

From: Evan Oxenham <evan.oxenham@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, December 5, 2020 6:51 PM
To: PUC: <PUC@puc.nh.gov>
Subject: Comment re PUC Docket No. DE 20-092

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Dear PUC Commissioners,

I'm writing to request that you approve the 2021-2023 energy efficiency plan as updated by the settlement agreement signed by the Consumer Advocate, the Conservation Law Foundation, Clean Energy New Hampshire, and all four of our electric and natural gas utilities.

As Co-chair of the Plainfield Energy Committee and from my personal experience, I know the benefit of weatherizing homes through the NHSAVES program. My personal experience is that weatherization, combined with the installation of cold climate heat pumps, both of which were assisted by rebates from NHSAVES, has reduced my annual fuel oil consumption from a peak of 801 gallons in 2013 to 319 gallons this year (2020).

Twenty-four houses in Cornish and Plainfield have been weatherized through the Cornish Energy Committee and Plainfield Energy Committee joint Weatherization programs in 2018 and 2020, with rebates offered through NHSAVES being a significant factor in the decision to proceed with weatherization projects. More than half of these homes were old and leaky and have shown significant reductions in heating expenses since the weatherization work was completed.

In designing our Weatherization programs, we always launch early each year (in January) with the hope that the work can be completed in the first half of the year, reducing the risk that funds from the NHSAVES program run out before participants are able to submit their requests for rebates. This is a particular hazard for customers of Liberty Utilities.

Although our Weatherization programs are relatively small (typically about 30 to 70 people sign up initially, of which about 25% actually complete a project) we find that the weatherization contractors still have more projects than they can handle, and they have reported that they could do far more if they had the trained technicians. These are good paying jobs that need more workers.

Thank you for accepting my comment on the docket. I hope you will approve the settlement agreement by December 28th at the latest.

Sincerely,
Evan A Oxenham

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Plainfield, NH 03781
603-727-9368

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Regards,

Evan Oxenham

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"We must criticize without wounding and debate without dehumanizing our opponents. Fight for the things that you care about, but do it in a way that will lead others to join you." Ruth Bader Ginsburg.