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September 14, 2012

BY HAND AND ELECTRONIC MAIL

Debra A. Howland
Executive Director
New Hampshire Public Utilities Commission
21 South Fruit Street, Suite 10
Concord, NH 03301

Re: **Docket DE 10-188**
Comments on Intervenors' Revised Proposal for Use of 2012 RGGI Auction Proceeds

Dear Ms. Howland,

Conservation Law Foundation ("CLF") fully supports the revised proposal offered by Intervenors the Jordan Institute, the New Hampshire Community Action Association, the New Hampshire Community Loan Fund, the New Hampshire Housing Finance Authority, and TRC Energy Services for use of 2012 Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative ("RGGI") auction proceeds ("Revised Intervenor Proposal"), which was filed in the above-referenced docket on September 7, 2012.

As with the earlier proposal dated August 10, 2012, the Revised Intervenor Proposal provides a workable allocation of RGGI funds to established and cost-effective programs that the Commission has previously approved as consistent with the goals of New Hampshire's RGGI enabling legislation, as now in effect. The intervenors' programs have a track record of success, meet a clearly demonstrated statewide demand for energy efficiency services, including among low-income households and small businesses, and help reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The Revised Intervenor Proposal avoids rolling a sizable sum of RGGI funds into the CORE programs administered by the electric utilities for future use, allowing New Hampshire to see the funds deployed in an expeditious manner and to realize energy efficiency benefits beginning this year.

As discussed in the Revised Intervenor Proposal, the Commission has a number of procedural options for distributing RGGI funds. Under RSA ch. 125-O, RSA ch. 374-F, the Commission's implementing regulations, its prior orders, and its authority to take steps in furtherance of the public interest, the Commission has ample discretion to accept the Revised Intervenor Proposal and order direct commitment of the funds in this docket. Moreover, despite statements of disinclination at the August 30 hearing, there does not appear to be a compelling reason why the utilities could not receive RGGI funds and distribute such funds to the intervenors' programs pursuant to an order of the Commission, if the Commission were to deem such an approach administratively efficient.

Overall, CLF urges the Commission to approve an appropriate combination of the utilities' proposal dated August 10, 2012, and the Revised Intervenor Proposal dated September 7, 2012, as a reasonable disposition of 2012 RGGI auction proceeds.

clf

conservation law foundation

Respectfully submitted,



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cc: Service List (by electronic mail)