

INDIANAPOLIS AREA RENEWABLE ENERGY AND WASTE REDUCTION CLIMATE POLLUTION REDUCATION GRANT LETTER OF SUPPORT



March 28, 2024

Jennifer Messer
Executive Director
Central Indiana Regional Development Authority (CIRDA)
1 Municipal Drive
Fishers, IN 46038

Ms. Messer:

I am writing on behalf of the Indianapolis Motor Speedway (IMS), which has been a catalyst for automotive engineering and innovation since opening in 1909.

Today, **IMS strives to be the most sustainable sports venue in the world.** To accomplish ambitious targets, IMS focuses on all emissions sources within the business, including waste, transportation, and energy. As leaders in the space, it is the goal of the enterprise to influence local sport organizations, competing motorsports series, and fans to join the cause.

Therefore, IMS is pleased to commit to collaborating with the Central Indiana Regional Development Authority (CIRDA) and its member communities on proposed CPRG-funded regional programs, including the *Indianapolis Area Renewable Energy and Waste Reduction Initiative*.

The Indianapolis Motor Speedway, American Dairy Association Indiana Inc., Newtrient (a provider of environmental solutions to the dairy industry) will collaborate under CIRDA's leadership to implement a major initiative to divert at least 200 tons of food waste from landfills annually. IMS will plan and develop compost operations with local organizations to collect food waste from sporting events, restaurants, and grocery stores in the Indianapolis area and transport it to an anaerobic digester on a dairy farm, where it will decompose with the dairy feedstock manure and generate renewable natural gas and/or renewable electricity, which will then power local businesses and fleets in the Central Indiana region.

To date, IMS and our partners have invested about \$50,000 in capital and staff time to develop this concept by purchasing compost bins and infrastructure to support the operation, as well as holding 10 planning meetings.

The opportunity to work with CIRDA and its member communities on CPRG grant implementation provides an opportunity to engage in regional collaboration in

Central Indiana and is an opportunity to enact transformational practices and projects on multiple fronts, including renewable energy generation and waste reduction.

The proposed regional programs are an opportunity to align our private, public, and nonprofit sectors with solutions to the environmental, economic and public health challenges facing our region. IMS is excited to participate in this opportunity and leverage our global profile to demonstrate this major new GHG-reducing project.

Sincerely,

Bill Combs, Penske Vice President of Sustainability

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