

Dear Stakeholders,

The April 22 budget proposal for fiscal year 2004 (July 2003-June 2004) does not seek to appropriate any more of the oil-overcharge monies that fund our Energy Office. This is not final, and much could change between now and the final bill. However, it does tell us that the legislature has gotten the message about how short-sighted it would be to eliminate Energy Office programs that help Arizonans to use energy more wisely, promote renewable-energy technologies, and assist low-income residents to lower energy bills and improve comfort.

Thank you for all your support at the legislature and the Governor's Office.

I am certain that without your letters, e-mails, personal contacts, and support at the special legislative conference, our Office would be facing a much more uncertain future. We are not out of the woods yet, but if things don't change, the Energy Office will be able to maintain its present level of staffing and programs during the next fiscal year.

Again, on behalf of the Energy Office staff and myself, I thank you for the ongoing support, encouragement, and belief in our office.

Craig A. Marks, Director
Arizona Energy Office
Department of Commerce
1700 West Washington Ave.
Exec. Twr. - 2nd Fl.
Phoenix, AZ 85007
Work: (602) 771-1139
Fax: (602) 771-1203
Mobile: (480) 227-1929