

September 27, 2023

Jody,

I am not able to do a full assessment of the energy programs but have general comments.

1. I am glad to see that most of your programs are rebates. Many homeowners are lower income and do not pay federal taxes. This makes tax rebates, such as many of the IRA incentives, unavailable to these income levels and therefore not an incentive.
2. I do not feel that wood pellets are a long term solution. We have learned that pellets are not always made from unused "junk" wood and are often harvested from healthy trees. I hope that this program disappears as incentivising homeowners and businesses to put in the wood pellet infrastructure is not helping with air pollution and sustainability.
3. For the Low-Moderate solar program, I suggest that you keep the funding sources as separate as possible, leaving one batch of successful applications solely funded with state funds and the remaining with federal funds? Requirements for federal funding are overwhelming for smaller towns and individuals.
4. Battery storage is of interest to me for both municipal and individual. I hope this program goes well and is available for both.
5. Wind energy is not promoted very well. I live in a town with some access to strong winds and would like to know how to find more information on wind power. Mainly for private homes.
6. I am happy with the excellent communication coming from your department. Specifically the NHDOE Newsletter sent out by Paige Relf.

Thank you for all your work.
Katherine Thorndike, Chair
Sandwich Energy Committee

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