



City of Keene

New Hampshire

NHPUC 6NOV19AM10:45

November 4, 2019

Ms. Debra Howland
Executive Director, NH Public Utilities Commission
21 Fruit St
Concord, NH 03301

Subject: Docket No. DE 19-104 Eversource Energy Petition for Clean Innovation Community Solar Pilot Proposal"

Dear Ms. Howland,

On behalf of the City of Keene, I'm writing today to convey the City's support for Eversource's proposed low-moderate income community solar pilot program (LMI) that is currently under review at the Public Utilities Commission (PUC).

In light of the mounting empirical evidence of the effects of climate change on local communities the City of Keene recently adopted a fossil fuel free community goal to be achieved by 2030. Among the City's many carbon reduction projects, our most recent initiative was the 2018 installation of a 662 kW solar array on one of our municipal buildings.

This week the City issued a Request for Proposal to install a renewable energy project at the City's Wastewater Treatment Facility, which is the largest energy user in Cheshire County. Because the Wastewater Treatment Facility is located adjacent to Dillant Hopkins Airport, the Request for Proposals also includes an invitation for developers to propose a 5 MW solar array project, which may qualify for the LMI program currently under consideration by the PUC.

The City of Keene urges the PUC to approve Eversource's LMI pilot program, which is not only an important step in carbon reduction, but represents a positive economic benefit to low and moderate-income households. Low to moderate income households are the ones most affected by the negative effects of climate change and the least able to invest in programs that provide carbon reductions and reduced costs. By making renewable energy more accessible to LMI populations, the City can make significant strides towards our goal of all electricity generated by renewable sources by 2030.

Please contact my office should you have any questions or wish to discuss this further.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Dragon,
City Manager