SUBJECT: WEATHERIZATION OF RENTAL UNITS – Applicable to single family and multifamily dwellings

PURPOSE: To provide Grantees with updated guidance on weatherizing rental units in the Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP). The Department of Energy (DOE) has answered specific questions from Grantees related to the weatherization of rental units, whether single family building or multifamily dwellings, over a number of years. However, the responses to these questions have not been put forth in guidance. This WPN supersedes all information and materials in the Renters Policy Guidance of January 27, 1984, and the Renters Handbook issued in August 1984.

SCOPE: The provisions of this guidance apply to Grantees applying for financial assistance under the Department of Energy (DOE) WAP.

LEGAL AUTHORITY: Title IV, Energy Conservation and Production Act, as amended, authorizes the Department of Energy to administer the WAP. (42 U.S.C.§ 6861, et. seq.) All grant awards made under this program shall comply with applicable law and regulations including the WAP regulations contained in 10 CFR 440.

BACKGROUND: The Department of Energy (DOE) is committed to serving renters under its Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP). DOE’s position is that renters and homeowners are equally eligible for weatherization assistance, including renters of all types of dwellings. The Final Rule, published in the Federal Register on January 27, 1984, still stands. However, this guidance and the attached Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) supersede the Renters Handbook which was released in August 1984.

GUIDANCE: Grantees under the WAP should reference the “Weatherization of Rental Units” FAQs for DOE’s position on issues and questions that arise when working with tenants and landlords. These FAQs are designed to be applicable regardless of whether
the rental unit is a single family dwelling or multifamily building. The FAQs are broken into three specific areas:

- Administration
- Tenant/Landlord Agreements
- Eligibility, Intake and Certification

Each of these areas are relevant regardless of the type of dwelling and as such, these have been designed to stand independent of multifamily guidance which has additional considerations. For additional provisions and instructions related to multifamily buildings, Grantees should reference Weatherization Program Notice 16-5 found at http://energy.gov/eere/wipo/weatherization-program-guidance.

**CONCLUSION:** Grantees with questions or concerns related to weatherizing rental units should contact their respective DOE Project Officer with any specific needs or requests for clarification.

AnnaMaria Garcia  
Program Director  
Weatherization and Intergovernmental Program  
Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy

Attachment: Weatherization of Rental Units, Frequently Asked Questions