

BEVILL STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Joel Hagood, Ed.D.

President

March 20, 2024

Jimmy H. Baker, Chancellor
Alabama Community College System
135 South Union Street
Montgomery, AL 36104

Dear Chancellor Baker:

I am writing in support of the Alabama Community College System (ACCS) application for an EPA Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) and to confirm my college's intent to implement key portions of the associated project as a sub-grantee. Our school will be joining other ACCS institutions in replacing old, high-mileage, gasoline or diesel-powered vehicles with new energy-efficient electric vehicles (EVs). With grant funds, our college will replace a total of eight vehicles with EVs and will also purchase and install four Level 2 charging stations, one at each Bevill State Community College (BSCC) campus, to enable continuous use and to support additional fleet electrification in the future.

In addition to adopting EVs, BSCC will be proud to pioneer the generation of clean, renewable energy on an Alabama community college campus through the construction and operation of a solar microgrid. The microgrid will not only reduce the College's energy consumption, it will also allow us to return power to the commercial grid, reducing the cost of electricity for consumers in general. It will be a valuable addition to the Energy Infrastructure Training Center at Bevill State, enabling us, in partnership with ACCS and the Alabama Power Company, to train students in the operation, maintenance, and repair of solar microgrids, helping us build a skilled workforce for Alabama in the renewable energy industry sector.

As a leading change-agent in our service area, BSCC is eager to invest in projects that showcase innovation, promote economic growth, and have a positive social impact. By implementing EVs and a solar microgrid, the College will greatly reduce fuel and electricity bills. These savings translate into financial resources better used to support the success of our students, many of whom are low-income, first-generation college students and live or work in disadvantaged communities. In addition, BSCC will be reducing greenhouse gas emissions, improving air quality, contributing to a cleaner, healthier environment, and strengthening the College's energy resilience. We believe that this project will be transformational and can be replicated across our state for even greater emissions reductions and energy savings. We hope to serve as a model for other organizations or communities considering electric vehicle adoption or investment in a microgrid.

Thank you for the opportunity to participate in this project. We look forward to hearing the good news that the ACCS application has been selected for funding.

Sincerely,



Joel Hagood, Ed.D.
President