email:</b> janet-ward@cherokee.org									
<b>* 8. TYPE OF APPLICANT:</b> I: Indian/Native American Tribal Government (Federally Recognized)									
<b>* a. Is the applicant a Tribal Consortium:</b> <input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No									
<b>* b. If yes please attach at least one the following documentation:</b>									
<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 33%;"></td> <td style="width: 33%; text-align: center;">           Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number:         </td> <td style="width: 33%; text-align: center;">           CFDA Title:         </td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;"> <b>9. CFDA Numbers and Titles</b> </td> <td style="padding: 5px;">93.568</td> <td style="padding: 5px;">Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program</td> </tr> </table>					Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number:	CFDA Title:	<b>9. CFDA Numbers and Titles</b>	93.568	Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program
	Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number:	CFDA Title:							
<b>9. CFDA Numbers and Titles</b>	93.568	Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program							
<b>10. DESCRIPTIVE TITLE OF APPLICANT'S PROJECT:</b> Low Income Heating & Cooling Assistance									
<b>11. AREAS AFFECTED BY FUNDING:</b> Cherokee Nation 14 County Reservation									
<b>12. CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS OF APPLICANT:</b> OK-002									
<b>13. FUNDING PERIOD:</b>									
<b>a. Start Date:</b> 10/01/2025		<b>b. End Date:</b> 09/30/2026							
<b>* 14. IS SUBMISSION SUBJECT TO REVIEW BY STATE UNDER EXECUTIVE ORDER 12372 PROCESS?</b>									
a. This submission was made available to the State under Executive Order 12372									

Process for review on:	
b. Program is subject to E.O. 12372 but has not been selected by State for review.	
c. Program is not covered by E.O. 12372.	
*15. IS THE APPLICANT DELINQUENT ON ANY FEDERAL DEBT?	
<input type="radio"/> YES <input checked="" type="radio"/> NO	
If Yes, explain:	
16. By signing this application, I certify (1) to the statements contained in the list of certifications** and (2) that the statements herein are true, complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I also provide the required assurances** and agree to comply with any resulting terms if I accept an award. I am aware that any false, fictitious, or fraudulent statements or claims may subject me to criminal, civil, or administrative penalties. (U.S. Code, Title 218, Section 1001) <b>**I Agree</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
** The list of certifications and assurances, or an internet site where you may obtain this list, is contained in the announcement or agency specific instructions.	
17a. Typed or Printed Name and Title of Authorized Certifying Official Anna Knight	17c. Telephone (area code, number and extension)
17b. Signature of Authorized Certifying Official 	17d. Email Address grantsubmissions@cherokee.org
	17e. Date Report Submitted (Month, Day, Year) 08/28/2025

## Section 1 - Program Components

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

August 1987, revised 05/92, 02/95, 03/96, 12/98, 11/01  
OMB Clearance No.: 0970-013  
Expiration Date: 02/28/2027

### LOW INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM(LIHEAP) MODEL PLAN

THE PAPERWORK REDUCTION ACT OF 1995 (Pub. L. 104-13) Use of this model plan is optional. However, the information requested is required in order to receive a Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) grant. Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 1 hour per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and reviewing the collection of information. An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

## Section 1 Program Components

Program Components, 2605(a), 2605(b)(1) - Assurance 1, 2605(c)(1)(C)

1.1 Check which components you will operate under the LIHEAP program. (Note: You must provide information for each component designated here as requested elsewhere in this plan.)		Dates of Operation	
		Start Date	End Date
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Heating assistance	10/01/2025	12/31/2025
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Cooling assistance	06/02/2026	07/31/2026
<input type="checkbox"/>	Summer crisis assistance		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Winter crisis assistance		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Year-round crisis assistance	01/01/2026	09/30/2026
<input type="checkbox"/>	Weatherization assistance		

Provide further explanation for the dates of operation, if necessary

Estimated Funding Allocation, 2604(C), 2605(k)(1), 2605(b)(9), 2605(b)(16) - Assurances 9 and 16

1.2 Estimate what amount of available LIHEAP funds will be used for each component that you will operate: The total of all percentages must add up to 100%.	Percentage ( % )	Prior year totals
Heating assistance	45.00%	45.00%
Cooling assistance	31.00%	31.00%
Summer crisis assistance	0.00%	7.00%
Winter crisis assistance	0.00%	0.00%
Year-round crisis assistance	7.00%	0.00%
Weatherization assistance	0.00%	0.00%
Carryover to the following federal fiscal year	7.00%	7.00%
Administrative and planning costs	10.00%	10.00%
Services to reduce home energy needs including needs assessment (Assurance 16)	0.00%	0.00%
Used to develop and implement leveraging activities	0.00%	0.00%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

Tribal grant recipients: direct-grant tribes, tribal organizations, or territories with allotments of \$20,000 or less may use for planning and administration up to 20% of the funds payable. Grant recipients that are direct grant tribes, tribal organizations, or territories with allotments over \$20,000 may use for planning and administration purposes up to 20% of the first \$20,000 (or \$4,000) plus 10% of the funds payable that exceeds \$20,000. Any administrative costs in excess of these limits must be paid from non-federal sources.

<b>Alternate Use of Crisis Assistance Funds, 2605(c)(1)(C)</b>			
<b>1.3 The funds reserved for winter crisis assistance that have not been expended by March 15 will be reprogrammed to:</b>			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Heating assistance	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Cooling assistance
<input type="checkbox"/>	Weatherization assistance	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other (specify:)
<b>Categorical Eligibility, 2605(b)(2)(A) - Assurance 2, 2605(c)(1)(A), 2605(b)(8A) - Assurance 8</b>			
<b>1.4 Do you consider households categorically eligible if at least one household member receives at least one of the following categories of benefits in the left column below?</b> <input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No			
<b>If you answered "Yes" to question 1.4, you must complete the table below and answer questions 1.5 and 1.6.</b>			
	Heating	Cooling	Crisis
TANF	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
SSI	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
SNAP	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
Means-tested Veterans Programs	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
<b>1.4a. Provide your definition of categorical eligibility. Please explain how households are categorically eligible (i.e, do all household members need to receive the benefits or just one member, is there a data exchange in place?) and how categorical eligibility streamlines the LIHEAP application process.</b>			
<b>1.5 Do you automatically enroll households without a direct annual application?</b> <input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No			
<b>If Yes, explain:</b>			
<b>1.6 How do you ensure there is no difference in the treatment of categorically eligible households from those not receiving other public assistance when determining eligibility and benefit amounts?</b>			
<b>SNAP Nominal Payments</b>			
<b>1.7a Do you allocate LIHEAP funds toward a nominal payment for SNAP households?</b> <input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No			
<b>If you answered "Yes" to question 1.7a, you must provide a response to questions 1.7b, 1.7c, and 1.7d.</b>			
<b>1.7b Amount of Nominal Assistance:</b> \$0.00			
<b>1.7c Frequency of Assistance</b>			
<input type="checkbox"/>	Once Per Year		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Once every five years		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other - Describe:		
<b>1.7d How do you confirm that the household receiving a nominal payment has an energy cost or need?</b>			
<b>Determination of Eligibility - Countable Income</b>			
<b>1.8. In determining a household's income eligibility for LIHEAP, do you use gross income or net income?</b>			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Gross Income		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Net Income		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other - Describe		
<b>1.9. Select all the applicable forms of countable income used to determine a household's income eligibility for LIHEAP</b>			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Wages		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Self - Employment Income		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Contract Income		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Payments from mortgage or Sales Contracts		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Unemployment insurance		

<input type="checkbox"/>	Strike Pay
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Social Security Administration (SSA ) benefits
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Including MediCare deduction <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excluding MediCare deduction
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Supplemental Security Income (SSI )
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Retirement / pension benefits
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	General Assistance benefits
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) benefits
<input type="checkbox"/>	Loans that need to be repaid
<input type="checkbox"/>	Cash gifts
<input type="checkbox"/>	Savings account balance
<input type="checkbox"/>	One-time lump-sum payments, such as rebates/credits, winnings from lotteries, refund deposits, etc.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Jury duty compensation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Rental income
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Income from employment through Workforce Investment Act (WIA)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Income from work study programs
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Alimony
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Child support
<input type="checkbox"/>	Interest, dividends, or royalties
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Commissions
<input type="checkbox"/>	Legal settlements
<input type="checkbox"/>	Insurance payments made directly to the insured
<input type="checkbox"/>	Insurance payments made specifically for the repayment of a bill, debt, or estimate
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Veterans Administration (VA) benefits
<input type="checkbox"/>	Earned income of a child under the age of 18
<input type="checkbox"/>	Balance of retirement, pension, or annuity accounts where funds cannot be withdrawn without a penalty.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Income tax refunds
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Stipends from senior companion programs, such as VISTA
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Funds received by household for the care of a foster child
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ameri-Corp Program payments for living allowances, earnings, and in-kind aid
<input type="checkbox"/>	Reimbursements (for mileage, gas, lodging, meals, etc.)

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<p><b>Other</b></p> <p>Each Household that has working income such as wages &amp; self-employment will receive a \$240 deduction when calculating income.</p>
<p><b>If any of the above questions require further explanation or clarification that could not be made in the fields provided, attach a document with said explanation here.</b></p>	
<p><b>1.10 Do you have an online application process?</b> <input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No</p>	
<p><b>1.10a If yes, describe the type of online application (Select all boxes that apply)</b></p>	
<input type="checkbox"/>	A PDF version of the application is available online and can be downloaded, filled out and mailed in for processing.
<input type="checkbox"/>	A state-wide online application that allows a customer to complete data entry and submit an application electronically for processing.
<input type="checkbox"/>	One or more locally available online applications that allows a customer to complete data entry and submit an application electronically for processing.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Online application that is also mobile friendly
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other, please describe
<p>Please include a link(s) to a statewide application, if available:</p>	
<p><b>1.10b Can all program components be applied for online?</b> <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No</p>	
<p>If no, explain which components can and cannot be applied for online.</p>	
<p><b>1.11 Do you have a process for conducting and completing applications by phone?</b> <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No</p>	
<p><b>1.12 Do you or any of your subrecipients require in person appointments in order to apply?</b> <input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No</p>	
<p>If yes, please provide more information regarding why in-person appointments are required and in what circumstances they are required.</p>	
<p>If a participant cannot come into the office, it will be assigned to worker to take the application over the phone and/or home visit will be made.</p>	
<p><b>1.13 How can applicants submit documentation for verification? Select all that apply:</b></p>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	In-person
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Mail
<input type="checkbox"/>	Email
<input type="checkbox"/>	Portal application
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<p><b>Other, please describe</b></p> <p>Home visits will be made if the participants are elderly and/or disabled and not able to make it to the office.</p>

**Hidden for Section 1**

## Section 2 - HEATING ASSISTANCE

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

August 1987, revised 05/92, 02/95, 03/96, 12/98, 11/01  
OMB Clearance No.: 0970-013  
Expiration Date: 02/28/2027

### LOW INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM(LIHEAP) MODEL PLAN

#### Section 2 - Heating Assistance

##### Eligibility, 2605(b)(2) - Assurance 2

##### 2.1 Designate the income eligibility threshold used for the heating component:

Add	Household size	Eligibility Guideline	Eligibility Threshold
1	All Household Sizes	HHS Poverty Guidelines	150.00%

2.2 Do you have additional eligibility requirements for Heating Assistance? ☐ Yes ☒ No

##### 2.3 Check the appropriate boxes below and describe the policies for each.

Do you require an Assets test? ☐ Yes ☒ No

If yes, describe: Do you have additional/differing eligibility policies for:

Renters? ☐ Yes ☒ No

If yes, describe:

Renters Living in subsidized housing? ☐ Yes ☒ No

If yes, describe:

Renters with utilities included in the rent? ☐ Yes ☒ No

If yes, describe:

Do you give priority in eligibility to:

Older Adults (60 years or older)? ☒ Yes ☐ No

If yes, describe:

Head of Household or spouse must be of Native American descent.

