

Re: DE23-068

To the Clerks of the PUC:

I write to urge your approval of the 2024-2026 triennial energy efficiency plan, which has the endorsement of New Hampshire's four utility companies.

Here are my reasons for supporting the triennial energy efficiency plan:

1. **Grid sufficiency:** As more NH residents shift to electric heating and cooling systems and electrical vehicles, greater demand is placed on the electric grid. With energy efficiency measures reducing energy use, pressure on the grid will be eased. There will be less need to expand transmission capacity, if energy efficiency reduces demand.
2. **Reduction of peak demand:** The 2024-2026 Plan results in passive demand reduction savings that will reduce summer peak demand by 42.5 megawatts ("MW"), and the NHSaves Active Demand Reduction ("ADR") programs will provide additional incremental reduction of summer peak demand each year of 20-30 MW.
3. **Boosting of NH economy:** The \$253 million investment is expected to yield over \$675 million in lifetime benefits for our citizens, reducing the money sent OUT OF STATE for energy, keeping the monthly energy bill savings IN NEW HAMPSHIRE (estimated as 5-30% by the U.S. DOE), to be spent on goods and services IN NEW HAMPSHIRE. In turn, we can expect 1,718 full-time jobs to be created, as we bolster local businesses, who also benefit from energy efficiency measures. Projects must be located in the state. NHSaves projects are estimated to increase the local and state tax revenues generated by millions of dollars per year (see [https://www.puc.nh.gov/Regulatory/Docketbk/2022/22-042/LETTERS-MEMOS-TARIFFS/22-042\\_2023-03-31\\_NH\\_UTILITIES\\_2022-REPORTING-REQUIREMENTS.PDF](https://www.puc.nh.gov/Regulatory/Docketbk/2022/22-042/LETTERS-MEMOS-TARIFFS/22-042_2023-03-31_NH_UTILITIES_2022-REPORTING-REQUIREMENTS.PDF)).
4. **Vital savings on health expenses:** The 2024-2026 Plan would prevent 2.0 million tons of greenhouse gases from entering the atmosphere, avoidance of 17 tons of SO2 emissions and 175 tons of NOX emissions, helping to ensure that all regions of New Hampshire maintain compliance with clean air standards. Here is information from the NH Department of Environmental Services on the health and cost impacts of burning of fossil fuels, which creates PM 2.5 (particulate matter of 2.5microns width):

## NH Public Health Impacts

*Est. Annual Health Incidents from Air Pollution, 2013-15*

<b>Public Health Impact</b>	<b>PM<sub>2.5</sub></b>	<b>Ozone</b>
Premature Deaths	1,296	16
Emergency Room Visits	221	28
Lost Work Days	67,175	N/A
Acute Respiratory Symptoms	518,676	62,611
Total Valuation (2010\$)	\$3.7 Billion	\$132 Million

5. Stability: Additionally, by adopting the 2024-2026 Triennial Plan, the state will create stability for its businesses and workforce, and avoid the chaos when the last Triennial Plan was threatened. Let's avoid the lawsuits, loss of jobs and threat to the solvency of many new businesses and contractors, that was the experience of 2021.

Thank you for your consideration,

Susan Richman