



AMERICAN
ENERGY CARE, INC.

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"Because Saving Energy is Saving Money"

ENERGY
RESOURCE

APR 14 2005

AND THE
ENVIRONMENT

Mr. J. D'Aloia

April 11, 2005

Jaclyn A. Brillling,
Secretary, New York State Public Service Commission
3 Empire State Plaza
Albany, New York 12223-1350

Dear Secretary Brillling:

New York State currently has one of the most successful Energy Conservation/Savings and Business Development programs in the country. This is not an opinion; this is a statistic as cited by several sources throughout the country.

The funding for this process is called the SBC charge and directly administered, in a very efficient manner, by NYSEDA (New York State Energy Research and Development Authority). Within the current budget, which is awaiting the Governor's signature, is an amendment that will transfer the SBC dollars to the state treasury. SBC (System Benefit Charges) dollars are moneys that are paid by individuals as a line item on their energy bill. If this money is co-mingled with other state funds there is the strong possibility that it will become lost to lobbyists and other programs having nothing to do with utility costs in NYS, thus no longer available for the energy saving programs that are so vital today. NYS businesses constantly rate power costs as one of the top hurdles for doing business here.

This requirement has the potential to be anti-business, since the current program has produced energy savings, created jobs, helped commercialize new products, and encouraged economic growth for businesses across the state.

Businesses both large and small have received assistance from these benefit funds, helping them to remain competitive. One of the strengths of the New York Energy Smart program has been its ability to do long term planning which has produced programs that the marketplace can count on. Our company has manufactured products and created services that only occur here, in NYS, due to the support promised. Without that support we would not manufacture this in NYS.

This language should be permanently stricken from the budget and not allow these SBC dollars to be controlled by the legislature or to become another casualty of the state budget system. NYSEDA should continue to administer the funds, with oversight provided by the Public Service Commission.

The Governor's office and the attorney general have the authority to oversee the performance of NYSEDA as well. This is a much more efficient process when compared to adding one more item to the inefficient and unproven budget process we currently experience in this great state.

The current method provides for timely and efficient use of these funds. It also allows for the planning of business development and progress on energy efficiency and business development, whereas an annual renewal process would not. Such a change would only serve to create another inefficient use of our dollars in NYS.

The program must be continued, and continued in a way which insures the continued success of the program.

Respectfully,

Jamie Thompson

Jamie Thompson
President