Applicants must live within the reservation of the Cherokee Nation.

Applicants must be 60 years or older, disabled and/or handicapped will be given first priority. Households with small children will be given second priority. All households will be assisted as funds permit. If the household has a credit over \$1,000 they will not be eligible.

Individuals with a disability? ☒ Yes ☐ No

If yes, describe:

Applicants who disabled and/or handicapped and are receiving disability income will be given first priority. If the household has a credit over \$1,000 they will not be eligible.

Young children? ☒ Yes ☐ No

If yes, describe:

Households with small children will be given second priority. All households will be assisted as funds permit. If the household has a credit over \$1,000 they will not be eligible.

Households with high energy burdens? ☐ Yes ☒ No

If yes, describe:

Other? ☐ Yes ☒ No

If yes, describe:

Explanations of policies for each "yes" checked above:

##### Determination of Benefits 2605(b)(5) - Assurance 5, 2605(c)(1)(B)

2.4 Describe how you prioritize the provision of heating assistance to vulnerable populations, e.g., benefit amounts, early application periods, etc.

Head of Household or spouse must be of Native American descent.

Applicants must live within the reservations of the Cherokee Nation.

Applicants 60 years of age or older, disabled and/or handicapped will be given first priority. Households with small children will be given second priority.

Benefit amount is based on number in household, income and type of heating source.

Applications will be mailed to the elderly and disabled clients ages 60 who received LIHEAP from Cherokee Nation the previous year. They will complete their applications and return them to Cherokee Nation. If they have trouble filling the applications out they can go to the office nearest them and an advocate will help them complete their application.

**2.5 Check the variables you use to determine your benefit levels. (Check all that apply):**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Income
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Family (household) size
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Home energy cost or need:
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Fuel type
<input type="checkbox"/>	Climate/region
<input type="checkbox"/>	Individual bill
<input type="checkbox"/>	Dwelling type
<input type="checkbox"/>	Energy burden (% of income spent on home energy)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Energy need
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other - Describe:

Benefit levels are determined by household income, family size and fuel type.

**Benefit Levels, 2605(b)(5) - Assurance 5, 2605(c)(1)(B)**

**2.6 Describe estimated benefit levels for the fiscal year for which this plan applies. Please note: the maximum and minimum benefits must be shown in the payment matrix.**

Minimum Benefit	\$330	Maximum Benefit	\$960
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**2.7 Do you provide in-kind (e.g., blankets, space heaters) and/or other forms of benefits?** ☒ Yes ☐ No

If yes, describe.

LIHEAP participants will receive a blanket. Cherokee Nation provides heaters if the participant has no working unit in their home.

**If any of the above questions require further explanation or clarification that could not be made in the fields provided, attach a document with said explanation here.**

## Section 3 - COOLING ASSISTANCE

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

August 1987, revised 05/92, 02/95, 03/96, 12/98, 11/01  
OMB Clearance No.: 0970-013  
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### LOW INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM(LIHEAP) MODEL PLAN

### Section 3 - Cooling Assistance

Eligibility, 2605(c)(1)(A), 2605 (b)(2) - Assurance 2

3.1 Designate The income eligibility threshold used for the Cooling component:

Add	Household size	Eligibility Guideline	Eligibility Threshold
1	All Household Sizes	HHS Poverty Guidelines	150.00%

3.2 Do you have additional eligibility requirements for Cooling assistance? ☐ Yes ☒ No

3.3 Check the appropriate boxes below and describe the policies for each.

Do you require an Assets test? ☐ Yes ☒ No

If yes, describe:

Do you have additional/differing eligibility policies for:

Renters? ☐ Yes ☒ No

If yes, describe:

Renters Living in subsidized housing? ☐ Yes ☒ No

If yes, describe:

Renters with utilities included in the rent? ☐ Yes ☒ No

If yes, describe:

Do you give priority in eligibility to:

Older Adults (60 years or older)? ☒ Yes ☐ No

If yes, describe:

Head of household or spouse must be of Native American descent.

Applicants must live within Cherokee Nations 14 county reservation.

Applicants 60 years of age or older will be given first priority.

The applicants 60 years of age or older who received assistances during the winter will be sent a letter requesting a copy of their electric bill to verify account information. Once a copy of the participants electric bill has been received a payment will be processed. Benefit payment amount is based on availability of funding. If the participant has a credit of \$1,000 or more they will not be eligible for summer cooling.

All of the households will be assisted if funds permit. If the household has a credit over \$1,000 they will not be eligible.

Individuals with a disability? ☒ Yes ☐ No

If yes, describe:

Head of household or spouse must be of Native American descent.

Applicants must live within Cherokee Nations 14 county reservation.

The disabled who received assistances during the winter will be sent a letter requesting a copy of their electric bill to verify account information. Once a copy of the participants electric bill has been received a payment will be processed. Benefit payment amount is based on availability of funding. If the participant has a credit of \$1,000 or more they will not be eligible for summer cooling.

All of the households will be assisted if funds permit.

Young children? ☐ Yes ☒ No

If yes, describe:

Households with high energy burdens? ☐ Yes ☒ No

If yes, describe:

Other? ☐ Yes ☒ No

If yes, describe:

<b>Explanations of policies for each "yes" checked above:</b>			
<b>3.4 Describe how you prioritize the provision of cooling assistance to vulnerable populations, e.g., benefit amounts, early application periods, etc.</b>			
<p>Head of household or spouse must be of Native American descent.</p> <p>Applicants must live within Cherokee Nations 14 county reservation.</p> <p>Applicants 60 years of age or older will be given first priority.</p> <p>The applicants 60 years of age or older who received assistances during the winter will be sent a letter requesting a copy of their electric bill to verify account information. Once a copy of the participants electric bill has been received a payment will be processed. Benefit payment amount is based on availability of funding. If the participant has a credit of \$1,000 or more they will not be eligible for summer cooling.</p> <p>All of the households will be assisted if funds permit.</p>			
<b>Determination of Benefits 2605(b)(5) - Assurance 5, 2605(c)(1)(B)</b>			
<b>3.5 Check the variables you use to determine your benefit levels. (Check all that apply):</b>			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Income		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Family (household) size		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Home energy cost or need:		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Fuel type		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Climate/region		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Individual bill		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Dwelling type		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Energy burden (% of income spent on home energy)		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Energy need		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other - Describe:		
<b>Benefit Levels, 2605(b)(5) - Assurance 5, 2605(c)(1)(B)</b>			
<b>3.6 Describe estimated benefit levels for the fiscal year for which this plan applies. Please note: the maximum and minimum benefits must be shown in the payment matrix.</b>			
Minimum Benefit	\$195	Maximum Benefit	\$390
<b>3.7 Do you provide in-kind (e.g., fans, air conditioners) and/or other forms of benefits? <input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No</b>			
<b>If yes, describe.</b> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">If a household does not have a working Air conditioner than we will provide them with an air conditioner. If they need a fan we will provide them with one.</p>			
<b>If any of the above questions require further explanation or clarification that could not be made in the fields provided, attach a document with said explanation here.</b>			

## Section 4 - CRISIS ASSISTANCE

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

August 1987, revised 05/92, 02/95, 03/96, 12/98, 11/01  
OMB Clearance No.: 0970-013  
Expiration Date: 02/28/2027

### LOW INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM(LIHEAP) MODEL PLAN

#### Section 4: CRISIS ASSISTANCE

**Eligibility - 2604(c), 2605(c)(1)(A)**

**4.1 Designate the income eligibility threshold used for the crisis component**

Add	Household size	Eligibility Guideline	Eligibility Threshold
1	All Household Sizes	HHS Poverty Guidelines	150.00%

**4.2 Provide your LIHEAP program's definition for determining a crisis. If you administer multiple crisis assistance programs (winter, summer, and/or year-round), Include all program definitions.**

Emergencies are defined as any energy-related crisis which may result in the loss of household heat/cooling, such as: Burn-Out, Natural Disasters, Shut-off notices, etc. Benefits are calculated on a case by case needs assessment, taking into consideration the nature or severity of the crisis. All crisis situations that are medically life threatening shall be taken care of within 18 hours and a regular crisis that is non-medical will be taken care of in 48 hours.

**4.3 What constitutes a life-threatening crisis?**

Imminent harm to life or property will occur with 18 hours if the energy crisis is not resolved.

