

From: wendy@wetlands-preserve.org
Sent: Monday, March 26, 2012 4:03 PM
To: !FHFA REG-COMMENTS
Subject: RIN 2590-AA53, Mortgage Assets Affected by PACE Programs

To whom it may concern:

I urge you to rescind your opposition to PACE programs that are one of the greatest tools that communities can have to pursue more sustainable energy use and generation. Not only do PACE programs help us reduce our dependence on fossil fuels, promote clean air, and lower our utility costs over time, but energy efficiency and rooftop solar installations also improve property values. PACE programs are also in the public's interest because energy efficiency and user-distributed generation are cheaper than building expensive new power plants and transmission lines that require the destruction of natural resources, pristine forests, and clean waterways.

Municipalities have a well-established history of using special assessments similar to PACE to finance community benefits, including improvements to personal property. FHFA has not challenged these other special assessment programs, nor does it have authority to do so. A pilot PACE program in Colorado generated over one hundred jobs and nearly \$20 million dollars in economic activity in just one year, according to the Department of Energy.

Generating local clean energy, boosting our economy, and reducing our dependence on fossil fuels is not just in the interest of municipalities. These are also priorities for our Federal government, and the FHFA's decision to challenge PACE is inconsistent with these priorities. We need to increase capacity for clean, renewable energy no matter what obstacles might be in the way. Your agency has the power to make this program financially sound, benefitting everyone, if the will is there. Well, certainly, the will of us citizens is there to put PACE into action. Please do whatever you can to implement this and other programs that facilitate truly clean energy generation. We can't afford not to.

Sincerely,

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