

RESILIENT BUILDINGS

— GROUP —

Superior energy performance

December 19, 2020

Debra A. Howland
Executive Director
New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission
21 South Fruit Street, Suite 210
Concord, NH 03301

RE: Docket No. DE 20-092 2021-2023 Statewide Energy Efficiency Plan Proposed Settlement Agreement

Dear Debra A. Howland:

I am writing to you and the Public Utilities Commission to request for the approval and implementation of the recently modified proposed settlement agreement for the 2021-2023 Statewide Energy Efficiency Plan.

I am the owner of Resilient Buildings Group, here in Concord, New Hampshire. We work closely with the utility companies and NHSaves across the state to help distribute Commercial and Industrial (C&I) and Low-Income Multifamily energy efficiency funds. Resilient Buildings Group employs 13 people on our team that work with trade allies, property managers, contractors, and State officials to implement energy efficiency funding and achieve energy savings for many businesses across New Hampshire.

Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, Resilient Buildings Group was one of the fortunate businesses that was able to retain its entire group of employees. These 13 people continued to receive a paycheck and full benefits during the shutdown. Today, they are working diligently to ensure cost-effective energy efficiency projects succeed. During the statewide stay at home orders and the temporary shutdown of the NHSaves programs, many of the energy efficiency businesses and contractors (insulators, plumbers, electricians) Resilient Buildings Group works with were unable to retain their employees without the NHSaves programs. This short-term loss of funding created a gap in the energy efficiency workforce that continues today. When the NHSaves programs re-opened in the early summer of this year, they enabled Granite State residents and businesses to invest in energy efficiency projects that kept contractors and trades workers busy and supporting their families during one of the worst periods of unemployment in the state's history

If the Statewide Energy Efficiency Plan and the increased savings goals are implemented, we anticipate a growth in the energy efficiency industry, a growth in many local and well-paying jobs, and greater local economic stability in New Hampshire. If the Plan is not implemented as the settlement agreement outlines and the programs are halted, we anticipate that thousands of Granite Staters may lose their jobs and many local businesses may be forced to permanently close.

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Date

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Resilient Buildings Group strongly supports the revised SBC increase and savings goals as outlined by the settlement agreement for the 2021-2023 Energy Efficiency Plan. An investment in energy efficiency today will continue to support Granite Staters and our local business during this pandemic and into the future. Resilient Buildings Group, and its dedicated employees, are evidence that these programs are direct investments into the New Hampshire economy and its people. We adamantly support the proposed settlement agreement in DE 20-092 and urge the Commission to approve and implement the 2021-2023 Statewide Energy Efficiency Plan.

Sincerely,

Dana Nute

President of Resilient Buildings Group