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REC-420449-92
PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

February 28, 2020

Commissioners Roisman, Cheney and Hoffman

Vermont Public Utility Commission
112 State Street, Suite 4
Montpelier, VT 05602

RE: Case No. 19-3272-PET

Dear Commissioners,

As the director of NeighborWorks of Western Vermont and the NeighborWorks HEAT Squad, I am writing in support of the ongoing and future work of VEIC and their Efficiency Vermont program.

NeighborWorks first established the HEAT Squad in 2010 with a generous grant from the Department of Energy to provide technical education, financial assistance and access to loans for all incomes with an emphasis for low to moderate income households who were not regularly participating in the energy efficiency programs. Our fundamental mission is to support sustainable, affordable homeownership. We are very pleased that our respective programs serving residential customers has evolved into a genuine partnership whereby Efficiency Vermont is providing financial support to expand our HEAT Squad program in underserved parts of Vermont such as Bennington County and the Northeast Kingdom. We believe that working together in this way we will make a significant difference in the lives of many more households who will be warmer, healthier, and better off from the financial savings they will enjoy while saving our environment from damaging carbon emissions.

The plans put forth from the agency are both ambitious and essential to our future in Vermont. From where we, at NeighborWorks, sit we are particularly grateful for the emphasis and support given to **incentives and technical assistance** for customers, especially those who have not yet accessed Efficiency Vermont's programs and services and the **increased investment in weatherization for homes and businesses**, including the creation of a new performance metric for the number of housing units weatherized annually.

We hope you will support the proposed plans and help us all reach our goals to save our world from climate catastrophe.

Very sincerely,

Ludy Biddle, Executive Director
NeighborWorks of Western Vermont

