



April 22, 2020

Senator David Osmek
95 University Ave W.
Minnesota Senate Building, Room 2107
St. Paul, MN 55155

Representative Jean Wagenius
449 State Office Building
St. Paul, MN 55155

RE: Support for Energy Conservation and Optimization (ECO) Act (HF4502/SF4409)

Dear Chair Osmek and Chair Wagenius:

Thank you for hearing HF4502/SF 4409. I write to express the Citizens Utility Board's support for this bill.

As an independent, nonprofit advocate for Minnesota's residential and small business utility consumers, the Citizens Utility Board (CUB) advocates for affordable and reliable utility service and clean energy for Minnesota residents and small businesses.

CUB staff regularly refer Minnesotans in all corners of the state to their utilities' energy conservation incentives in order to reduce their energy bills on a permanent basis. The ECO Act will help to ensure that utilities and their customers can continue to take advantage of such energy savings opportunities as the energy world modernizes.

The ECO Act modernizes Minnesota's long-standing, successful energy conservation program. It will help Minnesotans, particularly those in rural areas, save money and reduce emissions through efficient fuel switching, such as installing air source heat pumps in place of traditional air conditioning. It will also help utilities and their customers benefit from load management programs that can cut costly, high-emission usage peaks.

CUB encourages you to support this bill.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Annie Levenson-Falk
Executive Director

cc: Members, Senate Energy and Utilities Policy and Finance Committee
Members, House Energy and Climate Finance and Policy Division