



*This document has been filed electronically using ePUC*

June 28<sup>th</sup>, 2023

Ms. Holly Anderson, Clerk  
Vermont Public Utility Commission  
112 State Street  
Post Office Drawer 20  
Montpelier, Vermont 05620-2701

Re: **Case No. 22-2954-PET** – Winston Prouty Center for Child and Family Development comments on equity and electric system benefits within Efficiency Vermont’s 2024-2026 Demand Resources Plan Update Proposal

Dear Clerk Anderson,

We are writing to offer comments in the above proceeding, as it relates to social equity energy efficiency investments and electric systems benefits for Vermont rate payers.

Winston Prouty works in Brattleboro to provide community-based learning and early childhood development support programs as well as integrated services for children, food, housing, and childcare assistance programs. We work with families that represent all socio-economic levels in our community.

Winston Prouty has an ongoing partnership with Efficiency Vermont. Over the past several years, we have worked with Efficiency Vermont to help make our campus more sustainable, resilient and efficient. Recently, we’ve helped connect them with residents in our community who utilize our services, some of whom are non-native English speakers, renters and other marginalized populations.

Electric system benefits are important for all people living in Vermont, but we have concern that making this the most important metric for Efficiency Vermont may force them to abandon the investment of resources needed to serve our clients and all community members, especially those that have historically not benefited from them. Building trust, working with and designing services that meet marginalized community members where they are at takes a large financial, time and person-power investment. We believe that everyone who pays the Energy Efficiency Charge should have the opportunity to access Efficiency Vermont’s programs and without these efforts, many in our community will continue to fall behind and lack access to these valuable services. We would like to see this important work continue.

We appreciate the opportunity to provide comments in this proceeding and would be happy to provide more information if needed.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Chole Learey".

Chole Learey, Executive Director