

Sherri L. Golden
Secretary of the Board
Board of Public Utilities
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RE: FY24 True-Up Budget Docket No: QO23040236

Dear Secretary Golden:

The Energy Efficiency Alliance of New Jersey ("EEA-NJ") is pleased to submit these comments to the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities ("BPU" or "Board") regarding the Fiscal Year 2024 True-Up Budget and Program Changes.

EEA-NJ is New Jersey's trade association for the energy efficiency industry. With our sister organization the Keystone Energy Efficiency Alliance, we represent 65 business members across Pennsylvania and New Jersey. Our mission is to champion efficiency as the foundation of a clean, just, and resilient energy economy.

EEA-NJ appreciates the Board's continued commitment to inviting public comments on the budget and true-up budget each year. Our comments are brief and focus on one specific program: the Whole House Pilot Program.

Report On and Expand the Whole House Pilot Program

EEA-NJ was encouraged to see the Whole House Pilot Program launch for Trenton residents in September 2022. We see great promise for this pilot program to reduce the barriers to entry for other energy efficient programs by holistically addressing health and safety hazards in single-and multi-family residences occupied by low- to moderate-income residents.

In the past year and a half, we have seen no publicly available updates on the pilot's progress. It does not appear in the True-Up Budget materials. We urge the BPU to provide regular updates on

the program's progress to stakeholders invested in how this program could scale. The BPU should update stakeholders on what metrics are being used to evaluate the pilot program and how it has performed in these first 18 months. Preliminary findings must be used to assess where and how to allocate more funding so that this program can scale up in fiscal year 2025.

It is clear, including from the Board's own analysis, that there is a crucial need for the services this program provides across the state. And in our neighbor Pennsylvania, where a similarly-focused Whole-Home Repairs Program was created with \$125 million in 2022, 17,000 households are already on a waiting list. Board must critically review the findings from the pilot and share these findings with stakeholders so that the program can scale and achieve its goals of holistically addressing health, energy burden, and equitable participation in the clean energy transition for New Jersey's disadvantaged communities.

Sincerely,

Rachel Goodgal

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Government Affairs Manager

Energy Efficiency Alliance of New Jersey