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Member of the National League of Cities and the National Association of Counties

Curtis Thayer
Alaska Energy Authority
813 W. Northern Lights Blvd
Anchorage, AK 99503

March 26, 2024

Re: Climate Pollution Reduction Implementation Grant (CPRG) - Letter of Commitment for proposal to address Alaska's critical energy challenges

Executive Director Thayer,

On behalf of the Alaska Municipal League (AML), please accept this letter of commitment for an implementation grant application to the Environmental Protection Agency's Climate Pollution Reduction Grant program by the Alaska Energy Authority (AEA), as part of a coalition that includes the Tanana Chiefs Conference (TCC) and Northwest Arctic Borough (NAB). In drafting the state plan, we saw the role of the AEA as a key transformative leader contributing to emissions reductions.

AML is excited to be a part of a potential generational opportunity for transformative impacts on the energy systems of disadvantaged, rural communities in Alaska especially when considering the array of benefits to be realized from the multi-faceted, programmatic elements of the application including engine replacements through DGR, upgrades to rural distribution systems, and energy efficiency measures through VEEP. In line with our Infrastructure program and long-term work with DEC on the State of Alaska's CPRG PCAP, we intend to support AEA with planning support, community outreach, progress tracking, and energy data needs. As a sub-recipient, AML will support the application with workforce development infrastructure which will consist of aiding applicants with recruitment, skill development, career navigation, and wraparound services such as childcare, housing and living stipends.

AML will work with the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) to establish a statewide tracking and reporting system for CPRG awardees to combine data in a singular database. The system will supplement sub-awardees with technical assistance provided by partners to encourage timely reporting, with methodology consistent with the State's GHG emissions inventory. Lastly, AML will lead a statewide cohort of awardees to participate in CPRG planning and creation of a sustainability plan.

We look forward to this program and AML strongly supports the AEA proposal. Should it be selected, we will partner to initiate long-term emission reduction, greater resiliency to disruptive events, and economic and environmental benefits in Alaska.

Sincerely,

Nils Andreassen
Executive Director
Alaska Municipal League