

NEW HAMPSHIRE



ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND SUSTAINABLE ENERGY BOARD

RSA 125-O:5-a
21 South Fruit Street, Suite 10
Concord, N.H. 03301-2429

July 25, 2014

The Honorable Mary Jane Wallner, Chair
Joint Legislative Fiscal Committee
State House, Room 102
Concord, NH 03301

Dear Representative Wallner and members of the Fiscal Committee;

I write on behalf of the Energy Efficiency and Sustainable Energy (EESE) Board. It has come to the attention of the Board that recent Alternative Compliance Payment revenue received by the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) was approximately \$17.5 Million. This amount exceeds the current legislative appropriation for the PUC's Renewable Energy Fund for State Fiscal Year 2015. The EESE Board recommends that all of the funding be used by the PUC for renewable energy initiatives, as required by law (RSA 362-F:10, I) and not be diverted for any other purpose. It is the hope of the Board that the Fiscal Committee will work with the PUC on the appropriate approvals to ensure the funds are budgeted and expended for their intended purpose.

On June 14, 2013, the Board adopted a resolution regarding the use of Renewable Energy Funds and opposing the transfer of those funds to the general fund. The resolution is attached for your review. The Board remains fully supportive of that resolution and would like to reiterate that the purpose of the Renewable Energy Fund and RSA 362-F is to "to support thermal and electrical renewable energy initiatives," and "solar energy technologies in New Hampshire," investment in which will lower our dependence on fossil fuels and retain energy dollars in the state. Full utilization of these funds for their intended purpose is supported by the Board's November 2012 *Final Report on the New Hampshire Independent Energy Study*, by the June 2013 Board resolution and subsequent submission of the resolution to the House and Senate Finance Committees and also by the Board's recent written comments on the New Hampshire State Energy Strategy Draft Report.

Thank you for your consideration on this important matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Katherine W. Peters".

Katherine W. Peters
Acting Chair
NH Energy Efficiency and Sustainable Energy Board

CC: Senate President Chuck Morse, Senator Russell Prescott, Speaker Terie Norelli, Rep. David Borden