



COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF
ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS
DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY RESOURCES
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Kimberley Driscoll
Lt. Governor

Elizabeth Mahony
Commissioner

December 22, 2023

Via Electronic Mail

Kara Brewton
Director, Department of Planning & Community Development
Town of Brookline
333 Washington Street
Brookline, Massachusetts 02445
kbrewton@brooklinema.gov

Dear Kara Brewton,

The Department of Energy Resources (Department) is contacting you in regard to Brookline's application to become a Participating Community in the Department's Municipal Fossil Fuel Free Building Construction and Renovation Demonstration Project (Demonstration Project) as authorized by St. 2022, c. 179, § 84 (Act).

The Department has reviewed Brookline's application and determined that it contains the required application materials listed in 225 CMR 24.04(1) and that Brookline meets the Housing Eligibility Thresholds detailed in 225 CMR 24.05(2). The Department hereby approves Brookline's application to become a Participating Community in the Department's Demonstration Project.

The Department notes that while the Act grants municipalities the discretion to adopt exemptions and define the exemption and waiver process within their fossil fuel-free by-law or ordinance, such exemptions and waivers must not conflict with 225 CMR 24.00 or the applicable provision of the building energy code in the adopting municipality, including (if applicable) the stretch


energy code and specialized energy code contained in 225 CMR 22.00 and 23.00. The Department would be happy to clarify any questions regarding this.

The Department will be in contact in the coming weeks regarding the collecting and reporting of data to the Department detailed in 225 CMR 24.07(2).

In accordance with the effective date contained in Brookline's fossil fuel-free by-law, Brookline may now proceed with the implementation of their fossil fuel-free by-law.

If you have any questions regarding this determination, please contact Joanne Bissetta at joanne.bissetta@mass.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joanne Bissetta". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal line extending to the left of the first letter.

Joanne Bissetta
Director, Green Communities Division