



June 14, 2019

A Shared Initiative  
AIA New Orleans  
Alembic Community Development  
Alliance for Affordable Energy  
Bike Easy  
Blueprint Investment Fund  
Capital One Bank  
Celestin Development Corporation  
Center for Planning Excellence  
(CPEX)  
Delaney & Delaney, LLP  
Desire Community Housing Corp  
Downtown Development District  
Enterprise Community Partners  
Family Resources of New Orleans  
Greater New Orleans Fair Housing  
Action Center  
Hancock Whitney Bank  
Home By Hand  
Iris Development Company  
Jane Place Neighborhood  
Sustainability Initiative  
Jefferson Community Action  
Programs (JeffCAP)  
Jericho Road Episcopal Housing  
Initiative  
Louisiana Appleseed  
Louvis Services  
Lower 9th Ward Homeowners  
Association  
Lowernine.org  
Metairie Bank  
Neighborhood Development  
Foundation  
New Orleans Redevelopment  
Authority  
NewCorp, Inc.  
PCA Development, LLC  
Perez, A Professional Corporation  
PosiGen  
Preservation Resource Center  
Providence Community Housing  
Renaissance Neighborhood  
Development Corporation  
REO, LLC  
SBP, Inc.  
The Albert & Tina Small Center for  
Collaborative Design  
The Finance Authority of New  
Orleans (FANO)  
The Power Coalition for Equity and  
Justice  
The Urban Conservancy  
Tulane/Canal Neighborhood  
Development Corporation (T/CNDC)  
Ulrich Consulting  
University of New Orleans  
Department of Planning and Urban  
Studies (UNO-PLUS)  
Urban Focus  
Webre Consulting, LLC  
Wells Fargo Advisors  
Youth Rebuilding New Orleans

The Honorable Eric Skrmetta  
The Honorable Craig Greene  
The Honorable Lambert C. Boissiere, III  
The Honorable Mike Francis  
The Honorable Foster L. Campbell

Louisiana Public Utilities Commission  
Galvez Building, 12th Floor  
602 North Fifth Street PO Box 91154  
Baton Rouge, LA 70821

Dear Commissioners,

The Greater New Orleans Housing Alliance (GNOHA) appreciates that the Louisiana Public Service Commission is considering the development of financial incentives for the promotion of energy efficiency by jurisdictional electric and gas utilities (Docket R-31106), and we write to ask that the Commission support increased investments in and attention to energy efficiency that reaches affordable and multifamily housing.

GNOHA is a collaborative of non-profit housing builders and community development corporations working to rebuild the housing stock available in the city of New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina devastated the city's infrastructure. Since its creation in 2007, GNOHA has sought to create change in the Greater New Orleans community through public policy advocacy and public education. The collaborative advocates for the preservation and production of affordable housing for people within the Greater New Orleans metropolitan region and places a special emphasis on the needs of the most vulnerable in society - seniors, people with disabilities, veterans, low-wage workers and low-income families.

Our developers and CDC's are affordable housing providers committed to energy efficiency as a cost-effective way to maintain affordable housing and provide healthier, more comfortable homes for residents. Energy efficiency can support low- and moderate-income residents living in multi-family properties through utility-sponsored energy efficiency programs.

New Orleans has one of the highest energy burdens in the country, meaning that residents must dedicate a large portion of their income to their monthly energy bills. With 50% of New Orleans residents being cost-burdened and some spending upwards of 20% of their income on utility bills, energy efficiency is a vital solution to addressing the affordable housing crisis.

Our City Council recently passed a resolution to get Entergy New Orleans to report whole building energy usage to building owners that are interested, and we are working to get a ordinance passed requiring building owners to report that data. This will help inspire competition and hopefully lead to our city being less dependent on excess energy and more energy efficient.

Energy efficiency is a broad and complicated concept and our housing stock and climate issues demand resources to create the best possible solutions, not only in our city but across the state. While many developers can and do access incentives to meet energy efficiency goals, many more cannot, particularly in rural communities like St. John the Baptist and Plaquemines Parish. We hope that the LPSC will work with utility providers to develop financial incentives for energy efficiency programs across the state.

We welcome an opportunity to work with you and your offices to explore the program experience of utilities in Louisiana and other states. We stand ready to assist you as you explore this important matter to assure Louisiana residents benefit from energy efficiency.

If you have questions, please contact 504-224-8300 or [amorris@gnoha.org](mailto:amorris@gnoha.org).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Andreanecia M. Morris". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial 'A'.

Andreanecia M. Morris,  
President/Chairwoman