

From: Hannah Dreissigacker [hdreissigacker@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, February 21, 2019 12:17 PM
To: Theresa Utton
CC: Melanie Paskevich
Subject: Written Testimony for Public Hearing on Appropriations

Theresa,

Please pass on my written statement for the public hearings on Monday the 25th. I unfortunately cannot make it there in person.

Thank you,

Hannah

Statement:

Members of the Vermont House and Senate Appropriations Committees,

As sustainability coordinator at the Craftsbury Outdoor Center, I know first hand the challenges of trying to change infrastructure to be efficient and fossil-fuel free. However, in the last year I have also experienced firsthand how these changes can be made possible. Working with Heat Squad, we were able to get incredibly affordable energy audits for the Craftsbury Outdoor Center farmhouses, and we are in the middle of making the recommended energy- and money-saving investments in these buildings. I also purchased my first electric car this year—a used, affordable, and highly functional vehicle. I cannot express enough how pleased I have been with both of these experiences—working with Heat Squad, and being part of the transition to electric transportation. Please invest in the future of our state by increasing funding for middle and low-income home weatherization and specifically by committing \$1.25 million, either all at once or over 5 years, to funding an expansion of Heat Squad to the entire state. Please also invest all of the VW settlement money into electrification of our transportation sector. Together, the sectors of heating and transportation account for two thirds of Vermont’s carbon emissions. We simply cannot afford to keep buying expensive fossil fuels from far away to actively contribute to climate change, which in turn is expensive and catastrophic for our state.

Respectively,

Hannah Dreissigacker