

Community First Preservation

Tim,

I am writing to ask for a letter of support from the Town of Chilmark in supporting Vineyard Power and our acceptance into the Mass Save Community First Program, providing Energy Efficiency outreach to our low-moderate income residents, small businesses, English isolated. The Island has for Environmental Justice (EJ) Communities, Aquinnah, Edgartown, Oak Bluffs, and Tisbury. We will be asking for letters of support from our six island Towns as these programs will benefit all of our Island residents. The Community First Program offers access to energy efficiency outreach experts, communication, and educational materials, grants to support this program. Our goal is to provide the support our residents need in finding the programs, services and funding needed to become more energy efficient. Weatherization, Energy Efficient heating, cooling, hot water, appliances which will help save residents real money. It will also help Chilmark and the Island meet our goals of decarbonization by transitioning away from fossil fuels. I am happy to discuss by phone or in person if you would like. This program accepts applications yearly and the deadline for 2023 participation is Oct 24. The next opportunity would be this time next year and with the rising costs of energy I believe we need to get them connected with these programs.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Best regards,

Dion Alley  
Energy Transition Lead  
Vineyard Power  
8322443693

DRAFT LETTER OF SUPPORT BELOW

**To Whom it May Concern,**

**We are writing in support of Vineyard Power's application to be a Community First Partner in the Mass Save's Community First Partnership program "Empowering Communities through Energy Efficiency". The Community First Partnership provides several programs to help families and small businesses manage their energy costs, from heating equipment upgrades, weatherization upgrades, to new appliances and income-based assistance, with an emphasis on environmental justice.**

**Our town of Chilmark supports the Island's designated Environmental Justice neighborhoods and communities with the implementation of energy efficiency programs. Through this partnership Vineyard Power, as trusted local experts, will help families and small businesses of the town reduce energy and fossil fuel usage which will result in real savings for our citizens including, but not limited to, low to moderate income residents, small businesses, English isolated residents, and renters & landlords.**

**As a coastal community, the town of Chilmark is on the front line of the adverse effects of climate change and our residents and small businesses are currently burdened with all-time high electricity**

prices, which is also disproportionately affects our most vulnerable members within our communities. This program will be very beneficial to our town.

We look forward to working with Vineyard Power in the Community First Partnership to achieve our shared vision of an environmentally just, clean energy future. We respectfully ask that Vineyard Power with the Town of Chilmark strong support, be accepted into the Mass Save Community First Program.

Respectfully,