**Crisis Requirement, 2604(c)**

**4.4 Within how many hours do you provide an intervention that will resolve the energy crisis for eligible households? 48Hours**

**4.5 Within how many hours do you provide an intervention that will resolve the energy crisis for eligible households in life-threatening situations? 18Hours**

**Crisis Eligibility, 2605(c)(1)(A)**

	Winter Crisis	Summer Crisis	Year-Round Crisis
<b>4.6 Do you have additional eligibility requirements for Crisis Assistance?</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>4.7 Check the appropriate boxes below to indicate type(s) of assistance provided</b>			
0			
<b>Do you require an Assets test?</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Do you give priority in eligibility to:</b>			
Older Adults (60 years or older)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Individuals with a disability?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Young Children?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Households with high energy burdens?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other (Specify):	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**In Order to receive crisis assistance:**

Must the household have received a shut-off notice or have a near empty tank?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Must the household have been shut off or have an empty tank?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Must the household have exhausted their regular heating benefit?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Must renters with heating costs included in their rent have received an eviction notice?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Must heating/cooling be medically necessary?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Must the household have non-working heating or cooling equipment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Other (Specify):	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Do you have additional/differing eligibility policies for:</b>			
Renters?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Renters living in subsidized housing?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Renters with utilities included in the rent?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Explanations of policies for each "yes" checked above:</b>			
<p style="text-align: center;">We do not have additional criteria for CRISIS. Participant does not have to be in a cut-off status. Their propane tank does need to be at 15%.</p>			
<b>Determination of Benefits</b>			
<b>4.8 How do you handle crisis situations?</b>			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Separate component		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Benefit Fast Track, no separate amount of crisis funds is issued. Rather benefits are issued to crisis customers within crisis response time frames.		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other - Describe:		
<b>4.9 If you have a separate component, how do you determine crisis assistance benefits?</b>			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Amount to resolve the crisis. \$500		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other - Describe:  Payment will be made for the amount to resolve the crisis up to \$500.		
<b>Crisis Requirements, 2604(c)</b>			
<b>4.10 Do you accept applications for energy crisis assistance at sites that are geographically accessible to all households in the area to be served?</b>			
<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No   Explain.			
<p style="text-align: center;">Cherokee Nation has field offices located throughout the reservation. There are other sites available for appointment only. Cherokee Nation's main office is located at the Cherokee Nation Complex in Tahlequah, Oklahoma.</p>			
<b>4.11 Do you provide individuals who are individuals with a disability the means to:</b>			
<b>Submit applications for crisis benefits without leaving their homes?</b>			
<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No			
If No, explain.			
<b>Travel to the sites at which applications for crisis assistance are accepted?</b>			
<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No			
If No, explain.			
If you answered "No" to both options in question 4.11, please explain alternative means of intake to those who are homebound or physically disabled?			
<b>Benefit Levels, 2605(c)(1)(B)</b>			
<b>4.12 Indicate the maximum benefit for each type of crisis assistance offered.</b>			
Winter Crisis	\$0.00	maximum benefit	
Summer Crisis	\$0.00	maximum benefit	
Year-round Crisis	\$500.00	maximum benefit	
<b>4.13 Do you provide in-kind (e.g. blankets, space heaters, fans) and/or other forms of benefits?</b>			
<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No   If yes, Describe			
<p style="text-align: center;">If a LIHEAP participant has no working central heat and air or no air conditioner, Cherokee Nation can provide one for them. Cherokee Nation does give a blanket to all eligible elderly and disabled participants.</p>			
<b>4.14 Do you provide for equipment repair or replacement using crisis funds?</b>			
<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No			
If you answered "Yes" to question 4.14, you must complete question 4.15.			
<b>4.15 Check appropriate boxes below to indicate type(s) of assistance provided.</b>			
	Winter Crisis	Summer Crisis	Year-round Crisis

Heating system repair	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Heating system replacement	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Cooling system repair	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Cooling system replacement	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Wood stove purchase	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Pellet stove purchase	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Solar panel(s)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Utility poles / gas line hook-ups	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other (Specify):  If a LIHEAP participant has no working central heat and air or no air conditioner Cherokee Nation can provide a heater and/or air conditioner.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**4.16 Do any of the utility vendors you work with enforce a moratorium on shut offs?**

☒ Yes ☐ No

**If you responded "Yes" to question 4.16, you must respond to question 4.17.**

**4.17 Describe the terms of the moratorium and any special dispensation received by LIHEAP clients during or after the moratorium period.**

The utility companies treat LIHEAP participants the same as their regular customers. Any client with a medical form on file with their utility company will not be shut off. The utility companies do not enforce a moratorium on shut off when the temperature is below freezing the heat index is above 100 degrees.

**4.18 If you experience a natural disaster, do you intend to utilize LIHEAP crisis funds to address disaster related crisis situations?** ☐ Yes ☒ No

**If yes, describe**

**If any of the above questions require further explanation or clarification that could not be made in the fields provided, attach a document with said explanation here.**

## Section 5 - WEATHERIZATION ASSISTANCE

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
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### LOW INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM(LIHEAP) MODEL PLAN

## Section 5: WEATHERIZATION ASSISTANCE

Eligibility, 2605(c)(1)(A), 2605(b)(2) - Assurance 2

5.1 Designate the income eligibility threshold used for the Weatherization component

Add	Household Size	Eligibility Guideline	Eligibility Threshold
1			0.00%

5.2 Do you enter into an interagency agreement to have another government agency administer a WEATHERIZATION component? ☐ Yes ☒ No

5.3 If yes, name the agency and attach a copy of the Internal Agreement or Contract.

5.4 Is there a separate monitoring protocol for weatherization? ☐ Yes ☐ No

#### WEATHERIZATION - Types of Rules

5.5 Under what rules do you administer LIHEAP weatherization? (Check only one.)

- ☐ Entirely under LIHEAP (not DOE) rules
- ☐ Entirely under DOE WAP (not LIHEAP) rules
- ☐ Mostly under LIHEAP rules with the following DOE WAP rule(s) where LIHEAP and WAP rules differ (Check all that apply):
- ☐ Income Threshold
- ☐ Weatherization of entire multi-family housing structure is permitted if at least 66% of units (50% in 2- & 4-unit buildings) are eligible units or will become eligible within 180 days
- ☐ Weatherize shelters temporarily housing primarily low income persons (excluding nursing homes, prisons, and similar institutional care facilities).
- ☐ Other - Describe:
- ☐ Mostly under DOE WAP rules, with the following LIHEAP rule(s) where LIHEAP and WAP rules differ (Check all that apply.):
- ☐ Income Threshold
- ☐ Weatherization not subject to DOE WAP maximum statewide average cost per dwelling unit.
- ☐ Weatherization measures are not subject to DOE Savings to Investment Ratio (SIR ) standards.
- ☐ Other - Describe:

Eligibility, 2605(b)(5) - Assurance 5

5.6 Do you require an assets test? ☐ Yes ☐ No

5.7 Do you have additional/differing eligibility policies for :

Renters	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
Renters living in subsidized housing?	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
Renters with utilities included in the rent?	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No

5.8 Do you give priority in eligibility to:

Older Adults?	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
Individuals with a disability?	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
Young Children?	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
House holds with high energy burdens?	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No

Other?	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
If you selected "Yes" for any of the options in questions 5.6, 5.7, or 5.8, you must provide further explanation of these policies in the text field below.	
Benefit Levels	
5.9 Do you have a maximum LIHEAP weatherization benefit/expenditure per household? <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	
5.9a If yes, what is the maximum? \$0	
5.10 Do you use an Average Cost per Unit (ACPU). <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	
5.10a If so, what is the ACPU amount? \$0	
Types of Assistance, 2605(c)(1), (B) & (D)	
5.11 What LIHEAP weatherization measures do you provide ? (Check all categories that apply.)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Weatherization needs assessments/audits	<input type="checkbox"/> Energy related roof repair
<input type="checkbox"/> Caulking and insulation	<input type="checkbox"/> Major appliance repairs
<input type="checkbox"/> Storm windows	<input type="checkbox"/> Major appliance replacement
<input type="checkbox"/> Furnace/heating system modifications/repairs	<input type="checkbox"/> Windows/sliding glass doors
<input type="checkbox"/> Furnace replacement	<input type="checkbox"/> Doors
<input type="checkbox"/> Cooling system modifications/repairs	<input type="checkbox"/> Water Heater
<input type="checkbox"/> Water conservation measures	<input type="checkbox"/> Cooling system replacement
<input type="checkbox"/> Roof top solar	<input type="checkbox"/> Community solar projects
<input type="checkbox"/> Compact florescent light bulbs	<input type="checkbox"/> Other - Describe:
If any of the above questions require further explanation or clarification that could not be made in the fields provided, attach a document with said explanation here.	

## Section 6 - Outreach, 2605(b)(3) - Assurance 3, 2605(c)(3)(A)

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## Section 6: Outreach, 2605(b)(3) - Assurance 3, 2605(c)(3)(A)

6.1 Select all outreach activities that you conduct that are designed to assure that eligible households are made aware of all LIHEAP assistance available:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Place posters/flyers in local and county social service offices, offices of aging, Social Security offices, VA, etc.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Publish articles in local newspapers or broadcast media announcements.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Include inserts in energy vendor billings to inform individuals of the availability of all types of LIHEAP assistance.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Mass mailing(s) to prior-year LIHEAP recipients.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Inform low income applicants of the availability of all types of LIHEAP assistance at application intake for other low-income programs.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Execute interagency agreements with other low-income program offices to perform outreach to target groups.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Web Posting
<input type="checkbox"/>	Email
<input type="checkbox"/>	Texting
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Events
<input type="checkbox"/>	Social Media
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Other (specify):  Place flyers in Cherokee Nation 14 senior nutrition sites, in Family Assistance field offices and at the Cherokee Nation food distribution offices within the Cherokee Nation Reservation.

**If any of the above questions require further explanation or clarification that could not be made in the fields provided, attach a document with said explanation here.**

## Section 7 - Coordination, 2605(b)(4) - Assurance 4

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### LOW INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM(LIHEAP) MODEL PLAN

#### Section 7: Coordination, 2605(b)(4) - Assurance 4

7.1 Describe how you will ensure that the LIHEAP program is coordinated with other programs available to low-income households (TANF, SSI, WAP, etc.).

☐

Joint application for multiple programs (indicate programs included)

☒

Intake referrals to/from other programs (indicate programs included) Family Assistance other programs, local department of Human Services, Cherokee Nation Career Services

☐

One - stop intake centers

☒

Other - Describe:

Cherokee Nation is one of the largest service providers in Northeastern Oklahoma. The Tribe regularly coordinates services with the County Department of Human Services, local Community Action Programs, and various other service providers with the boundaries of the Cherokee Nation.

