



February 28, 2024

Denver Regional Council of Governments
1001 17th Street, Suite 700
Denver, CO 80202

RE: Letter of Support for Climate Pollution Reduction Implementation Grant (CPRG) - Decarbonize DRCOG Proposal

As the African American Trade Association (AATA), representing the collective voice of minority small businesses and construction trade apprenticeships in the region, we are writing to express our wholehearted support for the Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) project proposal presented by the Denver Regional Council of Governments (DRCOG). The "Decarbonize DRCOG" initiative encompasses a transformative and holistic approach to regional building decarbonization, and we believe it aligns with AATA's industry's goals and commitments.

One of AATA's industry goals is to train a diverse work force of registered apprentices that have the skills and certifications to address today's climate challenge. Our electrical apprentice program supports new entrants into well-paying jobs addressing the region's need for liveable wages and careers. As AATA grows the critical workforce, our member businesses can grow as well, contributing to decarbonizing our region. When minority communities participate in the modernizing the infrastructure, the entire region reaps the benefit. The proposal is comprehensive and transformative. It not only targets equitable building electrification but also ensures a focus on Justice40 principles, prioritizing benefits for low-income and disadvantaged communities and will help bring our entire region along in advancing our climate justice and greenhouse gas reduction goals.

We look forward to contributing our expertise, tools, and resources to support the success of this groundbreaking initiative.

Should you have any inquiries regarding our support for this funding application, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Terri Jackson
Executive Director

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