



Michael Fitzgerald, Assistant Director  
New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services, Air Resource Division  
29 Hazen Drive, PO Box 95  
Concord, NH 03302-0095

RE: Letter of Commitment for the EPA Climate Pollution Reduction Grant

Dear Mr. Fitzgerald,

Resilient Buildings Group (RBG) is committed to partnering with the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) for the proposed pre-weatherization and weatherization measure that is included in NHDES's application for funding through EPA's Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) program. This five-year measure will create incentives for New Hampshire's homeowners to pre-weatherize and weatherize existing residential buildings to improve energy efficiency, which will reduce greenhouse gas and co-pollutant emissions from fossil-fuel and electricity consumption at those buildings.

RBG boasts extensive experience in identifying and implementing energy efficiency projects for both residential and commercial buildings. In 2023, we oversaw over \$5,000,000 worth of energy efficiency work on income-subsidized housing through the NHSaves Home Energy Assistance (HEA) program, directly benefiting income-disadvantaged New Hampshire residents.

Each potential project begins with communicating the benefits of energy efficiency and outlining the typical project flow to qualifying customers. While customers may potentially receive upgrades at no cost, it is crucial for them to understand that energy efficiency work is worthwhile and offers both short and long-term benefits. Upon gaining customer buy-in, we schedule an Energy Audit of the residence conducted by a certified Energy Auditor.

The Energy Auditor assesses the building for energy efficiency opportunities and develops a work scope for energy-reducing improvements. We then analyze the work scope, calculating the savings from each measure alongside its associated cost. This comprehensive analysis is presented to the corresponding utility, which approves the work based on the package's Benefit-Cost Ratio (BCR).

Projects that do not receive approval for HEA funding typically have a low BCR, often due to portions of the project scope that do not directly yield energy savings, known as pre-weatherization barriers.

Pre-weatherization funding of residential buildings will allow previously or potentially deferred income-eligible households to access incentives from state and federal weatherization and electrification programs. Reasons for deferral from existing programs include deficiencies in the building ventilation systems or structure, presence of asbestos-containing materials, and inadequate electrical or plumbing systems. Once those types of deficiencies are addressed, households will be able to take advantage of weatherization and electrification incentive programs, including the weatherization program proposed by NHDES in its application. NHDES's weatherization measure will provide incentives to upgrade the insulation envelope and HVAC systems of residential buildings to improve energy efficiency, health, safety, and comfort, while also providing cost-effective energy savings.

RBG is aware that strong community partnerships and networks are needed to design and manage the proposed program to advance environmental and public health issues in New Hampshire. Because of our experience providing energy efficiency work within NHSaves' HEA programs, RBG is well-positioned to support the design and implementation of the program, including connecting the benefits of the program to low-income and disadvantaged communities throughout New Hampshire. Therefore, RBG agrees to work in New Hampshire to support deployment and community engagement of the program.

- We agree to provide input in public comments where needed and participate in potential working groups where the program is discussed.
- We agree to support NHDES in achieving meaningful involvement from community and labor groups when our expertise and networks may be helpful.

Should this funding request be successful, we look forward to working with you on this valuable project beginning in mid-2024. Please let us know how we may be of additional assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Chase Pennoyer', written over a horizontal line.

Chase Pennoyer, President,  
Resilient Buildings Group  
cpennoyer@rbgnh.com  
(603) 518-6635