MA Energy Efficiency Advisory Council  
c/o Department of Energy Resources  
100 Cambridge Street  
Boston, MA 02114

VIA EMAIL

RE: Final Passive House Incentive Funding

To Whom it May Concern:

New Ecology, Inc. is writing in support of Passive House Massachusetts’s call for the Energy Efficiency Advisory Council (EEAC) to strongly advocate for the Passive House Incentive Program outlined in the proposed three-year utility efficiency plan to include an incentive value of at least $4,000 per residential unit.

New Ecology is a Boston-based non-profit organization with a mission to promote sustainable development in low-income communities. Over the past twenty years, we have worked hand-in-hand with affordable multifamily housing developers in the Commonwealth to achieve our goals. Grounded in our experience, New Ecology believes that incentivizing Passive House development is a critical piece of achieving our collective efficiency, emissions, and climate goals and is a necessary component of our movement towards a low-carbon future. It is a climate change mitigation and adaptation strategy, a means of reducing human health impacts from local air pollution, and provides resiliency benefits that are especially important for vulnerable, low-income communities in the face of more frequent extreme weather events.

Affordable multifamily developers will be state leaders and influencers in their role as early adopters of the Passive House approach. To encourage more widespread adoption beyond pilot projects, the development community as a whole requires meaningful, consistent, and reliable incentives that provide them the confidence needed to achieve the complementary goals of sustainable and affordable housing production.
We would like to see the EEAC do everything possible to advance the acceptance of this approach during this current Three-Year Plan. The $4,000 per unit incentive is essential to achieving these results. We appreciate your consideration.

Sincerely,

Edward Connelly – President    Lauren Baumann – Vice President