

July 18, 2019

Lisa A. Skumatz, Ph.D.
Skumatz Economic Research Associates (SERA)
762 Eldorado Drive
Superior, CO 80027

RE: R1706/R1616 RASS/Lighting Draft Report

Dear Dr. Skumatz,

Eversource Energy (“Eversource”) is pleased to submit these written comments regarding the draft evaluation report: *R1706 Residential Appliance Saturation Survey & R1616/R1708 Residential Lighting Impact Saturation Studies Draft Report* (“Draft Report”), submitted June 28, 2019 by NMR Group, Inc. (“Evaluator”). Eversource received the Draft Report on July 2, 2019 with a request to provide comments by July 23, 2019. Per the Energy Efficiency Board Evaluation Road Map Process, these comments are for consideration for inclusion in the Final Report.

The Draft Report presents results of an inventory of residential end uses and building characteristics in Connecticut, based on web surveys with 2,426 Eversource and United Illuminating electric customers and follow-up on-site verification visits with 227 of those customers. Along with the Draft Report, the study produced an Excel database which contains all primary research data and detailed analyses.

General Comments on Draft Report Findings

Eversource appreciates the wealth of data and useful findings resulting from this work, which will serve as a valuable tool for planning and targeting programs for the next several years. Eversource generally agrees with the report’s conclusions, which as the report notes “reinforced current program offerings and directions outlined in Connecticut’s 2019 to 2021 plan or implied additional tactics to save energy.” In particular, the opportunities the report identified for heat pumps and heat pump water heaters, smart thermostats, and ENERGY STAR appliances, as well as newer potential offerings such as solar and storage projects, will be key in guiding future program development as savings from lighting diminish.

In addition, Eversource offers the following comments on the draft report:

- (1) The report includes many tables with useful data, but the volume of numerical tables makes findings difficult to digest and to disseminate to others. Please consider additional graphics to portray key findings.
- (2) We are not clear on how to interpret some of the lighting results considering prior results from NMR’s 2016 Connecticut LED Lighting Study Report (R154) and 2017 LED Net-to-Gross (NTG) Evaluation (R1615). In particular, R154 included 81 on-sites, the results of which seem to have been excluded from the analysis and context in the Draft Report. In

addition, it is unclear how the NTG results in the Draft Report should be reconciled with the results from R1615, which the programs currently use as a basis for savings calculations.

More specific comments are embedded in the marked-up Draft Report provided along with this letter. Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments.

Sincerely,

Miles Ingram

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