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FROM: Jared S. Chicoine, Commissioner

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SUBJECT: DE 10-024, DE 10-212, DE 13-298, DE 15-302, DE 16-614, and DE 17-172:

Approval of Fiscal Year 2024 Renewable Energy Fund Program Budget Allocations

Summary

This memorandum confirms Department of Energy (Department) approval for program budget allocations from the Renewable Energy Fund (REF) for fiscal year 2024 (FY24) as set forth in the Funding Allocations by Program (Table 2) on page 2. Further, the Department informs stakeholders of the following actions:

- The Department will continue to accept new applications for currently open rebate programs until specific program funding allocations are fully utilized.
- The Department will schedule the re-opening and lottery queue determination process for the Renewable Electrical Generation Rebate Program.
- Waitlists will be established for the Residential Bulk-Fed Pellet Central Heating rebate program up to an amount of \$25,000 when the program receives applications in excess of its funding allocation.
- Waitlists will be established for each Commercial and Industrial rebate program up to an amount of \$50,000 when the program receives applications in excess of its funding allocation.

Funding Analysis

Based on the REF FY24 Statement of Appropriation, \$2,000,000 was made available for allocation to FY24 grant and rebate programs. On September 7, 2023, the Department authorized the allocation of an additional \$2,000,000 to enable Department staff to open the rebate programs to new applications.

This memorandum authorizes the allocation of that \$4,000,000. Table 1 below illustrates the statutorily required funding breakdown between sectors. The breakdown between Residential and Commercial and Industrial was adjusted to account for the transfers authorized in the June 1, 2023 memo to ensure the appropriate balance between the two sectors over the two year period, as directed in statute.

Table 1: Program Funding Allocations by Sector

\$4,000,000	FY23 Preliminary Rebate and Grant Program Funds		
\$1,736,000	Funds allocated to Residential Sector (43.4%)		
\$2,264,000	Funds allocated to Commercial & Industrial (non-residential) Sector (56.6%)		

Table 2 summarizes the allocation of funding to specific Residential, and Commercial and Industrial programs supported by the REF and meeting the program funding requirements of RSA 362-F, as well as the unspent funds carried forward from the prior program year.

Table 2: Funding Allocations by Program

	September 7, 2023 Program Allocations for FY24	Prior Fiscal Year Program Allocations Carry Forward	Total Funding Available
Residential			
Renewable Electric Generation Rebates	\$356,000	\$0	\$356,000
Bulk-Fed Pellet Central Heating Rebates	\$380,000	\$59,116	\$439,028
LMI Grant (min 15%)	\$1,000,000	\$0	\$1,000,000
sub-total	\$1,736,000	\$59,116	\$1,795,116
Commercial & Industrial			
Solar Rebates	\$500,000	\$377,590	\$877,590
Bulk-Fed Pellet Central Heating Rebates	\$164,000	\$168,726	\$332,726
Competitive Grants	\$1,600,000	\$0	\$1,600,000
sub-total	\$2,264,000	\$546,316	\$1,431,611
Total Residential and C&I	\$4,000,000	\$605,432	\$4,605,432

Residential Renewable Electrical Generation Rebate Program Opening and Lottery Process

The Department approves a lottery queue position determination process to be implemented in the Residential Renewable Electrical Generation Rebate Program in expectation that the aggregate amount of project rebates applied for will exceed available Program funds. The Department will accept applications for the Residential Renewable Electrical Generation Rebate Program between the following dates: **September 13**, **2023**, **through October 13**, **2023**. Applications submitted during the above time period will be entered into an automated lottery to be scheduled in late October or early November of 2023. This lottery will randomly assign queue positions which will be funded until available funding is exceeded. Applicants will be notified regarding their queue position and funding status following the lottery completion.

Any applications that are submitted before or after the September 13-October 13 timeframe will not be considered.

There are **NEW** fillable forms available for this program located on the Department's Residential Renewable Electrical Generation Rebate Program website. Note that no material changes have been made to the application, only an update from static PDF format to fillable PDF format. Please prepare and submit a fillable form or traditional application starting September 13, 2023. The Department strongly encourages all applicants to use the fillable form available on the Department's website and to file completed applications in fillable form format, electronically. The Department also strongly recommends that all Step 2 applicants register for their vendor number before submitting their Step 2 application. While the type of form submitted will not impact funding availability, these fillable application forms will be automatically placed in the Department's system thereby reducing the time it may take to receive disbursements.