**If any of the above questions require further explanation or clarification that could not be made in the fields provided, attach a document with said explanation here.**

## Section 8 - Agency Designation,, 2605(b)(6) - Assurance 6

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#### Section 8: Agency Designation, 2605(b)(6) - Assurance 6 (Required for state Grant recipients and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico)

8.1 How would you categorize the primary responsibility of your State agency?

<input type="checkbox"/>	Administration Agency
<input type="checkbox"/>	Commerce Agency
<input type="checkbox"/>	Community Services Agency
<input type="checkbox"/>	Energy/Environment Agency
<input type="checkbox"/>	Housing Agency
<input type="checkbox"/>	State Department of Welfare (administers TANF, SNAP, and/or Medicaid)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Economic Development Agency
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other - Describe:

Include current list of subrecipient name, main office address (do not list P.O. Box), phone number, county(s) served, Congressional District, and UEI number. *Used for Near hotline and OCS Service Provider Tool and clearinghouse.*

Alternate Outreach and Intake, 2605(b)(15) - Assurance 15

If you selected "State Department of Welfare (administers TANF, SNAP, and/or Medicaid)" in question 8.1, you must complete questions 8.2, 8.3, and 8.4, as applicable.

8.2 How do you provide alternate outreach and intake for heating assistance?

8.3 How do you provide alternate outreach and intake for cooling assistance?>

8.4 How do you provide alternate outreach and intake for crisis assistance?

8.5 LIHEAP Component Administration.	Heating	Cooling	Crisis	Weatherization
8.5a Who determines client eligibility?				
8.5b Who processes benefit payments to gas and electric vendors?				
8.5c who processes benefit payments to bulk fuel vendors?				
8.5d Who performs installation of weatherization measures?				

**Include a current list of subrecipient(s) name, main office address (do not list P.O. Box), phone**

**number, county(s) served, Congressional District, and UEI number.**

If any of your LIHEAP components are not centrally-administered by a state agency, you must complete questions 8.6, 8.7, 8.8, and, if applicable, 8.9.

8.6 What is your process for selecting local administering agencies?

8.7 How many local administering agencies do you use?

8.8 Have you changed any local administering agencies in the last year?

- ☐ Yes  
☐ No

8.9 If so, why?

☐

Agency was in noncompliance with Grant recipient requirements for LIHEAP -

☐

Agency is under criminal investigation

☐

Added agency

☐

Agency closed

☐

Other - describe

8.10 If a subrecipient is no longer providing LIHEAP, are you aware of prior-year LIHEAP funds being mismanaged or misspent? ☐ Yes  
☐ No

8.10a If yes, please explain.

8.10b If you are aware, were other federal programs impacted such as CSBG, SSBG, Head Start, TANF, and Department of Energy Weatherization funding, etc. ☐ Yes ☐ No

8.10c If yes, please explain.

**If any of the above questions require further explanation or clarification that could not be made in the fields provided, attach a document with said explanation here.**

## Section 9 - Energy Suppliers,, 2605(b)(7) - Assurance 7

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## Section 9: Energy Suppliers, 2605(b)(7) - Assurance 7

### 9.1 Do you make payments directly to home energy suppliers?

Heating ☒ Yes ☐ No

Cooling ☒ Yes ☐ No

Crisis ☒ Yes ☐ No

Are there exceptions? ☒ Yes ☐ No

If yes, Describe.

Payments are made directly to the client if their heating/cooling cost is included in their rent. All other payments will be mailed directly to the vendor.

The checks for participants whose main source of heating is wood, their checks will be mailed to the participants so they can ensure delivery of the wood. However, the check will be made payable to the wood vendor.

Each vendor will receive a letter of notification advising the vendor of the participant's eligibility and the benefit payment they were approved for. The notice provides vendor delivery instructions and vendor payment.

### 9.2 How do you notify the client of the amount of assistance paid?

Each participant will receive a client payment notification letter advising the recipient that the payment has been made to the vendor on their behalf and the payment amount.

### 9.3 How do you assure that the home energy supplier will charge the eligible household, in the normal billing process, the difference between the actual cost of the home energy and the amount of the payment?

For on-going home energy services (natural gas & Electricity) the vendor will receive a Vendor Notification letter along with a Vendor Invoice. The vendor will be instructed to credit the recipient's account upon receipt of payment from Cherokee Nation. All propane clients will be required to verify propane vendor. The one-time LIHEAP assistance payment will be made to the vendor once the invoice is signed and returned for payment. The invoice also serves as a vendor instruction sheet, as agreement statement forcing the vendor to follow the steps outlined in the invoice. Cherokee Nation will mail out annual letters to all vendors addressing that the home energy supplier will charge the eligible household, the normal billing process, the difference between the actual cost of the home energy and the amount of the payment.

### 9.4 How do you assure that no household receiving assistance under this title will be treated adversely because of their receipt of LIHEAP assistance?

Cherokee Nation has worked with local energy suppliers in the past and has experienced no difficulty with the relationship between the supplier and the participants. Should treatment by supplier to the participant change in the future and suppliers treat participants different than regular customers, Cherokee Nation would choose to discontinue working with the supplier. Cherokee Nation will mail out an Annual Vendor letter to ensure that these statutory requirements are met.

### 9.5. Do you make payments contingent on unregulated vendors taking appropriate measures to alleviate the energy burdens of eligible households?

☐ Yes ☒ No

If so, describe the measures unregulated vendors may take.

Attach a copy of the template statewide vendor agreement or a policy that indicates local agreements must adhere to statewide policies and assurances.

**If any of the above questions require further explanation or clarification that could not be made in the fields provided, attach a document with said explanation here.**

## Section 10 - Program, Fiscal Monitoring, and Audit, 2605(b)(10) - Assurance 10

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### LOW INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM(LIHEAP) MODEL PLAN

#### Section 10: Program, Fiscal Monitoring, and Audit, 2605(b)(10)

##### 10.1. How do you ensure good fiscal accounting and tracking of funds?

Cherokee Nation (CN) ensures the oversight of federal funds through CN's organization policies and procedures. CN utilizes multiple levels of preventative procedures in order to ensure compliance with federal and non-federal grantor regulations. These policies and procedures cover all aspects of accounting for grant funds: Accounts Payable, Budgets, Financial Systems, Internal Controls, Payroll, Travel, Cash Management, Grants Development and Grants managements Policies. CN reviews all polices and procedures for update on an annual basis. Necessary updates are made as needed.

CN has Internal Controls (IC) for all accounting processes. There are six different IC narratives that ensure compliance with CN Internal controls: Accounts Payable, Budgeting, Cash, Financial Reporting, Grants, and Payroll. Financial Resources and Grant Services staff members provide effective controls and accountability for all funds through daily monitoring of bank balances, reconciliation of deposits to receipts, and data entry into the accounting system for accounts payable, etc.

Each department is responsible for tracking an inventory of all assets and ensuring that they are used solely for authorized purposes. Cherokee Nation's Infor Financial Management System is a well-developed financial management system capable of accounting for each project CN undertakes seperately and distinctly from other sources of revenue/funding. The Infor system tracks expenditures down to the account and activity level for each grant or contract received by CN. Additionally, once a grant budget has been submitted to the Budgets department, that budget is uploaded into the system. Once the upload is completed, the system will track budgeted versus actual amounts until closeout of the grant.

Cherokee Nation will continue maintaining this standard of operation. Additionally, Cherokee Nation certifies that it shall remain fiscally responsible and control costs, regardless of whether the funds made available for the proposed project are incrementally increased or decreased between fiscal years. The Secretary, Inspector General, Comptroller General, or their duly authorized representatives, shall have access to any books, documents, papers, and records of the program that are pertinent to the proposed project to conduct surveys, audits, and evaluations of the grantee.

##### 10.1a Provide your definitions of the following:

###### Obligation

Funds authorized and committed to an activity or purchase that have not been expended.

###### Expenditures

A payment of cash or credit for goods or services.

###### Expenditure timeframe

The time between obligating funds and making payments; may be dependent on grant conditions.

###### Administrative costs

Expenses incurred that support of the day to day operations of the Cherokee Nation.

##### Audit Process

##### 10.2. Is your LIHEAP program audited annually under the Single Audit Act and OMB Circular A - 133?

☒ Yes ☐ No

##### 10.2a - if yes, describe your auditor selection process.

Cherokee Nation's financial statements are audited yearly by the independent audit firm. This audit include both the Financial Statement Audit and Single Audit pursuant to OMB requirement. The most recent Signal Audit for Cherokee Nation was for the fiscal year ending September 20, 2023. This audit was issued March 31, 2024, and was submitted to the Federal Audit Clearinghouse upon completion. The Nation qualified a a low-risk auditee as defined in OMB requirements. There were no significant deficiencies or material weakness reported. The auditors expressed an unmodified opion on the single audit. Cherokee Nation is a model for compliance to law and regulations while provided steady reponse to program needs.

##### 10.3. Describe any audit findings of the grant recipient (i.e. State/Tribe/Territory) rising to the level of material weakness or reportable condition cited in the single audits, inspector general reviews, or other government agency reviews from the most recently audited fiscal year.

No Findings ☒

Finding	Type	Brief Summary	Resolved?	Action Taken
1				
<b>10.4. Audits of Local Administering Agencies</b>				
What types of annual audit requirements do you have in place for local administering agencies/district offices? Select all that apply.				
<input type="checkbox"/> Local agencies/district offices are required to have an annual audit in compliance with Single Audit Act and OMB Circular A-133				
<input type="checkbox"/> Local agencies/district offices are required to have an annual audit (other than A-133)				
<input type="checkbox"/> Local agencies/district offices' A-133 or other independent audits are reviewed by Grant recipient as part of compliance process.				
<input type="checkbox"/> Grant recipient conducts fiscal and program monitoring of local agencies/district offices				
<input type="checkbox"/> Local agencies and district offices are required to have an annual audit in compliance with Single Audit Act and OMB Circular A-133				
<b>Compliance Monitoring</b>				
<b>10.5. Describe your monitoring process for compliance at each level below. Check all that apply.</b>				
Grant recipients have a policy in place for appropriate separation of duties and internal controls.				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Internal program review				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Departmental oversight				
<input type="checkbox"/> Secondary review of invoices and payments				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other program review mechanisms are in place. Describe:				
<p>Cherokee Nation (CN) ensures the oversight of federal funds through CN's organization policies and procedures. CN utilizes multiple levels of preventative procedures in order to ensure compliance with federal and non-federal grantor regulations. These include: CN's Financial Resources department, CN's Financial Management System and CN's Grant Services: Grant Management department, Financial Resources staff members provide effective controls and accountability for all funds through daily monitoring of bank balances, reconciliation of deposits to receipts and data entry into the accounting systems for accounts payable.</p> <p>Each department is responsible for tracking an inventory of all assets and ensuring that they are used solely for authorized purposes. CN's Lawson Financial Management System is a well-developed financial management system. The Lawson System is capable of accounting for each project C undertakes separately and districting from other sources of revenue/funding. The Lawson system tracks expenses down t the account and activity level for each grant or contract received by CN. CN has in place multiple avenues of payments via invoices, vouchers, and a/or drawdown on a weekly or monthly basis, as required by the funding agency. Teach process is closely monitored in accordance with relative policies and procedures.</p> <p>Cherokee Nation will maintain this standard of operation. Additionally, Cherokee Natin certifies that it shall remain fiscally responsible and control costs, regardless of whether the funds made available for projected are incrementally increased or decreased between fiscal years. The Secretary, Inspector General, Controller, or their duly authorized representative shall have access to any books, documents, papers and records of the program that are pertinent to the proposed project in order to conduct surveys, audits, and evaluations of the grantee.</p>				
<b>Local Administering Agencies/District Offices:</b>				
<input type="checkbox"/> On - site evaluation				
<input type="checkbox"/> Annual program review				
<input type="checkbox"/> Monitoring through central database				
<input type="checkbox"/> Desk reviews				
<input type="checkbox"/> Client File Testing/Sampling				
<input type="checkbox"/> Other program review mechanisms are in place. Describe:				
Cherokee Nation has no LocalAdministering Agencies.				
<b>10.6 Explain, or attach a copy of your local agency monitoring schedule and protocol.</b>				
NA				
<b>10.7. Describe how you select local agencies for monitoring reviews. Attach a risk assessment if subrecipients are utilized.</b>				
<b>Site Visits:</b>				
Cherokee Nation does have any local agencies				
<b>Desk Reviews:</b>				

