



Ken Wagner, Ph.D.
Commissioner

State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations
DEPARTMENT OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION
Shepard Building
255 Westminster Street
Providence, Rhode Island 02903-3400

July 15, 2016

Jeff Diehl
Executive Director
RI Infrastructure Bank
235 Promenade Street, Suite 119
Providence, RI 02908

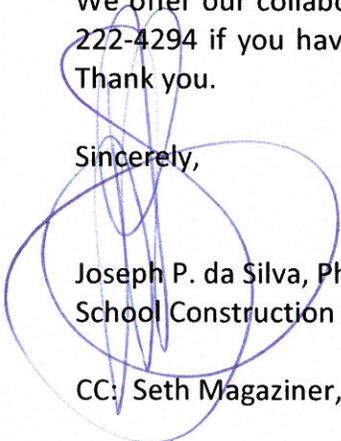
Dear Mr. Diehl,

Over the course of the last year, the School Building Authority (SBA) at the RI Department of Education (RIDE) has worked with staff from the RI Infrastructure Bank to coordinate the rollout of the Efficient Buildings Fund (EBF) to ensure that projects at school facilities are eligible. In continuation of that collaboration and in anticipation of further work to be done, we are writing this letter of support.

We believe that the EBF can provide new opportunities for Local Education Agencies (LEAs) to fund much needed energy efficiency and renewable energy projects as a complement to the Housing Aid Program and School Building Authority Capital Fund (SBA Capital Fund). Although currently LEAs that fund projects through the EBF are not eligible for State reimbursement under the housing aid program, the SBA at RIDE is supportive of efforts by the RI Infrastructure Bank to amend the legislation to make EBF funded projects eligible for reimbursement. The SBA at RIDE offers its full support to these efforts and will collaborate with the RI Infrastructure Bank to streamline and align the application processes for LEAs.

We offer our collaboration in the planning steps moving forward. Please contact me at (401) 222-4294 if you have any questions or to set up a meeting to continue this important work. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Joseph P. da Silva, Ph.D., AIA
School Construction Coordinator

CC: Seth Magaziner, Ken Wagner, Cynthia Brown, Manuel Cordero, Mario Carreño