



March 28, 2024

Angela Tovar
Commissioner, City of Chicago Department of Environment
Via Electronic Mail

Dear Commissioner Tovar:

The Illinois Energy Conservation Authority, NFP, an Illinois 501c3 nonprofit organization (IECA), which provides oversight and administration for the Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy (C-PACE) financing Program for Cook County and 16 counties in the state of Illinois for property owners who wish to improve their properties with commercial energy efficiency, renewable energy, water conservation and resiliency projects, would like to support the Coalition application from the City of Chicago and County of Cook in the amount of approximately \$199,000,000 for the Climate Pollution Reduction Grant, as a means to addressing environmental justice issues and other clean energy initiatives.

The Chicago/Cook County CRPG Coalition Proposal advances highly effective Greenhouse Gas reduction strategies that also have strong Environmental Justice benefits. Measures include an Industrial Decarbonization component (for Chicago, Suburban Cook County, and DuPage County) to assist smaller and medium sized businesses, to install energy efficient and electrified equipment, renewable energy, and refrigerant replacement systems, while reducing toxics and air pollution in Environmental Justice areas. The program will also address food waste in Chicago and Cook County through creation of food scrap collection programs and the infrastructure to support them. And it will pursue aggressive energy efficiency, electrification, and renewable energy strategies in public buildings such as schools, libraries, and public housing in low income and distressed communities to reduce air pollution, provide jobs, and create educational working models for aggressively addressing climate change.

The proposal shared by the project team to contribute to the reduction of the region's GHG emissions and catalyze economic opportunities within the clean energy economy is critical for the greater Chicago region, and we look forward to working closely to support this effort. Please do not hesitate to contact me for further assistance or information.

Sincerely,

Mark Pikus
President