10.8. How often is each local agency monitored? *Please attach a monitoring schedule if one has been developed.*  
Other

10.9. How many local agencies are currently on corrective action plans? 0

**If any of the above questions require further explanation or clarification that could not be made in the fields provided, attach a document with said explanation here.**

## Section 11 - Timely and Meaningful Public Participation, , 2605(b)(12) - Assurance 12, 2605(c)(2)

<b>U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES</b>	August 1987, revised 05/92, 02/95, 03/96, 12/98, 11/01 OMB Clearance No.: 0970-013 Expiration Date: 02/28/2027	
<b>LOW INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM(LIHEAP) MODEL PLAN</b>		
<b>Section 11: Timely and Meaningful Public Participation, 2605(b)(12), 2605(C)(2)</b>		
<b>11.1 How did you obtain input from the public in the development of your LIHEAP plan? Select all that apply.</b> <i>Note: Tribes do not need to hold a public hearing but must ensure participation through other means.</i>		
<input type="checkbox"/> Tribal Council meeting(s)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Public Hearing(s)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Draft Plan posted to website and available for comment		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hard copy of plan is available for public view and comment		
<input type="checkbox"/> Comments from applicants are recorded		
<input type="checkbox"/> Request for comments on draft Plan is advertised		
<input type="checkbox"/> Stakeholder consultation meeting(s)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Comments are solicited during outreach activities		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other - Describe:		
<p>A timely and meaningful public comment period is provided each year to allow concerned Tribal members, local Department of Human Services, Community Action Programs, and major energy suppliers/vendors to review the proposed application and provide written and/or verbal comments prior to the submission of the LIHEAP application.</p> <p>The proposed LIHEAP application is available for review in all Cherokee Nation Family Assurances offices sites located throughout the reservation boundaries of the Cherokee Nation.</p> <p>Person unable to review the application at one of the Tribal offices may request information about the program by phone and submit written comments to the LIHEAP Manager or Designee.</p> <p>Public participation of the review and comments on the proposed application is solicited through public service announcements in the local newspapers.</p>		
<b>Public Hearings, 2605(a)(2) - For States and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico Only</b>		
<b>11.2 List the date and location(s) that you held public hearing(s) on the proposed use and distribution of your LIHEAP funds?</b>		
	Date	Event Description
1		
<b>11.3. How many parties commented on your plan at the hearing(s)?</b>		
<b>11.4 Summarize the comments you received at the hearing(s).</b>		
<b>11.5 What changes did you make to your LIHEAP plan as a result of public participation and solicitation of input?</b>		
<p>Cherokee Nation received no comments regarding the Public Notice that was published in local newspapers within our reservation jurisdiction boundaries.</p>		
<b>If any of the above questions require further explanation or clarification that could not be made in the fields provided, attach a document with said explanation here.</b>		

## Section 12 - Fair Hearings, 2605(b)(13) - Assurance 13

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

August 1987, revised 05/92, 02/95, 03/96, 12/98, 11/01  
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Expiration Date: 02/28/2027

### LOW INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM(LIHEAP) MODEL PLAN

## Section 12: Fair Hearings, 2605(b)(13) - Assurance 13

12.1 How many fair hearings did the Grant recipient have in the prior federal Fiscal Year? 0

12.2 How many of those fair hearings resulted in the initial decision being reversed? 0

12.3 Describe any policy and/or procedural changes made in the last federal Fiscal Year as a result of fair hearings?

No changes have been made due to fair hearings requested.

12.4 Describe your fair hearing procedures for households whose applications are denied and/or not acted upon in a timely manner.

Should an applicant under the LIHEAP Program be denied services received services that are not acted upon with reasonable promptness, the application may request an administrative hearing. Client will be informed of the appeal rights during the time of their application. There appeal rights are included in the LIHEAP application and in all Disapproval Notification letters.

The client must request a hearing in writing within ten (10) days upon receipt of the Disapproval Notification letter either by U.S. mail or hand delivery to one of the Cherokee Nation field offices or the Family Assistance Department located in the Tribal Complex in Tahlequah, Oklahoma.

A Hearing date will be set not to exceed 20 days after the receipt of the participant's written request. All hearings will be conducted in the Cherokee Nation Human Services Department, Tahlequah, Oklahoma.

A complete review of the facts surrounding the request and a review of regulations will take place at the hearing. After the facts are presented and reviewed, the Department Director shall reach a determination during the hearing. Reason for determination will be explained to all parties.

If the participant is still dissatisfied with the Directors' decision final request can be made with the Executive Director of Human Services Group. The Executive Director's decision will be the final decision.

12.5 When and how are applicants informed of these rights?

Clients will be informed of their appeal rights during the time of their application. Their appeal rights are included in the LIHEAP application in the denial/approval letters.

**If any of the above questions require further explanation or clarification that could not be made in the fields provided, attach a document with said explanation here.**

## Section 13 - Reduction of home energy needs,2605(b)(16) - Assurance 16

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

August 1987, revised 05/92, 02/95, 03/96, 12/98, 11/01  
OMB Clearance No.: 0970-013  
Expiration Date: 02/28/2027

### LOW INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM(LIHEAP) MODEL PLAN

#### Section 13: Reduction of home energy needs, 2605(b)(16) - Assurance 16

**13.1 Describe how you use LIHEAP funds to provide services that encourage and enable households to reduce their home energy needs and thereby the need for energy assistance?**

Cherokee Nation does not have a reductionto their home energy needs.

**13.2 How do you ensure that you don't use more than 5% of your LIHEAP funds for these activities?**

Cherokee Nation does not have a reductionto their home energy needs.

**13.3 Describe the impact of such activities on the number of households served in the previous federal Fiscal Year.**

There are no statistics. This service is not provided.

**13.4 Describe the level of direct benefits provided to those households in the previous federal Fiscal Year.**

Direct benefits are not provided.

**13.5 How many households received these services? 0**

**If any of the above questions require further explanation or clarification that could not be made in the fields provided, attach a document with said explanation here.**

## Section 14 - Leveraging Incentive Program ,2607A

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

August 1987, revised 05/92, 02/95, 03/96, 12/98, 11/01  
OMB Clearance No.: 0970-013  
Expiration Date: 02/28/2027

### LOW INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM(LIHEAP) MODEL PLAN

#### Section 14:Leveraging Incentive Program, 2607(A)

14.1 Do you plan to submit an application for the leveraging incentive program?

☐ Yes ☒ No

14.2 Describe instructions to any third parties and/or local agencies for submitting LIHEAP leveraging resource information and retaining records.

14.3 For each type of resource and/or benefit to be leveraged in the upcoming year that will meet the requirements of 45 C.F.R. § 96.87(d)(2)(iii), describe the following:

Resource	What is the type of resource or benefit ?	What is the source(s) of the resource ?	How will the resource be integrated and coordinated with LIHEAP?
1			

**If any of the above questions require further explanation or clarification that could not be made in the fields provided, attach a document with said explanation here.**

## Section 15 - Training

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

August 1987, revised 05/92, 02/95, 03/96, 12/98, 11/01  
OMB Clearance No.: 0970-013  
Expiration Date: 02/28/2027

### LOW INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM(LIHEAP) MODEL PLAN

## Section 15: Training

15.1 Describe the training you provide for each of the following groups:

**a. Grant recipient Staff:**

☒ Formal training provided virtually, on-site, and/or formal training conference

How often?

☒ Annually

☐ Biannually

☒ As needed

☐ Other, describe:

☐ Employees are provided with policy manual

☐ Other, describe:

Cherokee Nation will provide training annual and as needed.

**b. Local Agencies:**

☐ Formal training provided virtually, on-site, and/or formal training conference

How often?

☐ Annually

☐ Biannually

☐ As needed

☐ Other, describe:

☐ On-site training

How often?

☐ Annually

☐ Biannually

☒ As needed

☐ Other, describe:

☐ Employees are provided with policy manual

☐ Other, describe:

Cherokee Nation works closely with other agencies and will inform them about programs we have available.

**c. Vendors**

☐ Formal training conference

How often?

☐ Annually

☐ Biannually

☐ As needed

☐ Other, describe:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Policies communicated through vendor agreements	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Policies are outlined in a vendor manual	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<p>Other, describe:</p> <p>Cherokee Nation works closely with all our vendors and will share information of programs with those vendors as needed.</p>	
<p>15.2 Does your training program address fraud reporting and prevention?</p> <p><input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes</p> <p><input type="radio"/> No</p>		
<p><b>If any of the above questions require further explanation or clarification that could not be made in the fields provided, attach a document with said explanation here.</b></p>		

## Section 16 - Performance Goals and Measures, 2605(b)

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

August 1987, revised 05/92, 02/95, 03/96, 12/98, 11/01  
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Expiration Date: 02/28/2027

### LOW INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM(LIHEAP) MODEL PLAN

#### Section 16: Performance Goals and Measures, 2605(b) - Required for States Only

16.1 Describe your progress toward meeting the data collection and reporting requirements of the four required LIHEAP (Benefit Targeting Index, Burden Reduction Targeting Index, Restoration of Home Energy Service, and Prevention of Loss of Home Energy Service). Include timeframes and plans for meeting these requirements and what you believe will be accomplished in the coming federal fiscal year.

