
New Public Comment Entry

1 message

RI Energy Efficiency & Resource Management Council <EERMC.RFP@gmail.com>
To: eermc.rfp@gmail.com

Thu, Oct 8, 2020 at 10:41 AM

Name

Rachel Calabro

Who You Represent/Your Organization

Rhode Island Department of Health

Emailrachel.calabro@health.ri.gov**Public Comment**

October 8, 2020

RI EERMC
c/o Becca Trietch
RI Office of Energy Resources
One Capitol Hill
Providence, RI 02908

RE: Public Comment on National Grid Annual Energy Efficiency Plan

The Rhode Island Department of Health Climate Change Program would like to provide the following comments on the annual energy efficiency plan. We applaud National Grid for including equity efforts in this plan. We are also encouraged by the inclusion of and expansion of the 100% funding for renters/landlords and moderate-income families.

In the residential section, a new activity is listed: "Increase awareness of the IES Program through coordination and partnership with State and market-based organizations and determine the need and/or benefit of hosting a consortium on serving IES customers." We feel this is an important step in creating a more effective IES program, and encourage National Grid to partner with community-based programs through the Rhode Island Alliance for Healthy Homes as well as state programs such as the RIDOH asthma program to better support low and moderate income families, especially those with underlying health conditions. We have found that involving community health workers, clinics, and health insurers in the process of identifying families in need of energy assistance and weatherization also serves to lessen health disparities in these communities.

The equity section of the plan also mentions the creation of an equity working group. We feel this is another important step to understanding community need and eliminating barriers to participation in energy efficiency programs. We would again encourage National Grid and OER to include health partners in this effort, including community health workers, community

development organizations, CAP agencies, the Rhode Island Alliance for Healthy Homes, and RIDOH.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,
Rachel Calabro
RIDOH Climate Change Program

Sent from RI Energy Efficiency & Resource Management Council