



CLEAN ENERGY NH

Your Voice in All Energy Matters

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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,

Clean Energy NH (CENH) 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”). 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.

Clean Energy NH is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization . Our membership includes 130+ businesses, 43 municipal members—representing over 430,000 NH citizens and greater than 1/3 of the state —and 400+ individuals in every corner of the Granite State. We advocate for the adoption of clean energy initiatives, including renewable energy, energy efficiency, and beneficial electrification through a non-partisan, fact-based lens. Our mission is to lead the clean energy transition with a goal to decarbonize the economy by 2050, while ensuring that energy rates and costs must be affordable for all, economic and environmental benefits and burdens are distributed equitably, and the energy system is safe, secure, resilient, and reliable.

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.

CENH has been working to support stakeholder engagement in building efficiency and electrification with the creation of a Building Efficiency Working Group, intended to continue and expand long running conversations concerning building energy and policy programs. The Accelerator addresses key challenges and opportunities identified by the state's building energy stakeholders and will complement existing state efficiency programs and the forthcoming US Department of Energy (USDOE) funded efficiency and electrification programs managed by the NH Department of Energy.

This measure will further complement the work of CENH's Energy Circuit Riders (ECRs) who provide energy-related technical assistance to municipalities across New Hampshire. The ECRs work within and among communities to identify and implement projects that reduce fossil-fuel energy consumption and lower overall energy costs while providing additional public health and community resiliency benefits. ECR energy projects may include energy efficiency upgrades, fuel switching, beneficial electrification, modern wood heating, solar photovoltaics, community power aggregation, energy storage, electric vehicle charging infrastructure, and other priorities identified by community members. The ECRs stand ready to support the roll out of the Accelerator as it will provide real and immediate emission reductions and cost savings while significantly assisting in the market transformation over the longer term.

As a non-profit, 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,

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Samuel Evans-Brown', with a stylized, cursive script.

Samuel Evans-Brown

Executive Director

Clean Energy NH

Sam@cleanenergynh.org

603.498.3844