



March 26, 2024

Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
Office of Air and Radiation
Climate Pollution Reduction Grant
Washington, DC 20460

Re: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency - Climate Pollution Reduction Grants Program: Implementation Grant Letter of Support - EPA-R-OAR-CPRGI-23-07 for the Bay Area Clean Homes Initiative

Dear US EPA Office of Air and Radiation,

I am a representative of the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC), a department of the City and County of San Francisco. SFPUC operates CleanPowerSF, a clean electricity provider in San Francisco that operates under the Community Choice Aggregation model serving residents and businesses. We commend the EPA for its creation of the Climate Pollution Reduction Grant. The SFPUC firmly believes that the Grant will drive transformative work and significant near-term greenhouse gas (GHG) emission reductions through 2030, as well as provide a pathway to scale greenhouse gas reductions in priority low-income disadvantaged communities over the long term.

CleanPowerSF supports the Association of Bay Area Governments' (ABAG) proposed Bay Area Clean Homes Initiative (BACHI) that would directly benefit low-income and disadvantaged community (LIDAC) households, as defined by EPA's Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool, across the region. BACHI will deliver immediate GHG reductions while building a foundation for ongoing reductions through a replicable model that combines shovel-ready home retrofits with strategic interventions to unlock the region's ability to scale residential decarbonization. BACHI's strategic partnerships and synergy of both short- and long-term strategies enables on-the-ground project implementation to directly inform effective and transformational systemic interventions that address technical, economic, and behavioral barriers in frontline communities.

CleanPowerSF works closely with both the ABAG, and the Bay Area Regional Energy Network (BayREN), a partnership that serves the nine San Francisco Bay Area counties. BACHI seeks to deliver services complementary to those offered by all Bay Area CCAs and through BayREN's multifamily and single-family programs; we believe all these efforts are vital and necessary to help rapidly decrease GHG emissions and support community decarbonization as a solution to rid our reliance on fossil fuels.

London N. Breed
Mayor

Tim Paulson
President

Anthony Rivera
Vice President

Newsha K. Ajami
Commissioner

Sophie Maxwell
Commissioner

Kate H. Stacy
Commissioner

Dennis J. Herrera
General Manager



CleanPowerSF supports the design and intent of the proposed Initiative and, should the proposal be successful, will actively participate in the successful implementation of the BACHI by working with the ABAG, BayREN and Bay Area Air Quality Management District to identify and implement solutions that strive to mitigate a potential increase of utility bills resulting from the electrification of residential homes. CleanPowerSF will participate in quarterly convenings to discuss and design rate protection mechanisms for residents of LIDAC communities served by the BACHI.

The proposed BACHI program design aligns with CleanPowerSF's equity and climate action objectives. Prioritizing underserved communities, collaborating with local partners, such as other local governments, Habitat for Humanity, Rebuilding Together, community-based organizations and Community Choice Aggregation programs are main pillars of our efforts. This allows us to collaborate on regional outreach and expand our programs with electrification measures designed to support the shift to building decarbonization in existing buildings, particularly in multifamily and single-family homes.

The BACHI will deliver a streamlined region-wide program, presenting offerings that, while unified in approach, will be tailored to each community based on local needs, local goals, and complementary local services. We feel confident that the unique BACHI delivery model will expeditiously expand access to residential decarbonization for households disproportionately impacted by pollution, burdened by high energy costs, and historically excluded from clean energy opportunities.

CleanPowerSF looks forward to participating in this historic effort to drive direct, household-level climate action, economic relief for LIDAC households, and transformative solutions. We are encouraged that the effort will deliver significant near-term GHG reductions while positioning the Bay Area region to decarbonize our communities successfully and equitably.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Barbara Hale', with a stylized, cursive script.

Barbara Hale
Assistant General Manager, Power