

Jennifer M. RaittAndrew N. Deslaurier
Executive DirectorChair

Northern Middlesex Council

A Multi-Disciplinary Regional Planning

Billerica - Chelmsford - Dracut - Dunstable - Lowell - Pepperell - Tewksbury - Tyngsborough - Westford



of Governments

Agency Serving:

U.S Environmental Protection Agency March 27, 2024 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, Connecticut 06106

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

To Whom It May Concern,

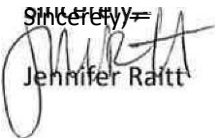
The Northern Middlesex Council of Governments (NMCOG) is committed to partnering with the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (CT DEEP) and other partner organizations for the proposed five-year Regional Mid-Stream Heat Pump Program. This program will create mid-stream incentives at the distributor level to encourage the full replacement of HVAC and water heating systems across Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, and Rhode Island.

Efficient cold-climate heat pumps can reduce energy costs and offer substantial emissions and health improvements for New England residents. Because of this, many states have prioritized the installation of heat pumps through state policy and energy efficiency rebates. Leveraging the distributor network can increase contractor technology adoption and flow these benefits to customers. However, there is a gap in workforce needs. Strong community partnerships and networks are needed to design and manage the proposed program to advance the region's climate action and economic development priorities. NMCOG is committed to prioritizing all historically disadvantaged and underserved communities in the region.

As a regional planning agency, NMCOG would be pleased to share this work in our communities to support the deployment and community engagement of this program. NMCOG can provide input where needed and participating in any advisory councils or working groups where the program is discussed, and support coalition partners in achieving meaningful involvement from community and labor groups when our expertise and networks may be helpful.

Should this funding request be successful, NMCOG looks forward to working with you on this valuable project. Please let us know how we may be of additional assistance.

Sincerely,


Jennifer Raitt