

First I would like to thank you for the work that you do and the incentives and rebates that Efficiency Maine (EM) provides to residents and businesses in Maine. I feel strongly that through these programs that life is more affordable for many, the planet benefits and there is no doubt that every dollar spent reaps many more saved. I have been told that in the Triennial Plan VI BioMass/pellet boilers are in jeopardy of being removed from the rebate program. In 2013 we made the change from an oil boiler to a Maine Energy System pellet boiler with the help of EM. The assistance of the rebate made the transition seamless and affordable for my family, we can't thank EM enough. The savings on our heating bill annually has been tremendous. Without those savings of approximately 40% per annum my wife and I would not be in the financial position we are able to enjoy today. We have also enjoyed a much more stable cost in heating our home over the last decade eliminating the guessing game of how much money we will need to set aside for the winter. I also believe that we reduced our carbon footprint substantially in changing over to this renewable resource to heat our home. The pellets supplied in bulk delivery to our home are produced right here in Maine providing good jobs in a sector of the state that is struggling with mills closing. Also the process helps the timber industry utilize more of the trees cut by reducing "slash" on the forest floor. Maine is on the verge of building the infrastructure to produce and ship more pellets to Europe. This will provide even more good paying jobs and in doing so the price of pellets sold here in Maine and the Northeast will remain stable and possibly see a reduction in cost to the local end users. For all these reasons and more I beseech you to reconsider and keep BioMass/pellet boilers on the list of approved equipment for rebates.

Sincerely, Andy Werwaiss

Georgetown, Me.