

## NEW HAMPSHIRE HOUSING AUTHORITIES CORPORATION www.nhhac.org

Mr. Daniel Goldner, Chairman New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission 21 Fruit Street, Suite 10 Concord, NH 03301

October 30, 2023

RE: Docket No. DE 23-068 2024-2026 Triennial Energy Efficiency Plan

Dear Chairman Goldner:

I am writing on behalf of the New Hampshire Housing Authority Corporation (NHHAC) to express our support for the NHSaves energy efficiency programs administered by the state's utility companies. NHHAC represents all 17 New Hampshire Public Housing Authorities (PHAs) and the tens of thousands of low-income elderly, disabled and working families we house.

With federal support for our aging housing stock declining, we increasingly rely on a collection of private and public regional, state, and local partners to support our work ensuring that the state's affordable housing portfolio will be available to future generations of Granite Staters. Few capital needs are as great, or investments as impactful as energy efficiency retrofits. Improving insulation, tightening building envelopes, electrifying HVAC systems, and installing LED fixtures make lasting improvements to our housing stock's performance and reduce operating costs. Savings realized from energy efficiency improvements can then be redeployed to other deferred capital needs like roof replacements, paving, and curb appeal projects.

Collectively, New Hampshire's Housing Authorities have benefited from nearly \$4 million in NH Saves funding over the course of the past 6 years. These funds have made possible critical investments in improving 20 affordable housing properties, representing over a thousand units of affordable housing. These measures result in material improvements in the lives, health and wellbeing of the occupants and help the state's PHAs direct more funds towards making other needed capital improvements. What's more, many of the state's PHAs are also becoming housing developers, and having a strong balance sheet bolstered by NH Saves also means that they are actively contributing to confronting New Hampshire's housing crisis.

Providing affordable housing for New Hampshire residents is an enormously challenging task, and we need every tool in our toolbox to confront it. To date, NHSaves has been essential in helping us achieve that goal. We hope that the commission will approve this three-year plan as submitted.

Sincerely,

Joshua Meehan

Chair, NHHAC Legislative Committee