

From: Patricia Martin
Sent: Sunday, November 12, 2023 12:41 PM
To: PUC: Clerks Office <clerksoffice@puc.nh.gov>
Subject: Public Comment in Docket 23-068

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Dear PUC Clerk,

I am writing in support of the NH Saves program in Docket 23-068. Among the highlights of the proposed program for 2024-2026, are;

- Effectively adds \$2.27 in benefits for every dollar spent;
- Supports 1,718 local jobs year round in the state;
- Local investments build local economy - unlike fossil fuels that come from outside of the state;
- Local government investments lower energy demands in public buildings thus lowering demand on property taxes;
- Lower energy demand means less unhealthy pollution - avoidance of 17 tons of SO₂ emissions and 175 tons of NO_X emissions, both serious and dangerous air pollutants, and 2 Million Tons of CO₂.

I personally took advantage of the NH Saves program in 2011 to weatherize my 1980s home when I was retiring. My goal was to reduce my oil consumption and electricity usage. The grant funding from NH Saves paid for half of the \$4000 of work I had done on my home. In the years since I had the work done, I've saved an average of 20% on oil and electric usage. This was a major help for a retiree on a fixed income.

Moreover, in the last three years, I installed heat pumps, an electric hot water heater and 9.6KW of solar panels. Having weatherized and reduced consumption through NH Saves before I made these improvements helped keep the costs associated with electrifying my home to a reasonable level. It also helped that I received a rebate (nearly 10% of installed cost) for my heat pumps from NH Saves in 2021.

For low and moderate income people like me who do not qualify for Federal Tax credits, the NH Saves program is one of the few that offers us any relief from unpredictable energy costs. Those 10 years of 20% energy savings put me into a great position for pursuing clean energy and renewable generation.

Please support the proposed NH Saves plan for 2024-2026. It is the one program that even people on fixed incomes can afford to participate in.

Sincerely,
Patricia A Martin