

**From:** Lillian Brough <[lilliannees1@gmail.com](mailto:lilliannees1@gmail.com)>

**Sent:** Wednesday, September 27, 2023 6:03 PM

**To:** Trietch, Becca <[Becca.Trietch@ct.gov](mailto:Becca.Trietch@ct.gov)>

**Cc:** Lorenzo Wyatt <[lorenzo@homecomfortpractice.com](mailto:lorenzo@homecomfortpractice.com)>; Timothy Fabuien <[tfabuien@cmcenergy.com](mailto:tfabuien@cmcenergy.com)>; Peter Carlson <[pete@the-energystore.com](mailto:pete@the-energystore.com)>; Stephen Birch <[stephenb@goaiello.com](mailto:stephenb@goaiello.com)>; [denise@homedoctorofamerica.com](mailto:denise@homedoctorofamerica.com); [michelle.long@energymgmtauthority.com](mailto:michelle.long@energymgmtauthority.com); [vivian.g.perez@gmail.com](mailto:vivian.g.perez@gmail.com); Becky Pelton <[pelton@sbcglobal.net](mailto:pelton@sbcglobal.net)>; Amber McDonnell <[amber@lanternenergy.net](mailto:amber@lanternenergy.net)>; Jane Bourdeau <[jane.bourdeau@ffhitchcock.com](mailto:jane.bourdeau@ffhitchcock.com)>; Stephanie Weiner <[stephaniew@ne-smartenergy.com](mailto:stephaniew@ne-smartenergy.com)>; Joseph Roy <[jroy@cmcenergy.com](mailto:jroy@cmcenergy.com)>; Leticia Colon <[lcolonees@gmail.com](mailto:lcolonees@gmail.com)>; Peter Callan <[peter@lanternenergy.com](mailto:peter@lanternenergy.com)>; [admin@harisienergy.com](mailto:admin@harisienergy.com); [gloria@harisienergy.com](mailto:gloria@harisienergy.com); [mejias.edgardo@gmail.com](mailto:mejias.edgardo@gmail.com); [jeffg@homesteadcomfort.com](mailto:jeffg@homesteadcomfort.com); [lindsey@goodlifeenergysavers.com](mailto:lindsey@goodlifeenergysavers.com); Beth Galante <[bgalante@posigen.com](mailto:bgalante@posigen.com)>; Efficiency For All <[contactus@efficiencyforall.org](mailto:contactus@efficiencyforall.org)>; Richard Faesy <[rfaesy@energyfuturesgroup.com](mailto:rfaesy@energyfuturesgroup.com)>

**Subject:** Formal Follow up on letter dated August 30, 2023, NEW- Proposed Air Sealing Incentive & Aereoseal changes - request for guidance on intentional and inclusive data gathering. .

EXTERNAL EMAIL: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click any links or open any attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Becca,

I am following up on the email you sent yesterday asking for contractor input on today's Contractor Focus Group Meeting.

The attached email was sent to Ms. Hackett on August 30th. I apologize if I assumed that these would be provided to you in your role.

EFA wants to ensure that DEEP is able to access information being submitted by key industry stakeholders.

Can you please confirm that this letter was received by the appropriate staff or would you please direct us to the appropriate staff regarding the two specific requests in this letter? There have been significant staff changes made at DEEP, so we are unsure of who to send things to. Ms. Hackett has been so responsive in the past that the letter was addressed to her. Additionally, not all contractors know about CTAC or DEEP's processes or have time to attend focus groups during the workday. So, we find ourselves educating them on processes to ensure equitable access.

If agendas are not clear about the topics or if the meeting structure for participation is ambiguous, contractors may not feel they are in the right space to talk about topics that are important to the industry. Small minority contractors or others may not know the meeting directly relates to and will impact their business, staff, and customers. Additionally, we noted today's call, facilitated by DEEP under the name Contractor Focus Group, lacked focus on the 2 specific industry requests in this attached letter.

In the past when we sent letters, that information made it to the CTAC agenda, or there was a special meeting called to intentionally discuss proposed solutions to CL&M problems.

DEEP has the responsibility to provide meaningful engagement to all stakeholders including direct service providers. Many contractors were left feeling we were meeting just to meet and ensure DEEP had checked the box. The point of focus groups is to allow for meaningful discussion or facilitated dialogue to address specific industry changes. When these questions were asked, we were advised that these things would be addressed tomorrow at the Technical meeting. The technical meeting format does not allow for contractor dialogue or safe discussion.

One way to ensure that small minority voices are heard equally, and equally valued alongside the large contractors, utilities, and paid consultants, is to gather the list of contractors, note which ones are small and minority, and reach out to them intentionally and directly, applying the equity lens.

The letter below has 16 contractors listed, but there were several contractors who sent their signatures after the letter had been sent to Ms. Hackett.

The processes are often convoluted, and key stakeholder groups often overlap. The complexity of the situation and the implications on the stakeholders, ratepayers, and energy equity plans seem important enough that we should not rush the plan until we have applied the equity lens ensuring we are not doing unnecessary harm to Connecticut's award-winning energy efficiency program, infrastructure or workforce.

As someone who has only been working in this lane for just under three years, I was shocked to learn that DEEP and EEB value information from 1983 or 2019 or even 2020 over the information being provided by stakeholders, industry leaders, and boots-on-the-ground experts today. This industry has changed rapidly in the 3 years I have been working, I can't imagine what changes have occurred since 1983. 40 years is a long time.

