



Urban League of
Rochester, N.Y., Inc.

*Empowering Communities.
Changing Lives.*

June 19, 2012

Jaclyn A. Brillling
Secretary, Public Service Commission
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Regarding: Urban League of Rochester, NY, Inc.'s Support of NYSERDA's Petition to Reallocate Funds

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Chief Executive Officer*
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I am writing on behalf of the Urban League of Rochester, NY, Inc. to ask you to support NYSERDA's Petition to allocate uncommitted Energy Efficiency Portfolio Standard (EEPS) funds to support their Workforce Development Programs. These funds will not only update and expand the skills of existing workers, but will give others the opportunity to learn the skills needed to compete for the high-demand, green construction jobs of the future.

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The Urban League of Rochester truly understands how the working poor and low income families struggle to pay their utility bills. Providing safe, energy efficient housing for all residents is a priority for New York State. Governor Cuomo's initiatives focusing on energy efficiency measures will require a large, well-trained workforce. The NYSERDA programs will provide training to upgrade the skills of existing workers, and will provide training for new workers, in order to have a workforce which will be able to upgrade the energy efficiency of all houses, buildings, and State-owned facilities throughout New York.

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Your support of this petition will assist programs like the Urban League's YouthBuild program by providing a successful pathway out of poverty for our participants. Program participants are low-income disadvantaged young adults who left high school without a diploma, but are now willing to work hard to get back on track, learn new skills, get a job, and plan for the future. The Urban League YouthBuild program is a full-time program that provides academic/GED preparation training and on-site hands-on construction training, while building affordable housing in our community.

We strongly ask that you approve NYSERDA's request to reallocate uncommitted funds in order to provide the present and future workforce with the technical skills necessary to serve the needs of the programs funded through EEPS, to overcome the barriers to workforce training experienced by many individuals, and to expand the existing energy efficiency training infrastructure, in order to prepare more individuals for the opportunities and demands of the green construction trades in the future.

Yours truly,

William G. Clark

William G. Clark
President and CEO