

January 23, 2024

Daniel Goldner, Chairman NH Public Utilities Commission 21 S. Fruit Street, Suite 10 Concord, New Hampshire 03301-2492

Re: <u>DE-20-092 Unitil Energy Systems, Inc. Program Budget Notification</u>

Chairman Goldner,

Section 1.41, Bates page 23, of the 2022-2023 NH Statewide Energy Efficiency Plan approved by the Commission in its Order No. 26,621 dated April 29, 2022 in Docket DE 20-092 states: "The NH Utilities shall provide notification to the Commission if an individual program's actual expenditures are forecasted to exceed 120 percent of the program's budget."

On behalf of Unitil Energy Systems, Inc. ("Unitil" or the "Company"), I submit this letter to notify the Commission that spending for two programs in the portfolio exceeded 120 percent during program year 2023 based on the budgets submitted with the March 1, 2022 plan filing.

The residential Home Performance with Energy Star program (HPwES) achieved more weatherization projects in single family homes than originally planned, which drove costs well beyond the original budget, ending the program year at 133 percent of plan.

The residential Energy Star Products program realized increased customer demand for Refrigerator Recycling due to especially successful turn-in events, as well as Heat Pump Water Heaters, which save significant amounts of electricity compared to electric resistance water heating. Higher than planned spending in these two residential programs was offset by underspending in the Energy Star Homes program, and the residential sector spending ended the program year at 101% of budget.

For reference, Table 1 depicts the 2023 budget for the programs described above, as well as the percentage and dollar amount variance compared to budget for those programs and the portfolio as a whole. Final 2023 expenditures for all programs will be summarized in the Company's 2023 Performance Incentive filing due June 1, 2024.

Sincerely,

Mary Downes

Manager, Strategy and Compliance

Mary Jours

Unitil Corporation

Table 1 – Actual vs Approved Residential Spending

	Actual Spending	Approved 2023 Budget	Variance
Home Performance w/ Energy Star	\$932,409	\$703,703	\$228,707
Ratio Actual/Plan		133%	
Energy Star Products	\$668,810	\$541,658	\$127,152
Ratio Actual/Plan		123%	
All Other Res Programs	\$459,345	\$793,727	(\$334,383)
Ratio Actual/Plan		58%	
Residential Sector	\$2,060,564	\$2,039,088	\$21,476
Ratio Actual/Plan		101%	