



Duke Energy Foundation
526 S Church St
Charlotte, NC 28202

April 28, 2020

Subject: Letter of Support for NCCETC Proposal

To whom it may concern,

Knauf Insulation North America is an insulation manufacturer with six manufacturing facilities in the US and employs over 1,900 people. Insulation is a critical component in improving the energy efficiency of buildings and mechanical systems, and a workforce of well-trained installers is necessary to ensure this beneficial work is achieved.

Knauf Insulation commits our support for and participation in this proposed project as we acknowledge the significant lack of workforce development resources available in the energy efficiency industry in North Carolina and nationally. We are confident that NCCETC, its primary project partner North Carolina Building Performance Association (NCBPA) (we are a proud member company) and other project partners will be able to assess, develop and pilot beneficial solutions for our company, our customers' workers, students and many others that we seek to help employ in the energy efficiency industry.

We believe that hundreds and eventually thousands of North Carolina residents from disadvantaged communities that include minorities, women, youths and many others, will benefit from this project's efforts to significantly improve their job readiness and career awareness related to our industry. Prior to the current pandemic, our industry employed more than 87,000 workers in North Carolina and was facing a significant shortage of labor. Bringing these eligible workers into our industry will help our industry bounce back, will help them get back to work or find better work, will strengthen their local communities, and of course, through increased work in energy efficiency will offer environmental benefits as well.

We commit to participating in the project's surveys, meetings, training events and pilot projects that include curriculum development, career pathways development, apprenticeship programs, and other activities. These resources are needed in North Carolina and will help our industry's efforts in other states.

The NCCETC Training Program has been delivering high-quality workforce development training for the past 15 years, preparing participants for a career in the renewable energy industry or enhancing the skills of those already working in the industry. This experience alongside a history of grantwork and bringing together and working alongside military partners, community colleges, non-profits, and industry businesses and organizations for workforce development purposes makes the Center especially qualified to lead a project such as this. NCBPA's involvement offers workforce innovation and direct connections to energy efficiency employers and suppliers like us that will be on the receiving end of the needed resources.



This proposal is unique, innovative, direly needed and will offer increasingly valuable benefits for years to come in North Carolina and other states. We strongly support this NCCETC proposal and look forward to participating.

Thank you for your consideration,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Brett Welch'.

Brett Welch
Director, Sustainability and Knauf Insulation Academy