



April 6, 2015

David J. Collins  
Executive Secretary  
Maryland Public Service Commission,  
William Donald Schaefer Tower  
6 St. Paul Street, 16th Floor  
Re: Case No. 9361- Public Comment

I am writing to the Maryland Public Service Commission on behalf of the National Housing Conference (NHC).

As part of its policy work, through partnerships with the U.S. Green Building Council and Enterprise Community Partners, NHC coordinates the Green Affordable Housing Coalition, a national action network that fosters collaboration and advocates for the development and preservation of green affordable housing. It provides members with an opportunity to share best practices and the latest research, discuss potential policy solutions, coordinate outreach and advocacy efforts, and network with organizations with a shared mission.

Because of NHC's interest and advocacy around green affordable housing, NHC supports the involvement by local governments, state governments, utilities and other energy stakeholders to improve energy efficiency, especially in affordable housing because it alleviates housing cost burden for households, improves their housing quality and can have positive health impacts.

The proposed settlement agreement in the MD Exelon-Pepco Holdings Merger Proceeding would increase resources for those activities by providing \$6.5 million for energy efficiency investments in multifamily affordable housing and creating a \$50 million Green Sustainability Fund with multifamily affordable housing projects being eligible for \$10 million in zero interest loans. These funding increases are substantial and will have significant positive outcomes for affordable multifamily housing in Maryland and its low income beneficiaries. NHC supports these beneficial outcomes of the settlement agreement, and encourages the Commission to approve the agreement containing these funding increases. We hope this agreement can inspire other localities and utilities to pursue similar courses of action.

Formed in 1931, the nonprofit National Housing Conference (NHC) is dedicated to helping ensure safe, decent and affordable housing for all in America. As a division of NHC, the Center for Housing Policy specializes in solutions through research, working to broaden understanding of America's affordable housing challenges and examine the impact of policies and programs



developed to address these needs. Through evidence-based advocacy for the continuum of housing, NHC develops ideas, resources and policy solutions to shape an improved housing landscape.

On behalf of the National Housing Conference, I thank you for your work on these important proceedings and the opportunity to add our voice to the discussion.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Chris Estes". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of "Chris" and "Estes" being capitalized and prominent.

Chris Estes  
President and CEO