

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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NCSEA to Collaborate with N.C. Weatherization Assistance Program to Evaluate Services Provided to Low-Income Homes

RALEIGH, N.C., March 12, 2020 – North Carolina Sustainable Energy Association today announces that it has been selected by the N.C. Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) to lead a project to evaluate the impact of home improvement services provided by the N.C. Weatherization Assistance Program (NCWAP). The project will also establish a standardized data sharing protocol that can be used statewide by NCWAP and electric utilities. NCSEA is contracting data analysis business Enpira, Inc. to assist with quantifying energy savings and establishing the data protocol.

"By helping NCWAP identify best program practices, we can increase the impact and efficiency of these much-needed services to residents across the state," said NCSEA Director of Market Innovation Laura Langham. "This project is squarely aligned with our organizational mission of promoting clean energy access to all North Carolinians, and NCSEA is excited to work with NCWAP on the project."

NCWAP, NCSEA, and Enpira successfully partnered on a project from 2017 to 2018 funded by the U.S. Department of Energy called the Powering Energy Efficiency and Impacts Framework (PEEIF) project.

NCWAP—a program within DEQ—uses federal grants to fund home improvement services to North Carolinians who meet certain income and other criteria. These services help lower utility bills, improve the safety of homes, and generate local economic benefits. The program's focus is on the elderly, the disabled, families with children, high energy users, and the energy burdened. The program weatherizes approximately 1400 homes per year.

NCSEA is excited about building on the organization's work of helping low-income and other underrepresented populations throughout the state access much-needed services that improve standards of living and provide community benefits.

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About NCSEA

The North Carolina Sustainable Energy Association (NCSEA) is a leading 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that drives public policy and market development for clean energy. NCSEA's work enables clean energy jobs, economic opportunities, and affordable energy options for North Carolinians. Learn more about NCSEA, its mission, and vision at <u>www.energync.org</u>.