



Town of Poughkeepsie

Supervisor Rebecca Edwards

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March 12, 2024

Attn: Carla Castillo, Executive Director
Hudson Valley Regional Council
105 Ann Street, #2
Newburgh, NY 12550

**Re: Town of Poughkeepsie Commitment to Joining the Mid-Hudson Municipal Building
Electrification Coalition Application to the EPA's Climate Pollution Reduction Grant Program**

Dear Ms. Castillo:

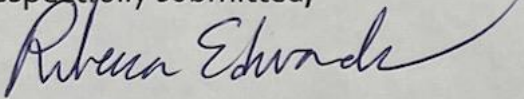
The Town of Poughkeepsie enthusiastically commits to participating in the coalition proposal being submitted by the Hudson Valley Regional Council (HVRC) to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) Program. We intend to sign the Memorandum of Agreement no later than June 21, 2024.

As a Bronze-level New York State Certified Climate Smart Community and NYSEERDA Designated Clean Energy Community, the Town of Poughkeepsie understands the importance of reducing our community's greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. We are eager to work together with our neighboring municipalities and HVRC to significantly lower emissions produced by our Senior Center and several Water Department facilities. The Senior Center, a 6,000 square foot structure, plays a central role in our community by providing public-facing services not only for seniors but also by providing a venue to many other groups. The Water Department buildings included in the proposal total 9,260 square feet and provide crucial clean water and wastewater treatment.

Our coalition is a group that has been participating in the Climate Action Planning Institute (CAPI) since 2023 – a program developed by HVRC to guide a cohort of local governments through the development of government operations GHG inventories and climate action plans. Grant funding from the New York Department of Environmental Conservation Climate Smart Communities made this work possible. As a group we have measured our emissions, committed to reducing them, and modeled how to implement the reductions. The CPRG Program will let us take the next important step from planning to implementing emissions reductions identified in the environmental planning documents produced as a part of CAPI.

The Town of Poughkeepsie strongly supports the goals of the Hudson Valley Regional Council's proposal for the Climate Pollution Reduction Grant Program and we look forward to being part of the program if selected. This coalition proposal aims to significantly cut government operations greenhouse gas emissions in the Mid-Hudson Region by enhancing municipal building efficiency and decreasing fuel oil and natural gas consumption. Additionally, this multi-municipal effort will help New York State meet the goals of the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act as well as the United States' goal to reduce GHG emissions 50% by 2030.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Rebecca Edwards", with a long, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

Rebecca Edwards

Town of Poughkeepsie Supervisor