

Sustainable Lebanon
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Karen Cramton, Director
Sustainable Energy Division
NH Public Utilities Commission
21 Fruit St., Suite 10
Concord, NH 03301-2429

Dear Ms. Cramton,

Sustainable Lebanon is a citizens' coalition advocating for municipal policy and supporting municipal action initiatives for energy efficiency, for reduced reliance on fossil fuels and for increased sourcing of renewable energy. We are also promoting programs aimed at reducing greenhouse gas emissions, such as: green burial, tree planting to cool city streets, and a mobile phone app to encourage residents to take personal climate action, among others.

In DE 20-092, Sustainable Lebanon supports the PUC in approving the Electric and Gas Utilities 2021-2023 Triennial Energy Efficiency Plan, through which the state's utilities propose to substantially increase investment in energy efficiency programs. Sustainable Lebanon asserts that the burden on rate payers of these programs is more than offset by tax savings resulting from energy efficiency projects in municipal buildings and school buildings. NH Saves investment, in Lebanon through Liberty Utilities, has contributed to substantial efficiency projects at Lebanon City Hall, Lebanon Middle School, Mt. Lebanon School and Hanover Street School. In the non-profit sector, a struggling child care center, the Children's Center, greatly reduced its electric bill through a lighting retrofit fully financed by NH Saves. Lebanon Housing Authority has completed a series of significant efficiency projects through NH Saves.

A large number of for-profit businesses in Lebanon, ranging in size from a small racing shell workshop to a huge pharmaceutical factory, have received incentive financing enabling lighting retrofits, primarily, but also HVAC equipment upgrades, with very short paybacks and long subsequent savings. These projects have provided many jobs to area contractors.

We believe that these programs make good economic sense, besides their environmental benefit. They are a rare example of united utility enthusiasm for efficiency. We would welcome an increase in these programs, because of the impact we have seen in Lebanon. We believe that poll of Lebanon businesses, so many of which have benefitted, and which tend to be energy conscious, would support rather than oppose increases.

Sincerely yours,



Philip Bush
for Sustainable Lebanon