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April 1, 2024

Dear EPA CPRG Reviewers:

This letter is to confirm Argonne National Laboratory's support for City of Chicago and Cook County's proposal "*Chicagoland Regional Public Buildings Energy Efficiency and Electrification Strategy*" to the EPA CPRG program. Argonne is one of the core labs for DOE Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy offices including the Building Technologies Office, providing technology R&D, tools, analysis, and technical assistance related to building electrification and decarbonization. Argonne staff members have reviewed the proposal and deem the electrification strategy to be appropriate and the estimates of carbon reduction and operational cost savings to be reasonable. The conversion of natural gas driven heating systems to electric heat pump systems, especially using geothermal heat pumps where practical, provides significant carbon reductions in building operation. With the City of Chicago starting a full energy contract of 100% green electricity in 2025 and the fact that with the combination of nearby nuclear and renewable electricity the Chicagoland region of the grid is already nearing full decarbonization, electrification will be able to provide nearly carbon free operation of the selected buildings immediately upon conversion.

In summary, we fully support this proposal and believe the proposed impacts to be technically sound and significant.

Best regards,

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