**If any of the above questions require further explanation or clarification that could not be made in the fields provided, attach a document with said explanation here.**

## Section 17 - Program Integrity, 2605(b)(10)

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

August 1987, revised 05/92, 02/95, 03/96, 12/98, 11/01  
OMB Clearance No.: 0970-013  
Expiration Date: 02/28/2027

### LOW INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM(LIHEAP) MODEL PLAN

#### Section 17: Program Integrity, 2605(b)(10)

##### 17.1 Fraud Reporting Mechanisms

a. Describe all mechanisms available to the public for reporting cases of suspected waste, fraud, and abuse. Select all that apply.



Online Fraud Reporting



Dedicated Fraud Reporting Hotline



Report directly to local agency/district office or Grant recipient office



Report to State Inspector General or Attorney General



Forms and procedures in place for local agencies/district offices and vendors to report fraud, waste, and abuse



Other - Describe:

b. Describe strategies in place for advertising the above-referenced resources. Select all that apply



Printed outreach materials



Posted in local administering agencies offices.



Addressed on LIHEAP application



Website



Other - Describe:

##### 17.2. Identification Documentation Requirements

a. Indicate which of the following forms of identification are required or requested to be collected from LIHEAP applicants or their household members.

Type of Identification Collected	Collected from Whom?					
	Applicant Only		All Adults in Household		All Household Members	
Social Security Card is photocopied and retained	<input type="checkbox"/>	Required	<input type="checkbox"/>	Required	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Required
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Requested	<input type="checkbox"/>	Requested	<input type="checkbox"/>	Requested
Social Security Number (Without actual Card)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Required	<input type="checkbox"/>	Required	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Required
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Requested	<input type="checkbox"/>	Requested	<input type="checkbox"/>	Requested
Government-issued identification card (i.e.: driver's license, state ID, Tribal ID, passport, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Required	<input type="checkbox"/>	Required	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Required
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Requested	<input type="checkbox"/>	Requested	<input type="checkbox"/>	Requested
Other		Applicant Only Required	Applicant Only Requested	All Adults in Household Required	All Adults in Household Requested	All Household Members Required
1						

	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>17.3. Citizenship/Legal Residency Verification</b>						
What are your procedures for ensuring LIHEAP recipients are U.S. citizens or qualified non-citizens who are eligible to receive LIHEAP benefits? Select all that apply.						
<input type="checkbox"/>	Clients sign an attestation of citizenship or U.S. Citizen or Qualified Non-Citizen					
<input type="checkbox"/>	Client's submission of certain Social Security Administration cards is accepted as proof of U.S. Citizen or Qualified Non-Citizen.					
<input type="checkbox"/>	Non-Citizens must provide documentation of immigration status					
<input type="checkbox"/>	Citizens must provide a copy of their birth certificate, naturalization papers, or passport					
<input type="checkbox"/>	Non-Citizens are verified through the SAVE system					
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Tribal members are verified through Tribal enrollment records/Tribal ID card					
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other - Describe:  DHS verification and tax return can verify identity and social security numbers.					
<b>17.4. Income Verification</b>						
What methods does your agency utilize to verify household income? Select all that apply.						
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Require documentation of income for all adult household members					
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Pay stubs					
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Social Security award letters					
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Bank statements					
<input type="checkbox"/>	Tax statements					
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Zero-income statements					
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Unemployment Insurance letters					
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other - Describe:					
<input type="checkbox"/>	Computer data matches:					
<input type="checkbox"/>	Income information matched against state computer system (e.g., SNAP, TANF)					
<input type="checkbox"/>	Proof of unemployment benefits verified with state Department of Labor					
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Social Security income verified with SSA					
<input type="checkbox"/>	Utilize state directory of new hires					
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other - Describe:					
b. Describe any exceptions to the above policies.						
<b>17.5 Identification Verification</b>						
Describe what methods are used to verify the authenticity of identification documents provided by clients or household members. Select all that apply						
<input type="checkbox"/>	Verify SSNs with Social Security Administration					
<input type="checkbox"/>	Match SSNs with death records from Social Security Administration or state agency					
<input type="checkbox"/>	Match SSNs with state eligibility/case management system (e.g., SNAP, TANF)					
<input type="checkbox"/>	Match with state Department of Labor system					
<input type="checkbox"/>	Match with state and/or federal corrections system					
<input type="checkbox"/>	Match with state child support system					
<input type="checkbox"/>	Verification using private software (e.g., The Work Number)					
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	In-person certification by staff (for tribal Grant recipients only)					
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Match SSN/Tribal ID number with tribal database or enrollment records (for tribal Grant recipients only)					
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other - Describe:					
<b>17.6. Protection of Privacy and Confidentiality</b>						

Describe the financial and operating controls in place to protect client information against improper use or disclosure. Select all that apply.
<input type="checkbox"/> Policy in place prohibiting release of information without written consent
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grant recipient LIHEAP database includes privacy/confidentiality safeguards
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Employee training on confidentiality for:
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grant recipient employees
<input type="checkbox"/> Local agencies/district offices
<input type="checkbox"/> Employees must sign confidentiality agreement
<input type="checkbox"/> Grant recipient employees
<input type="checkbox"/> Local agencies/district offices
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Physical files are stored in a secure location
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Electronic files are protected in a secure location.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other - Describe: Cherokee Nation goes over the
17.7. Verifying the Authenticity
What policies are in place for verifying vendor authenticity? Select all that apply.
<input type="checkbox"/> All vendors must register with the State/Tribe.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> All vendors must supply a valid SSN or TIN/W-9 form
<input type="checkbox"/> Vendors are verified through energy bills provided by the household
<input type="checkbox"/> Grant recipient and/or local agencies/district offices perform physical monitoring of vendors
<input type="checkbox"/> Other - Describe and note any exceptions to policies above:
17.8. Benefits Policy - Gas and Electric Utilities
What policies are in place to protect against fraud when making benefit payments to gas and electric utilities on behalf of clients? Select all that apply.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Applicants required to submit proof of physical residency
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Applicants must submit current utility bill
<input type="checkbox"/> Data exchange with utilities that verifies:
<input type="checkbox"/> Account ownership
<input type="checkbox"/> Consumption
<input type="checkbox"/> Balances
<input type="checkbox"/> Payment history
<input type="checkbox"/> Account is properly credited with benefit
<input type="checkbox"/> Other - Describe:
<input type="checkbox"/> Centralized computer system/database tracks payments to all utilities
<input type="checkbox"/> Centralized computer system automatically generates benefit level
<input type="checkbox"/> Separation of duties between intake and payment approval
<input type="checkbox"/> Payments coordinated among other energy assistance programs to avoid duplication of payments
<input type="checkbox"/> Payments to utilities and invoices from utilities are reviewed for accuracy
<input type="checkbox"/> Computer databases are periodically reviewed to verify accuracy and timeliness of payments made to utilities
<input type="checkbox"/> Direct payment to households are made in limited cases only
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Procedures are in place to require prompt refunds from utilities in cases of account closure
<input type="checkbox"/> Vendor agreements specify requirements selected above, and provide enforcement mechanism
<input type="checkbox"/> Other - Describe:
17.9. Benefits Policy - Bulk Fuel Vendors
What procedures are in place for averting fraud and improper payments when dealing with bulk fuel suppliers of heating oil, propane, wood,

and other bulk fuel vendors? Select all that apply.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Vendors are checked against an approved vendors list
<input type="checkbox"/> Centralized computer system/database is used to track payments to all vendors
<input type="checkbox"/> Clients are relied on for reports of non-delivery or partial delivery
<input type="checkbox"/> Two-party checks are issued naming client and vendor
<input type="checkbox"/> Direct payment to households are made in limited cases only
<input type="checkbox"/> Vendors are only paid once they provide a delivery receipt signed by the client
<input type="checkbox"/> Conduct monitoring of bulk fuel vendors
<input type="checkbox"/> Bulk fuel vendors are required to submit reports to the grant recipient.
<input type="checkbox"/> Vendor agreements specify requirements selected above, and provide enforcement mechanism
<input type="checkbox"/> Other - Describe:
<b>17.10. Investigations and Prosecutions</b>
Describe the Grant recipients procedures for investigating and prosecuting reports of fraud, and any sanctions placed on clients, staff, or vendors found to have committed fraud. Select all that apply.
<input type="checkbox"/> Refer to state Inspector General
<input type="checkbox"/> Refer to local prosecutor or state Attorney General
<input type="checkbox"/> Refer to US DHHS Inspector General (including referral to OIG hotline)
<input type="checkbox"/> Local agencies/district offices or Grant recipient conduct investigation of fraud complaints from public
<input type="checkbox"/> Grant recipient attempts collection of improper payments. If so, describe the recoupment process
<input type="checkbox"/> Clients found to have committed fraud are banned from LIHEAP assistance. For how long is a household banned?
<input type="checkbox"/> Contracts with local agencies require that employees found to have committed fraud are reprimanded and/or terminated
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Vendors found to have committed fraud may no longer participate in LIHEAP
<input type="checkbox"/> Other - Describe:
<b>If any of the above questions require further explanation or clarification that could not be made in the fields provided, attach a document with said explanation here.</b>

**Section 18: Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, and Other Responsibility Matters**

**Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, and Other Responsibility Matters--Primary Covered Transactions**

**Instructions for Certification**

1. By signing and submitting this proposal, the prospective primary participant is providing the certification set out below.

2. The inability of a person to provide the certification required below will not necessarily result in denial of participation in this covered transaction. The prospective participant shall submit an explanation of why it cannot provide the certification set out below. The certification or explanation will be considered in connection with the department or agency's determination whether to enter into this transaction. However, failure of the prospective primary participant to furnish a certification or an explanation shall disqualify such person from participation in this transaction.

3. The certification in this clause is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when the department or agency determined to enter into this transaction. If it is later determined that the prospective primary participant knowingly rendered an erroneous certification, in addition to other remedies available to the Federal Government, the department or agency may terminate this transaction for cause or default.

4. The prospective primary participant shall provide immediate written notice to the department or agency to which this proposal is submitted if at any time the prospective primary participant learns that its certification was erroneous when submitted or has become erroneous by reason of changed circumstances.

