



March 18, 2024

KC Becker
U.S. EPA Region 8 Administrator
1595 Wynkoop Street
Denver, CO 80202-1129

RE: Support for Colorado's application for EPA-R-OAR-CPRG-23-07

I am writing today in support of the Colorado Energy Office's application on behalf of the State of Colorado for Climate Pollution Reduction Grant implementation funds under EPA-R-OAR-CPRG-23-07 for a multi-state coalition on advancing the clean hydrogen economy.

Colorado is a national leader in the development of clean hydrogen strategies. We were the first state to spearhead a regional agreement (the Western Interstates Hydrogen Hub) with our neighbors in Wyoming, Utah, and New Mexico to collectively work on the development of a regional clean hydrogen economy. Colorado was also the first jurisdiction in the United States to establish a clean hydrogen *use* tax credit to de-risk the purchase and utilization of clean hydrogen – a major gap in this nascent market. Simultaneously, Colorado established the most stringent requirements for clean hydrogen production in the country, mirroring many of the later proposed 45V federal production tax credit requirements including additionality, hourly matching, and geographic proximity of renewable energy for electrolysis.

Through this multi-state coalition application we intend to help spearhead the responsible and scalable development of clean hydrogen production, transportation, and use – particularly in cases where the value of hydrogen is likely to be the highest such as in hard-to-decarbonize industrial operations as well as aviation, heavy duty transportation, long duration energy storage, load-following services in the power sector, replacing existing gray hydrogen applications with clean hydrogen and similar applications. These efforts will reduce co-pollution, help integrate more renewable energy into the grid faster, and build the economic competitiveness of American manufacturing. CPRG also presents an opportunity to move quickly on the highest impact projects across a large geographic area, and establish a foundation for the thoughtful and effective use of clean hydrogen in our renewable energy future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jared Polis".

Jared Polis
Governor of Colorado