



March 27, 2024

U.S Environmental Protection Agency Office  
of the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund 1200  
Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. Washington, DC  
20460

Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection 79  
Elm Street  
Hartford CT 06106-5127

RE: Letter of Commitment for the EPA Climate Pollution Reduction Grant

To Whom It May Concern,

Emerald Cities Collaborative is committed to partnering with the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (CT DEEP) and other partner organizations for the proposed five-year *New England Heat Pump Accelerator*. The Accelerator will achieve these goals through a three-pronged strategy designed to activate the supply chain, scale solutions to the specific barriers that low- and moderate-income (LMI) households and disadvantaged communities face in adopting heat pumps and share data and educational resources across the region.

Emerald Cities Collaborative and its partners work to promote economic inclusion policies, programs, and initiatives that effectively achieve greater diversity within clean energy workforce and suppliers. As an organization our programming has focused increasing access to opportunity in climate critical construction and we look forward to supporting the efforts and initiatives underway in CT, including supporting the development of a diverse contractor network needed to deploy these technologies.

Efficient cold-climate heat pumps can reduce energy costs and offer substantial emissions and health benefits for New England residents. We especially support this proposal for the Innovation Hub, which will dedicate significant funding to overcome barriers for LMI households and disadvantaged communities in all five states in the coalition. The projects funded under the Innovation Hub will tackle electrification challenges for unique buildings, such as mobile homes and multifamily buildings, develop community-based solutions to improve access and affordability, and provide resources to cover gaps in current programs, enabling them to offer heat pump upgrades as part of their package of services.

As a non-profit organization we will look for ways to engage with the Accelerator to achieve the goals of the program and help to identify pathways for Innovation Hub projects. This can include participating in working group meetings, providing input or feedback, or other forms of engagement that may come about as the project is designed and implemented. Should this funding request be successful, we look forward to working with you on this valuable project beginning in mid-2024. Please let us know how we may be of additional assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Alexis Washburn", written over a light blue horizontal line.

Alexis Washburn | Northeast Regional Director  
Emerald Cities Collaborative [awashburn@emeraldcities.org](mailto:awashburn@emeraldcities.org)

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