5. The terms covered transaction, debarred, suspended, ineligible, lower tier covered transaction, participant, person, primary covered transaction, principal, proposal, and voluntarily excluded, as used in this clause, have the meanings set out in the Definitions and Coverage sections of the rules implementing Executive Order 12549. You may contact the department or agency to which this proposal is being submitted for assistance in obtaining a copy of those regulations.

6. The prospective primary participant agrees by submitting this proposal that, should the proposed covered transaction be entered into, it shall not knowingly enter into any lower tier covered transaction with a person who is proposed for debarment under 48 CFR part 9, subpart 9.4, debarred, suspended, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this covered transaction, unless authorized by the department or agency entering into this transaction.

7. The prospective primary participant further agrees by submitting this proposal that it will include the clause titled "Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, Ineligibility and Voluntary Exclusion-Lower Tier Covered Transaction," provided by the department or agency entering into this covered transaction, without modification, in all lower tier covered transactions and in all solicitations for lower tier covered transactions.

8. A participant in a covered transaction may rely upon a certification of a prospective participant in a lower tier covered transaction that it is not proposed for debarment under 48 CFR part 9, subpart 9.4, debarred, suspended, ineligible, or

voluntarily excluded from the covered transaction, unless it knows that the certification is erroneous. A participant may decide the method and frequency by which it determines the eligibility of its principals. Each participant may, but is not required to, check the List of Parties Excluded from Federal Procurement and Nonprocurement Programs.

9. Nothing contained in the foregoing shall be construed to require establishment of a system of records in order to render in good faith the certification required by this clause. The knowledge and information of a participant is not required to exceed that which is normally possessed by a prudent person in the ordinary course of business dealings.

10. Except for transactions authorized under paragraph 6 of these instructions, if a participant in a covered transaction knowingly enters into a lower tier covered transaction with a person who is proposed for debarment under 48 CFR part 9, subpart 9.4, suspended, debarred, ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this transaction, in addition to other remedies available to the Federal Government, the department or agency may terminate this transaction for cause or default.

#### **Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, and Other Responsibility Matters--Primary Covered Transactions**

(1) The prospective primary participant certifies to the best of its knowledge and belief, that it and its principals:

(a) Are not presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded by any Federal department or agency;

(b) Have not within a three-year period preceding this proposal been convicted of or had a civil judgment rendered against them for commission of fraud or a criminal offense in connection with obtaining, attempting to obtain, or performing a public (Federal, State or local) transaction or contract under a public transaction; violation of Federal or State antitrust statutes or commission of embezzlement, theft, forgery, bribery, falsification or destruction of records, making false statements, or receiving stolen property;

(c) Are not presently indicted for or otherwise criminally or civilly charged by a governmental entity (Federal, State or local) with commission of any of the offenses enumerated in paragraph (1)(b) of this certification; and

(d) Have not within a three-year period preceding this application/proposal had one or more public transactions (Federal, State or local) terminated for cause or default.

(2) Where the prospective primary participant is unable to certify to any of the statements in this certification, such prospective participant shall attach an explanation to this proposal.

#### **Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, Ineligibility and Voluntary Exclusion--Lower Tier Covered Transactions**

##### **Instructions for Certification**

1. By signing and submitting this proposal, the prospective lower tier participant is providing the certification set out below.

2. The certification in this clause is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when this transaction was entered into. If it is later

determined that the prospective lower tier participant knowingly rendered an erroneous certification, in addition to other remedies available to the Federal Government the department or agency with which this transaction originated may pursue available remedies, including suspension and/or debarment.

3. The prospective lower tier participant shall provide immediate written notice to the person to which this proposal is submitted if at any time the prospective lower tier participant learns that its certification was erroneous when submitted or had become erroneous by reason of changed circumstances.

4. The terms covered transaction, debarred, suspended, ineligible, lower tier covered transaction, participant, person, primary covered transaction, principal, proposal, and voluntarily excluded, as used in this clause, have the meaning set out in the Definitions and Coverage sections of rules implementing Executive Order 12549. You may contact the person to which this proposal is submitted for assistance in obtaining a copy of those regulations.

5. The prospective lower tier participant agrees by submitting this proposal that, [[Page 33043]] should the proposed covered transaction be entered into, it shall not knowingly enter into any lower tier covered transaction with a person who is proposed for debarment under 48 CFR part 9, subpart 9.4, debarred, suspended, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this covered transaction, unless authorized by the department or agency with which this transaction originated.

6. The prospective lower tier participant further agrees by submitting this proposal that it will include this clause titled ``Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, Ineligibility and Voluntary Exclusion-Lower Tier Covered Transaction," without modification, in all lower tier covered transactions and in all solicitations for lower tier covered transactions.

7. A participant in a covered transaction may rely upon a certification of a prospective participant in a lower tier covered transaction that it is not proposed for debarment under 48 CFR part 9, subpart 9.4, debarred, suspended, ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from covered transactions, unless it knows that the certification is erroneous. A participant may decide the method and frequency by which it determines the eligibility of its principals. Each participant may, but is not required to, check the List of Parties Excluded from Federal Procurement and Nonprocurement Programs.

8. Nothing contained in the foregoing shall be construed to require establishment of a system of records in order to render in good faith the certification required by this clause. The knowledge and information of a participant is not required to exceed that which is normally possessed by a prudent person in the ordinary course of business dealings.

9. Except for transactions authorized under paragraph 5 of these instructions, if a participant in a covered transaction knowingly enters into a lower tier covered transaction with a person who is proposed for debarment under 48 CFR part 9, subpart 9.4, suspended, debarred, ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this transaction, in addition to other remedies available to the Federal Government, the department or agency with which this transaction originated may pursue available remedies, including suspension and/or debarment.

#### **Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, Ineligibility an Voluntary Exclusion--Lower Tier Covered Transactions**

(1) The prospective lower tier participant certifies, by submission of this proposal, that neither it nor its principals is presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this transaction by any Federal department or agency.

**(2) Where the prospective lower tier participant is unable to certify to any of the statements in this certification, such prospective participant shall attach an explanation to this proposal.**

☒ **By checking this box, the prospective primary participant is providing the certification set out above.**

**Section 19: Certification Regarding Drug-Free Workplace Requirements**

This certification is required by the regulations implementing the Drug-Free Workplace Act of 1988: 45 CFR Part 76, Subpart, F. Sections 76.630(c) and (d)(2) and 76.645(a)(1) and (b) provide that a Federal agency may designate a central receipt point for STATE-WIDE AND STATE AGENCY-WIDE certifications, and for notification of criminal drug convictions. For the Department of Health and Human Services, the central pint is: Division of Grants Management and Oversight, Office of Management and Acquisition, Department of Health and Human Services, Room 517-D, 200 Independence Avenue, SW Washington, DC 20201.

**Certification Regarding Drug-Free Workplace Requirements (Instructions for Certification)**

1. By signing and/or submitting this application or grant agreement, the Grant recipient is providing the certification set out below.
2. The certification set out below is a material representation of fact upon which reliance is placed when the agency awards the grant. If it is later determined that the Grant recipient knowingly rendered a false certification, or otherwise violates the requirements of the Drug-Free Workplace Act, the agency, in addition to any other remedies available to the Federal Government, may take action authorized under the Drug-Free Workplace Act.
3. For Grant recipients other than individuals, Alternate I applies.
4. For Grant recipients who are individuals, Alternate II applies.
5. Workplaces under grants, for Grant recipients other than individuals, need not be identified on the certification. If known, they may be identified in the grant application. If the Grant recipient does not identify the workplaces at the time of application, or upon award, if there is no application, the Grant recipient must keep the identity of the workplace(s) on file in its office and make the information available for Federal inspection. Failure to identify all known workplaces constitutes a violation of the Grant recipients drug-free workplace requirements.
6. Workplace identifications must include the actual address of buildings (or parts of buildings) or other sites where work under the grant takes place. Categorical descriptions may be used (e.g., all vehicles of a mass transit authority or State highway department while in operation, State employees in each local unemployment office, performers in concert halls or radio studios).
7. If the workplace identified to the agency changes during the performance of the grant, the Grant recipient shall inform the agency of the change(s), if it previously identified the workplaces in question (see paragraph five).
8. Definitions of terms in the Nonprocurement Suspension and Debarment common rule and Drug-Free Workplace common rule apply to this certification. Grant recipients attention is called, in particular, to the following definitions from these rules:

***Controlled substance*** means a controlled substance in Schedules I through V of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 812) and as further defined by regulation (21 CFR 1308.11 through 1308.15);

***Conviction*** means a finding of guilt (including a plea of nolo contendere) or imposition of sentence, or both, by any judicial body charged with the responsibility to determine violations of the Federal or State criminal drug statutes;

***Criminal drug statute*** means a Federal or non-Federal criminal statute involving the manufacture, distribution, dispensing, use, or possession of any controlled substance;

***Employee*** means the employee of a Grant recipient directly engaged in the performance of work under a grant, including: (i) All direct charge employees; (ii) All indirect charge employees unless their impact or involvement is insignificant to the performance of the grant; and, (iii) Temporary personnel and consultants who are directly engaged in the performance of work under the grant and who are on the Grant recipients payroll. This definition does not include workers not on the payroll of the Grant recipient (e.g., volunteers, even if used to meet a matching requirement; consultants or independent contractors not on the Grant recipients payroll; or employees of subrecipients or subcontractors in covered workplaces).

#### **Certification Regarding Drug-Free Workplace Requirements**

##### **Alternate I. (Grant recipients Other Than Individuals)**

The Grant recipient certifies that it will or will continue to provide a drug-free workplace by:

(a) Publishing a statement notifying employees that the unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensing, possession, or use of a controlled substance is prohibited in the Grant recipients workplace and specifying the actions that will be taken against employees for violation of such prohibition;

(b) Establishing an ongoing drug-free awareness program to inform employees about --

(1) The dangers of drug abuse in the workplace;

(2) The Grant recipients policy of maintaining a drug-free workplace;

(3) Any available drug counseling, rehabilitation, and employee assistance programs; and

(4) The penalties that may be imposed upon employees for drug abuse violations occurring in the workplace;

c) Making it a requirement that each employee to be engaged in the performance of the grant be given a copy of the statement required by paragraph (a);

(d) Notifying the employee in the statement required by paragraph (a) that, as a condition of employment under the grant, the employee will --

(1) Abide by the terms of the statement; and

(2) Notify the employer in writing of his or her conviction for a violation of a criminal drug statute occurring in the workplace no later than five calendar days after such conviction;

(e) Notifying the agency in writing, within ten calendar days after receiving notice under paragraph (d)(2) from an employee or otherwise receiving actual notice of such conviction. Employers of convicted employees must provide notice, including position title, to every grant officer or other designee on whose grant activity the convicted employee was working, unless the Federal agency has designated a

central point for the receipt of such notices. Notice shall include the identification number(s) of each affected grant;

(f) Taking one of the following actions, within 30 calendar days of receiving notice under paragraph (d)(2), with respect to any employee who is so convicted -(1) Taking appropriate personnel action against such an employee, up to and including termination, consistent with the requirements of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended; or

(2) Requiring such employee to participate satisfactorily in a drug abuse assistance or rehabilitation program approved for such purposes by a Federal, State, or local health, law enforcement, or other appropriate agency;

(g) Making a good faith effort to continue to maintain a drug-free workplace through implementation of paragraphs (a), (b), (c), (d), (e) and (f).

