

**From:** [Jon Showalter](#)  
**To:** [Statements](#)  
**Subject:** Statement of Position Submitted by Jon Showalter  
**Date:** Thursday, May 14, 2020 9:51:38 AM

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## Statement of Position Submitted

### Name

Jon Showalter

### Email

jon@homesbydickerson.com

### Docket

Docket E-7 Sub 1155

### Message

To the Utility Commissioners: It is my understanding that the expansion of the Duke Energy Progress Residential New Construction rebate program for building high efficiency homes into the original Duke Energy areas is meeting objections from the gas utilities also serving these areas. I am writing in support of the Duke Energy Progress RNC rebate program being extended and would like to offer perspective from a local home builder who has been a long-time participant in the program. First and foremost, the program supports and encourages builders to construct homes that utilize energy in a more efficient manner. While the program rebates money based on the efficient use of electricity, the benefits of the improvements incorporated into the houses we build mean that the overall use of energy, whether it is gas or electricity, is much more efficient. Duke Energy Progress has taken the lead as a utility in supporting and creating an effective incentive program to encourage builders to embrace high performance building. In order to meet the required parameters for the RNC program, Homes by Dickerson has improved the quality of windows, efficiency levels of the HVAC equipment, and the air sealing of the structure itself. Our homes receive Energy Star and Bronze Level Green Certification through the National Green Building Standard as well. The Duke Energy Progress RNC program continues to be a significant incentive supporting these endeavors. The gas utility industry's concern about this program promoting more electricity usage, thus reducing gas consumption in the residential market, is not supported by my 25 years of experience in this marketplace. Our clients have always preferred gas for cooking, heating and hot water generation. Fireplaces are still a stalwart feature in most of our homes and are dominated by gas logs. Finally, once a feature for only the very high-end clients, the demand for backup natural gas power generators has significantly increased over the past few years, becoming more of a mainstream feature. Because of these market driven features requiring gas, we feel a great need for both utilities serving our lots. Expansion of the Duke RNC program will continue to incentivize current builders, but more importantly help attract other builders to build higher performing homes. That should be seen as a good thing for everyone, including the gas utilities. I ask that you support Duke Energy in their RNC program

expansion request. Sincerely, Jon Showalter Vice President | Chief Operating Officer Homes  
by Dickerson