

To whom it may concern:

Constructing new multifamily buildings to the Passive House standard has proven to be a low cost way to achieve long term energy use and greenhouse gas reductions as well healthier and more resilient buildings.

RDH Building Science, Inc. strongly supports the actions outlined in the LISC letter of 4/4/2018 “Recommendations for EEAC’s 2019-2021 Three-Year Energy Efficiency Plan,” including:

- **Passive House Training for contractors and consultants.** RDH Building Science feels strongly that training should include programs for architects and other registered professionals. This will be essential to expanding PH knowledge and application to both single-family and multi-family opportunities. We also feel that programs should provide training in both PHIUS and PHI standards.
- **Passive House Pilot Projects and Data Benchmarking.** While we support all actions that advance PH application on a broader scale, our experience indicates that pilot projects may have limited impact. Worldwide there are over 60,000 PH buildings—we know how to do this. Funding mechanisms that focus on training and small incentives can be the most impactful.

Data monitoring and real-time data sharing is a top priority. RDH Building Science supports PH training initiatives that include knowledge sharing that results in a better understanding and broader application of real-time monitoring and data sharing for PH buildings.

- **Green Design Charrettes.** We recommend focus and priority on training and small incentives. Based on our experience, we feel that educating architects and engineers can be a most effective way to promote an expansion of PH application to new multifamily buildings. Training project stakeholders (design professionals and developers) and then getting out of their way has been a key in other markets that are leading adoption of PH standards in multifamily development.

Thank you for your work to develop and expand energy efficiency programs in Massachusetts and I hope to see these efforts to ensure the development of affordable energy efficient buildings move forward.

Thank you for considering these comments.

**Wei Lam, P.E. (MA)**

Principal, Building Science Specialist  
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