From:	Matthew Kaplan
To:	publiccomments@njcleanenergy.com
Subject:	Proposed FY18 NJCEP True Up budget
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To Whom It May Concern:

I want to express my strong support for the proposal to allocate an additional \$2,000,000 to the Residential Energy Efficiency (EE) Residential New Construction (RNC) Program.

As previously stated in communications to the BPU on a related matter in February 2016, it is imperative that RNC program never stop accepting applications or paying rebates.

Accordingly, it is crucial for the RNC program's long-term viability that the BPU continue to allocate any additional funds, as necessary, to ensure the continual functioning of the program.

Any failure to do this will erode confidence in the RNC program among the builder community, which would have cascading, and potentially irreparable, deleterious effects on participation.

Once the program stops accepting applications or paying rebates, any builder that is unable to apply or receive a rebate will almost assuredly never be interested in participating again.

The builder community is tight-knit and word spreads quickly throughout builder trade associations. Individuals and municipal governments may wait extended periods of time to receive rebates. Businesses simply will not, and they also cannot risk any uncertainty about receiving payments.

The BPU would be well served to think of their business-serving programs (i.e., RNC, P4P) as B2B service enterprises. In that context, it should be especially clear that the RNC program should not reasonably expect to just stop servicing clients and still maintain business relationships with them.

Given that participation in the ENERGY STAR Homes Program through the EE RNC Program is also an acceptable means of code compliance in the State of New Jersey; any interruption of RNC functions could have reverberating effects on construction activity in the State.

Matthew Kaplan, LEED AP CEO

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