

March 3, 2005

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

RE: Comments in support of the SBC renewal

Dear Ms. Brillong:

Please continue to fund New York State Energy Research and Development Authority's System Benefit Charge (NYSERDA SBC) program beyond the current June 2006 expiration date.

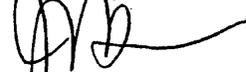
As a current graduate student at Bard College's Center for Environmental Policy (BCEP), a stakeholder in the renewal process, I can assure you that support for the educational initiative is well worth the investment.

Thanks to the contract that BCEP holds with the NYSERDA's, our class has learned a great deal about the possibilities of state government in a country that continues to expect more out of limited resources. New York's leadership is particularly motivating in terms of energy-related environmental issues, which we have discussed in forums like the Energy Monitoring, Evaluation and Protection program (EMEP) conference in 2003, and during a three-week Energy Module in our classes last spring.

Coming from Virginia, I feel privileged to have the opportunity to learn about innovative approaches and commitment to important renewables like wind energy and geothermal energy; it is possible to reduce pollution from large 18-wheeler trucks! I have chosen to focus my research on agricultural issues in the Hudson Valley, but I have learned how agricultural initiatives can be improved by the efficient use of available resources, especially those that can provide energy. Our states and our nation are capable of improvement, and we should expect nothing less.

Please continue to fund the SBC program, and especially the BCEP program.  
Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,



Jessica Butts  
BCEP '05