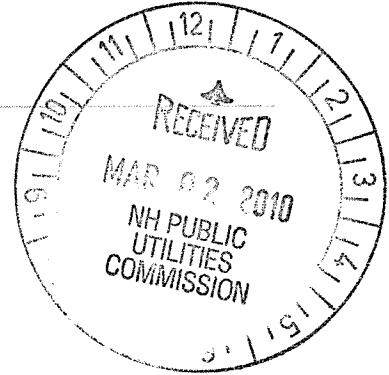


Leighton, Adele

From: Home Efficiency [jkondos@home-efficiency.com]
Sent: Tuesday, March 02, 2010 12:13 PM
To: Executive Director,
Subject: Renewable Energy Incentives comments



Dear Director Howland,

I'm sorry that I was unable to attend the 2/26 hearing, but I wish to offer my comments.

I am a solar contractor with over 13 years of experience in the solar industry. Our firm is grateful that NH finally added incentives since the six residential PV systems we installed in NH in 2009 were critical to our survival during this tough year for small business. We increased our payroll and for the first time our NH sales exceeded our sales in VT which has had incentives for several years!

I'm particularly concerned that the solar incentives are subject to so much uncertainty. We don't know if funds will be available after July or how much might be available, this makes selling systems very difficult.

To the extent possible the funds should be focused on small systems, though the limit might be increased if more funds were available, since this makes the program more democratic and increases the awareness of the viability of renewable energy while relying on the private sector for much of the capital. The modular nature of solar systems does not favor large utility scale projects. While large scale systems are of value I do not support allocating these very limited funds for large scale projects.

Having done many ground mounted and roof mounted PV systems, the added cost of building the ground mount structure is significant, which makes the utilization of existing south facing roofs the first priority.

I do believe commercial systems should be included along with residential.

Since funds are so limited, I encourage you to resist adding too many incentive categories or programs as this dilutes the limited funds and does not support building a viable local industry.

The incentives should be capped for each individual or business as VT does at \$8750.

There should be a solar Hot Water incentive and I suggest it be based on the BTU output of the system on the order of \$1.25-1.50/100 Btu/day and pools should be excluded.

With regard to RECS I support a requirement of purchasing of at least a significant percent of RECS in NH which would help to maintain the fund and insure projects are done here.

Thank you for your support and consideration.

With wishes for sunshine, success & good health

John Kondos

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