

Layton, Kimberly

From: Jeff Helm [jhelm@yocinc.org]
Sent: Tuesday, June 03, 2014 5:04 PM
To: Comments, Urc
Attachments: IURC_Public_Comment.pdf

Ms. Roads:

Please accept the attached recommendation for consideration. Youth Opportunity Center submits this document in response to IURC's request for public comments on DSM and EE policies and programs.

Respectfully,

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The Youth Opportunity Center, Inc. (YOC) proposes that a 50% tax credit be made available to donors who contribute money to a qualified not-for-profit Indiana agency that will use that money to invest in energy efficiency (EE) projects.

Indiana tax filers contributing to eligible Indiana colleges or universities are allowed a credit of 50% of the contribution or \$100 on a single (\$200 on a jointly filed return), whichever is less. A corporation's credit is equal to 50% of the total amount given during the tax year, with credit caps set at the lesser of 10% of the tax liability or \$1,000.¹

YOC is committed to responsible stewardship of financial and environmental resources. A 2013 project to replace inefficient lighting fixtures in two of the Muncie campus's 18 buildings has reduced electrical use by 35% and 11% respectively, based on a six-month year-over year comparison. This project was made possible in part by an Energizing Indiana rebate program targeting inefficient fixtures. Smaller projects throughout campus include adopting best-practices such as installing motion-detecting light switches, upgrading HVAC programming control systems and variable-frequency drives, and adding insulation.

As a not-for-profit agency, YOC is supported in part by donors invested in the mission of serving at-risk juveniles. A tax credit as described above would be helpful in engaging donors and, in the case of many small donors, increasing the amount of their contributions.

The benefits of such a program include:

1. Decreased utility demand without additional fiscal or administrative burdens on utility providers.
2. Prompting and encouraging not-for-profit agencies to undertake EE projects. Existing donors may ask the organization about planned EE projects, their interest prompted by the tax credit.
3. Agencies would receive an on-going economic benefit through reduced monthly operational costs.
4. Projects undertaken would involve Indiana skilled trades such as electricians, plumbers, roofers, HVAC, and others. This would stimulate work and economic activity throughout the state.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jeff Helm
Director of IT & Facilities

¹ State of Indiana. Department of Revenue. (January 2003) Information Bulletin #14. Income Tax.
<http://www.in.gov/dor/reference/files/ib14.pdf>