(B) The Grant recipient may insert in the space provided below the site(s) for the performance of work done in connection with the specific grant:

**Place of Performance ( *That this must be physical address. No PO Boxes allowed.* )**

17675 S. Muskogee Ave  
**\* Address Line 1**

Address Line 2

Address Line 3

Tahlequah  
**\* City**

OK  
**\* State**

74465  
**\* Zip Code**

**Check if there are workplaces on file that are not identified here.**

**Alternate II. (Grant recipients Who Are Individuals)**

(a) The Grant recipient certifies that, as a condition of the grant, he or she will not engage in the unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensing, possession, or use of a controlled substance in conducting any activity with the grant;

(b) If convicted of a criminal drug offense resulting from a violation occurring during the conduct of any grant activity, he or she will report the conviction, in writing, within 10 calendar days of the conviction, to every grant officer or other designee, unless the Federal agency designates a central point for the receipt of such notices. When notice is made to such a central point, it shall include the identification number(s) of each affected grant.

[55 FR 21690, 21702, May 25, 1990]

☒ **By checking this box, the prospective primary participant is providing the certification set out above.**

## Section 20: Certification Regarding Lobbying

### Section 20: Certification Regarding Lobbying

The submitter of this application certifies, to the best of his or her knowledge and belief, that:

(1) No Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid, by or on behalf of the undersigned, to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of an agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with the awarding of any Federal contract, the making of any Federal grant, the making of any Federal loan, the entering into of any cooperative agreement, and the extension, continuation, renewal, amendment, or modification of any Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement.

(2) If any funds other than Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with this Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement, the undersigned shall complete and submit Standard Form-LLL, "Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying," in accordance with its instructions

(3) The undersigned shall require that the language of this certification be included in the award documents for all subawards at all tiers (including subcontracts, subgrants, and contracts under grants, loans, and cooperative agreements) and that all subrecipients shall certify and disclose accordingly. This certification is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when this transaction was made or entered into. Submission of this certification is a prerequisite for making or entering into this transaction imposed by section 1352, title 31, U.S. Code. Any person who fails to file the required certification shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$10,000 and not more than \$100,000 for each such failure.

#### Statement for Loan Guarantees and Loan Insurance

The undersigned states, to the best of his or her knowledge and belief, that:

If any funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with this commitment providing for the United States to insure or guarantee a loan, the undersigned shall complete and submit Standard Form-LLL, "Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying," in accordance with its instructions. Submission of this statement is a prerequisite for making or entering into this transaction imposed by section 1352, title 31, U.S. Code. Any person who fails to file the required statement shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$10,000 and not more than \$100,000 for each such failure.

☒ By checking this box, the prospective primary participant is providing the certification set out above.

## Assurances

### Assurances

**(1) use the funds available under this title to--**

**(A) conduct outreach activities and provide assistance to low income households in meeting their home energy costs, particularly those with the lowest incomes that pay a high proportion of household income for home energy, consistent with paragraph (5);**

**(B) intervene in energy crisis situations;**

**(C) provide low-cost residential weatherization and other cost-effective energy-related home repair;and**

**(D)plan, develop, and administer the State's program under this title including leveraging programs, and the State agrees not to use such funds for any purposes other than those specified in this title;**

**(2) make payments under this title only with respect to--**

**(A) households in which one or more individuals are receiving--**

**(i)assistance under the State program funded under part A of title IV of the Social Security Act;**

**(ii) supplemental security income payments under title XVI of the Social Security Act;**

**(iii) food stamps under the Food Stamp Act of 1977; or**

**(iv) payments under section 415, 521, 541, or 542 of title 38, United States Code, or under section 306 of the Veterans' and Survivors' Pension Improvement Act of 1978; or**

**(B) households with incomes which do not exceed the greater of -**

**(i) an amount equal to 150 percent of the poverty level for such State; or**

**(ii) an amount equal to 60 percent of the State median income;**

**(except that a State may not exclude a household from eligibility in a fiscal year solely on the basis of household income if such income is less than 110 percent of the poverty level for such State, but the State may give priority to those households with the highest home energy costs or needs in relation to household income.**

**(3) conduct outreach activities designed to assure that eligible households, especially households with elderly individuals or disabled individuals, or both, and households with high home energy burdens, are made aware of the assistance available under this title, and any similar energy-related assistance available under subtitle B of title VI (relating to community services block grant program) or under any other provision of law which carries out programs which were administered under the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964 before the date of the enactment of this Act;**

**(4) coordinate its activities under this title with similar and related programs administered by the Federal Government and such State, particularly low-income**

energy-related programs under subtitle B of title VI (relating to community services block grant program), under the supplemental security income program, under part A of title IV of the Social Security Act, under title XX of the Social Security Act, under the low-income weatherization assistance program under title IV of the Energy Conservation and Production Act, or under any other provision of law which carries out programs which were administered under the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964 before the date of the enactment of this Act;

(5) provide, in a timely manner, that the highest level of assistance will be furnished to those households which have the lowest incomes and the highest energy costs or needs in relation to income, taking into account family size, except that the State may not differentiate in implementing this section between the households described in clauses 2(A) and 2(B) of this subsection;

(6) to the extent it is necessary to designate local administrative agencies in order to carry out the purposes of this title, to give special consideration, in the designation of such agencies, to any local public or private nonprofit agency which was receiving Federal funds under any low-income energy assistance program or weatherization program under the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964 or any other provision of law on the day before the date of the enactment of this Act, except that -

(A) the State shall, before giving such special consideration, determine that the agency involved meets program and fiscal requirements established by the State; and

(B) if there is no such agency because of any change in the assistance furnished to programs for economically disadvantaged persons, then the State shall give special consideration in the designation of local administrative agencies to any successor agency which is operated in substantially the same manner as the predecessor agency which did receive funds for the fiscal year preceding the fiscal year for which the determination is made;

(7) if the State chooses to pay home energy suppliers directly, establish procedures to --

(A) notify each participating household of the amount of assistance paid on its behalf;

(B) assure that the home energy supplier will charge the eligible household, in the normal billing process, the difference between the actual cost of the home energy and the amount of the payment made by the State under this title;

(C) assure that the home energy supplier will provide assurances that any agreement entered into with a home energy supplier under this paragraph will contain provisions to assure that no household receiving assistance under this title will be treated adversely because of such assistance under applicable provisions of State law or public regulatory requirements; and

(D) ensure that the provision of vendor payments remains at the option of the State in consultation with local Grant recipients and may be contingent on unregulated vendors taking appropriate measures to alleviate the energy burdens of eligible households, including providing for agreements between suppliers and individuals eligible for benefits under this Act that seek to reduce home energy costs, minimize the risks of home energy crisis, and encourage regular payments by individuals receiving financial assistance for home energy costs;

**(8) provide assurances that,**

**(A) the State will not exclude households described in clause (2)(B) of this subsection from receiving home energy assistance benefits under clause (2), and**

**(B) the State will treat owners and renters equitably under the program assisted under this title;**

**(9) provide that--**

**(A) the State may use for planning and administering the use of funds under this title an amount not to exceed 10 percent of the funds payable to such State under this title for a fiscal year; and**

**(B) the State will pay from non-Federal sources the remaining costs of planning and administering the program assisted under this title and will not use Federal funds for such remaining cost (except for the costs of the activities described in paragraph (16));**

**(10) provide that such fiscal control and fund accounting procedures will be established as may be necessary to assure the proper disbursal of and accounting for Federal funds paid to the State under this title, including procedures for monitoring the assistance provided under this title, and provide that the State will comply with the provisions of chapter 75 of title 31, United States Code (commonly known as the "Single Audit Act");**

**(11) permit and cooperate with Federal investigations undertaken in accordance with section 2608;**

**(12) provide for timely and meaningful public participation in the development of the plan described in subsection (c);**

**(13) provide an opportunity for a fair administrative hearing to individuals whose claims for assistance under the plan described in subsection (c) are denied or are not acted upon with reasonable promptness; and**

**(14) cooperate with the Secretary with respect to data collecting and reporting under section 2610.**

**(15) \* beginning in fiscal year 1992, provide, in addition to such services as may be offered by State Departments of Public Welfare at the local level, outreach and intake functions for crisis situations and heating and cooling assistance that is administered by additional State and local governmental entities or community-based organizations (such as community action agencies, area agencies on aging and not-for-profit neighborhood-based organizations), and in States where such organizations do not administer functions as of September 30, 1991, preference in awarding grants or contracts for intake services shall be provided to those agencies that administer the low-income weatherization or energy crisis intervention programs.**

**\* This assurance is applicable only to States, and to territories whose annual regular LIHEAP allotments exceed \$200,000. Neither territories with annual allotments of \$200,000 or less nor Indian tribes/tribal organizations are subject to Assurance 15.**

**(16) use up to 5 percent of such funds, at its option, to provide services that encourage and enable households to reduce their home energy needs and**

**thereby the need for energy assistance, including needs assessments, counseling, and assistance with energy vendors, and report to the Secretary concerning the impact of such activities on the number of households served, the level of direct benefits provided to those households, and the number of households that remain unserved.**



By checking this box, the prospective primary participant is agreeing to the Assurances set out above.

## Plan Attachments

PLAN ATTACHMENTS
The following documents must be attached to this application
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Delegation Letter is required if someone other than the Governor or Chairman Certified this Report.</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Heating component benefit matrix, if applicable</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Cooling component benefit matrix, if applicable</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Minutes, notes, or transcripts of public hearing(s).</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Policy Manual.</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Subrecipient Contract.</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Model Plan Participation Notes for Tribes.</li></ul>