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Debra A. Howland
Executive Director
State of New Hampshire
Public Utilities Commission
21 S. Fruit Street, Suite 10
Concord, New Hampshire 03301-2429

**Re: Docket No. DE 17-136, New Hampshire Statewide Energy Efficiency Plan
Request to Transfer \$168,725 in 2019 Carryover funds to Eversource Smart Start Program**

Dear Ms. Howland:

Section 2.2 of the 2019 Update to the 2018-2020 New Hampshire Statewide Energy Efficiency Plan (“Plan”) approved by the Commission in its Order No. 26,207 dated December 31, 2018 in Docket DE 17-136, states on Bates 10:

- “Additionally, the balance of funds from prior program years is carried forward to future years, including interest applied on the monthly balance at the prime rate.”

The Eversource 2019 Final Performance Incentive Report, filed with the Commission June 1, 2020, indicates on page 8 of 17 an ending balance of \$168,725.

This letter requests approval to transfer the \$168,725 of unspent 2019 funds into the Smart Start Loan Fund Balance for immediate use in the 2020 program year. The Smart Start Loan Fund provides on-bill financing for municipal energy efficiency projects, allowing towns and cities to invest in energy efficiency and pay back their portion of the project cost through their monthly energy bills. Municipal energy efficiency projects provide benefit to both C&I and residential customer classes, where municipalities themselves are C&I customers and the tax base is made up of both residential and C&I customers. When a town or city save money by reducing energy usage in its buildings, all taxpayers in the community benefit from the savings. The Smart Start Loan program is designed to provide streamlined access to financing for municipal customers and repayment options that are calculated around the estimated monthly savings realized through the energy efficiency project.

Once transferred to the Smart Start Loan Fund the \$168,275 will be utilized as capital for new Smart Start loans and will continue to revolve in the Fund for future projects as repayments occur. Utilization of the 2019 balance in the Smart Start Loan Fund is preferable to carrying the funds into 2020 or 2021 program budgets, because there is a waiting list for Smart Start loans and the capital will immediately allow municipal projects to move forward.

Eversource has a number of municipalities interested in utilizing the Smart Start Program for efficiency projects in municipal buildings this year. To date in 2020, Eversource has provided \$409,677 in loans and has more than \$2 million in committed and potential future loans. The transfer of funds from the 2019 balance will allow Eversource to make additional loans and facilitate more municipal projects this year.

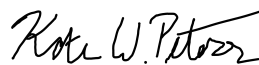
Smart Start Loan Fund: Amount Available to loan, currently and after the transfer.

	Q2 2020 Report (p. 25)	Amount Transferred to/(From)	Updated Fund Balance
Smart Start Loan Fund, Year-to- Date Current Balance	\$517,378	\$168,275	\$685,653

While the Q2 2020 Report indicates a \$517,378 balance, which would be brought to \$685,653 with the additional 2019 funds, the report also indicates \$2,193,148 in future committed loans. The additional 2019 funds will allow additional projects to move forward in 2020. There remains a strong interest in Smart Start financing for municipal customers and a continued pipeline of projects ready to use the revolving fund as repayments become available.

Please let us know if there are any questions concerning this notification.

Very truly yours,



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cc: DE 17-136 Service List (by electronic mail only)