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June 16, 2006

New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission Fruit Street Concord, NH 03301

RE: Stakeholder Comments for NH State Energy Policy Advisory Board.

To whom it may concern:

Problem: Energy prices for all fuels have climbed sharply in New Hampshire over the last several years (see Table 1). This has increased the already significant energy cost burden for New Hampshire's low income citizens. This increased burden is especially onerous for those elderly households living on fixed incomes.

Position Statement: The New Hampshire Community Action Agency Association feels it is critical for the Legislative and Executive branches of state government to expand their commitment to assist New Hampshire's low income households in dealing with their costly energy burden. This commitment should address both bill affordability and energy conservation in a meaningful and significant way for this vulnerable population.

Table 1. New Hampshire Energy Prices

	May 1, 2006	May 2, 2005	May 3, 2004
Heating Oil, credit	\$2.585/gal	\$2.192/gal	\$1.505/gal
Propane, credit	\$2.339/gal	\$2.237/gal	\$1.673 gal
Kerosene, credit	\$2.937/gal	\$2.470/gal	\$1.829/gal
Electricity	\$0.14529/kWh	\$0.11216/kWh	\$0.11776/kWh
Natural Gas, 1st Tier	\$1.3248/therm	\$1.2276/therm	\$0.9987/therm
Gasoline, reg self-serve	\$2.881/gal	\$2.174/gal	\$1.732/gal
Diesel	\$2.939/gal	\$2.365/gal	\$1.726/gal

Information from NH Office of Energy and Planning website www.nh.gov/oep/index.htm

Background Information: The New Hampshire Community Action Association (NHCAA) is comprised of the six Community Action Agencies that provide a broad range of services throughout all 10 counties and 222 cities and towns in New Hampshire. NHCAA member agencies provide program services for income eligible families and seniors that include: Head Start, WIC, Commodity Surplus Food Program, Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (NH's Fuel Assistance Program), Meals-on-Wheels, Senior Companion and Senior Transportation Programs, Weatherization Assistance Program, New Hampshire's Electric Assistance Program, and many others.

Sincerely

Ralph Littlefield
Executive Director

Community Action Agency Belknap-Merrimack Counties, Inc.

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