

Big Rivers Electric Corporation
2021 Low-Income Weatherization Support Program Report
Pursuant to Ordering Paragraph No. 2 of
Commission’s November 13, 2019 Order

2021 Program Summary

Year Two of Big Rivers’ Low-Income Weatherization Support Program (“LIWSP”) (DSM-14 – Low-Income Weatherization Support Program – Pilot) continued very similar to 2020 with coordination conference calls with staff from the Kentucky Housing Corp (“KHC”). KHC provides funding coordination to the Community Action Agencies (“CAAs”) which serve retail members of Jackson Purchase Energy Corporation (“JPEC”), Meade County Rural Electric Cooperative Corporation (“Meade County RECC”) and Kenergy Corp. Those CAAs are:

- West Kentucky Allied Services,
- Pennyriple Allied Community Services,
- Audubon Area Community Services, and
- Central Kentucky Community Action.

The program continued to experience lack of participation in 2021 due to the COVID pandemic. One project was completed under the program on March 31, 2021. Big Rivers’ conversations with KHC and the CAAs are ongoing to evaluate potential projects for 2022.

2021 Project Summary

Project 21-1: This project, completed under the Low-Income Weatherization Support Program tariff, was completed March 31, 2021 by the West Kentucky Allied Services Inc., a CAA in JPEC’s service area. The home was 1026 square feet and built in 1967.

The homeowner had an annual income of less than \$10,000 according to the homeowner’s application. Annual heating/cooling costs were more than \$1,250 and included electric space heaters and a propane heater. Two of the rooms in the home were neither heated nor cooled.

Twenty percent (20%) of the \$14,774 project cost was paid for using the LIWSP funded by JPEC and Big Rivers. The project exceeded the combined limits of the United States Department of Energy’s weatherization program and Low-Income Heating Assistance Program funding and, therefore, would not have been completed

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without funding from the LIWSP. The LIWSP project funding included the following measures for Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning (“HVAC”) and Health and Safety measures:

\$3,000 – Energy Star Ducted Air Handler and HVAC/Health & Safety.

The overall project included the following improvements:

1. Lighting Retrofits,
2. Infiltration Reductions,
3. Insulate Water Heating Pipes,
4. Smoke/Carbon Monoxide (“CO”) Detector,
5. Repair Gas Leak,
6. Existing HVAC Repair,
7. Wiring Repair,
8. Repair Exhaust Ventilation,
9. Mechanical Ventilation Repair,
10. Water Heater Replacement,
11. Refrigerator Replacement,
12. Water Heater Pressure Valve Piping,
13. Envelope Patching/Sealing, and
14. Install Mini-Split HVAC System (22.5 SEER¹).

The new Mini-Split HVAC System is among the most efficient systems on the market. Blower door tests showed a 40% reduction in air infiltration in the home after the listed improvements. The home was equipped with new smoke and CO detectors and the existing heating system was repaired. Overall, the energy use in the home will be substantially reduced, while the air quality, comfort and safety of the home will be dramatically improved.

¹ SEER = Season Energy Efficiency Ratio.