



Home Builders Association of Utah

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August 29, 2006

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RECEIVED

Richard M. Campbell
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Utah Public Service Commission
Heber M. Wells Building
PO Box 45585
Salt Lake City, UT 84145-0585

Re: Comment on the Conservation Enabling Tariff

Dear Commissioners:

The Home Builders Association of Utah strongly supports the proposal known as the Conservation-Enabling Tariff that is now before the Public Service Commission. The Utah HBA has long and productive relationships with Utah state agencies and Utah's utilities. Cooperation and compromise have always been important to best serve the constituencies and customers we all share. It is rare that we find such a clear example of a "win/win" proposal.

Builders win. With rising energy costs, consumers are demanding new homes that are more and more energy efficient. Finding economical ways to include all possible energy-saving features and equipment is the right thing to do, but it is a constant challenge. To provide affordable housing, builders continually search for ways to offset such costs. Anything that would provide extra incentives for builders and homeowners will help. It is our understanding that this proposed change would identify programs to do just that. We can provide the product our customers demand at more reasonable prices.

Homeowners win. They get the product they want at more reasonable prices and their future utility bills are less. The bonus is that if the program works as described to us, even those who have been able to afford all the energy-



NAHB
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION
OF HOME BUILDERS

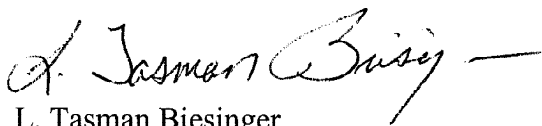


saving amenities in previous years will see further reductions (or at least smaller increases) as statewide energy usage drops. Because the proposal is a pilot program, if it does not work as anticipated, it can be changed or abandoned.

The state wins. Housing that is more affordable, lower energy costs and cleaner air obviously benefit the state's economy.

The Utah Home Builders Association, representing almost 3,000 businesses in the housing industry, strongly urges the Public Service Commission to approve the proposal and encourage the Questar Gas Company to quickly introduce programs that promote energy efficiency.

Sincerely,



L. Tasman Biesinger
Executive Vice President

Cc:

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