



Department of Energy

Washington, DC 20585

December 4, 2009

Angus E. Crane
Executive Vice President, General Counsel
North American Insulation Manufacturers Association
44 Canal Center Plaza, Suite 310
Alexandria, Virginia 22314

Dear Mr. Crane:

Thank you for your October 20, 2009, letter regarding the Department of Energy's (DOE) Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP) core competencies and the perceived preferential treatment given cellulose insulation. Let me assure you that fiberglass or other mineral insulation products are approved for use in the Program and are already contained in the WAP Federal Regulations 10CFR Part 440, Appendix A Standards for Weatherization Materials. No preference is given to cellulose or any other product by DOE or the WAP. Appendix A, available on the web and attached here for your convenience, lists all of the materials approved for use, and the standards to which those materials must adhere.

The sentence you referenced in the WAP core competencies document appears to offer a preference for one product over another and will be changed. Thank you for calling this to our attention. It was an inadvertent error and was provided in that manner for demonstration purposes only. While many Weatherization agencies do use cellulose insulation for walls and attics, still others prefer to use loose fill fiberglass. The core competencies were only developed in the last three years and are still being refined. It is important to note that cost-effectiveness and procedural efficiency drive the Program and it is never our intention to provide a market advantage for one product over another. We will revise the existing document and distribute it to our network.

Finally, we are in the process of developing a standardized training curriculum for the WAP. This includes presentations with many photos of work in the field. If you have photos to share, we will gladly incorporate them along with those that show the use of cellulose for a more balanced presentation. Photos of dense-packing walls are specifically encouraged!

Thank you for your commitment to energy efficiency and renewable energy.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Henry C. Kelly".

Henry C. Kelly
Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary
Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy

