



Virginia Housing Alliance

Expanding Housing Opportunity and Ending Homelessness

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Helping Overcome Poverty's Existence

Lane Pearson

Richmond Redevelopment and Housing Authority

Dear Karen G. Sabasteanski,

I am writing today on behalf of the Virginia Housing Alliance and the members of the Virginia Multifamily Energy Efficiency Coalition (MFEEC) to support the CO2 Budget Trading Program, specifically the 5.0% allocation of the base budget to DMME to assist the department for the abatement and control of air pollution.

The Virginia Multifamily Energy Efficiency Coalition is a cross-sector initiative lead by the Virginia Housing Alliance whose goal is to advance policies and programs that will provide comprehensive energy efficiency services to the state's multifamily affordable housing stock, recognizing the impact that efficiency has on health and housing affordability for Virginia's citizens.

We recommend that the 5.0% allocation to DMME to assist the department for the abatement and control of air pollution should be used for energy efficiency services, particularly for renters in multifamily housing. Energy efficiency in multifamily housing can help Virginia meet the state's voluntary goal to reduce retail electricity consumption for commercial and residential buildings by an amount equal to 10% of 2006 consumption by 2020 in addition to reducing carbon pollution for compliance with Executive Directive 11.

If used for energy efficiency, the proposed 5.0% allocation will ultimately reduce energy use and carbon emissions across the state, reduce the need for added electric generation; improve public health and environmental quality; boost job creation; and preserve affordable housing. For more information, read the MFEEC's 2017 report, [Multifamily Housing and Energy Efficiency: An Opportunity for Virginia to Lead](#).

We support Virginia's entrance into the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative and hope that energy efficiency will be regarded as a necessary and cost effective tool for Virginia's transition to a clean energy future.

Signed,

Randy Moore
Director of Policy and Advocacy
Virginia Housing Alliance
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