

DOCKETED

Docket Number:	23-DECARB-01
Project Title:	Inflation Reduction Act Residential Energy Rebate Programs
TN #:	251189
Document Title:	Richard Pellin Comments - HEEHRA & HOMES retroactive rebates
Description:	N/A
Filer:	System
Organization:	Richard Pellin
Submitter Role:	Public
Submission Date:	7/26/2023 4:20:28 PM
Docketed Date:	7/26/2023

*Comment Received From: Richard Pellin
Submitted On: 7/26/2023
Docket Number: 23-DECARB-01*

HEEHRA & HOMES retroactive rebates

I am trying to make the case to have the HOMES and HEEHRA rebates retroactive. Below I have attached part of the answer to question #11 of the FAQ page that shows states are allowed to make rebates retroactive. I am 77 and my wife is 74. We have a house built in 1950. I have just had the electrical panel upgraded to be able to handle a new heat pump system. We currently have only a wall heater and no air conditioning. I have also committed to a new heat pump system to be installed soon. I understand that the procedures are not currently in place to handle the rebates. We suffered badly last year from the summer heat.

Without making the rebates retroactive, upgrading to a new energy efficient system is a significant financial burden. I won't be able use the rebates if they are not retroactive and I am a low/middle (LMI) income family (both retired) so I do not have enough income (under the standard deduction amount) to take advantage of tax credits. If I pull more than the required minimum from our IRA type accounts to show enough income to offset the tax credits then my income will be over the amount for full rebates and would risk any senior/low income utility and other breaks we qualify for. It appears that the law was set up to give rebate breaks to low/moderate income families and tax credits for higher income families. We are caught in the middle and if rebates are not retroactive the cost burden of the new system is significant. Waiting until the state programs are ready to issue rebates would cause us to suffer longer and as a process will cause others to hold off on making energy efficient improvements and also cause a surge of activity when rebates are approved that will cause significant delays and overloading of the supply chain and labor abilities to meet the surge in demand.

Anything you can do to promote making energy rebates retroactive or any suggestions you have that I might not be aware of to help this situation will be appreciated.

Thanks,

Richard Pellin