I urge you to read Appendix G from the most current realization study. While we appreciate your kindness, we are concerned that the processes noted in the letter are marching forward without the opportunity for true collaboration or engagement of service deliverers.

Thank you so much for all your hard work and dedication.

Respectfully,

Lillian K. Brough



**EFFICIENCY FOR ALL**

Community Relations, Government Affairs Liaison, Program Facilitator

[Lillianees1@gmail.com](mailto:Lillianees1@gmail.com)

"Pollinating ideas, planting seeds." Leticia Colon de Mejias

[www.efficiencyforall.org](http://www.efficiencyforall.org)

We partner with [Green Eco Warriors](#)

August 29, 2023

Connecticut Energy Efficiency Board  
10 Franklin Square  
New Britain, CT 06051

Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection  
79 Elm Street  
Hartford, CT 06106-5127

Eversource  
107 Selden Street  
Berlin, CT 06037

Avangrid  
180 Marsh Hill Road  
Orange, CT 06477

Dear EEB, DEEP, Eversource and Avangrid,

We, the undersigned, are writing in regard to the proposed changes to the EnergizeCT HES/HES-IE programs and are submitting the following request:

- 1. Delay the implementation of any changes to the current three-year plan until January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025.***

As vendors (and as an industry,) we are still dealing with the repercussions of the reduced budgets resulting in stop-go PO funding, extensive technical issues with program tools, and program changes that hinder or indefinitely delay services to our customers and rate payers.

As vendors and boots on the ground, we have over 100 years of combined experience with the HES/HES-IE programs and have serviced hundreds of thousands of customers and rate payers. It is concerning to us, as vendors and as industry partners, that some of the proposed program changes mirror past multi-family program changes which significantly impacted the programs in a negative way.

We are formally requesting additional implementation time to allow vendors to research, develop, and implement new business models and services that are still profitable and meet the technical program requirements for services and savings. It will not only allow vendors to adjust and react to the program changes, but also allow the utilities the appropriate time required to prepare and coordinate a successful, seamless, and structured plan.

- 2. Extend the allowed timeline for submitted comments to January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024.***

The end of August timeline for submitted comments is quickly ending.


We as vendors, business owners, certified analysts, industry experts, and in-home service providers, need additional time to research and determine the effects of the proposed changes on our business models, and our industry as a whole.

As vendors we would like the opportunity to provide feedback, recommendations and input into potential changes that may or may not benefit our businesses, customers, and rate payers. A January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024, deadline allows time for us to appropriately provide comments.

We are hoping to work with the EEB, DEEP and the utilities to determine and implement program changes that benefit everyone, specifically our customers, rate payers and Connecticut as a whole without negatively impacting our industry. The HES/HES-IE programs are and have been successful and beneficial to Connecticut residents. As service providers in our industry, we can provide great insight into the programs and the families we serve, their needs, barriers, and solutions.

Given the very short comments period, uncertainty of the impacts of the proposed program changes, and the pending program RFQs/RFPs reportedly coming in the next few months, we are formally requesting to extend the allowed timeline for submitted comments to January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024.

Signatures:

Company Name:	The Energy Store LLC.
Principal Name:	Peter Carlson Jr.
Principal Signature:	<i>Peter Carlson Jr.</i>
Company Name:	CMC Energy Services
Principal Name:	Timothy Fabuien
Principal Signature:	<i>Timothy Fabuien</i>
Company Name:	Aiello Home Services
Principal Name:	Stephen Birch
Principal Signature:	
Company Name:	Home Doctor of America LLC
Principal Name:	Denise Pankosky
Principal Signature:	<i>D. Pankosky</i>

Company Name: Energy Management Authority, LLC

Principal Name: Michelle Long

Principal Signature: 

Company Name: *Lantern Energy*

Principal Name: *Peter J Callan*

Principal Signature: 

Company Name: F.F. Hitchcock

Principal Name: Jane Bourdeau

Principal Signature: *Jane Bourdeau*

Company Name: Homestead Comfort

Principal Name: Jeff Gerber

Principal Signature: *Jeff Gerber*

Company Name: Valiant Energy Solutions

Principal Name: Anthony Fonseca

Principal Signature: *Anthony Fonseca*

Company Name: PosiGen Solar  
Elizabeth Galante

Principal Name:

Principal Signature: *Elizabeth Galante*

Company Name: ELOSMACT / R. PELTON

Principal Name: *Rebecca Pelton*

Principal Signature: 

Company Name: *New England Smart Energy Group, LLC*

Principal Name: *Stephanie Weiser*

Principal Signature: *Stephanie Weiser*

Company Name: Energy EFFICIENCIES SOLUTIONS

Principal Name: Edgardo Mejias

Principal Signature: 


Company Name: Harisi Energy LLC

Principal Name: Martin Harisi

Principal Signature: 


Company Name: Good Life Energy Savers LLC

Principal Name: Gina Crist

Principal Signature: 

Company Name: Better Building Performance LLC

Principal Name: Boone Synakorn

Principal Signature: 

Company Name:

Principal Name:

Principal Signature:

Company Name:

Principal Name:

Principal Signature:

Company Name:

Principal Name:

Principal Signature: