



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS**  
STATE HOUSE BOSTON, MA 02133  
(617) 725-4000

**MAURA HEALEY**  
GOVERNOR

**KIMBERLEY DRISCOLL**  
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

Elizabeth Mahony  
Commissioner  
Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources  
100 Cambridge St. 9<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Boston, MA 02114  
March 20, 2024

Commissioner Mahony,

On behalf of the Governor's Office of Climate Innovation and Resilience (OCIR), I am writing to express our commitment to collaborate with the Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources (MA DOER) on the Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) application to support electrification of medium- and heavy-duty vehicle fleets. We are committed to working with MA DOER in its innovative proposal to seed medium- and heavy-duty fleet electrification in Massachusetts and the application's goal to advance equity through a focus on delivering benefits for low-income and disadvantaged communities.

Although medium- and heavy-duty diesel vehicles in Massachusetts represent roughly 5% of the total number of registered vehicles, they contribute approximately 20% of on-road transportation greenhouse gas emissions and almost all on-road diesel particulate matter emissions. In addition, the emissions from these vehicles are inequitably concentrated in urban and low-income and disadvantaged communities (LIDACs), disproportionately affecting the health of residents in those communities. Those health impacts include increased rates of asthma and cardiovascular disease, representing significant negative impacts to LIDAC populations and significant costs to the Massachusetts healthcare system.

In its CPRG proposal, MA DOER has proposed a set of comprehensive, innovative, and effective strategies that will address the many electrification challenges faced by fleets and enable the Commonwealth to achieve the substantial emissions and pollution reduction goals outlined in the application. Through enhanced electric vehicle rebates, technical and financial support for charging infrastructure, expanded fleet advisory services, LIDAC-based outreach and engagement efforts, and workforce development programs targeting training for essential electric vehicle maintenance and repair, this project, if awarded, will support an accelerated transition to zero emission medium- and heavy-duty vehicles among fleets throughout the Commonwealth. In particular, the proposal takes a strategic and innovative approach to spreading electrification through fleets, recognizing that seeding a few vehicles at a time across a variety of fleets will be key to replication and overall market transformation. In addition, the proposal builds upon the proven accomplishment of the Massachusetts Clean Energy Center (MassCEC) in providing fleet advisory services to municipal school bus fleets. As a project partner, MassCEC will bring its understanding and experience in fleet advisory work to engage private fleets across the Commonwealth.

The Governor's Office of Climate Innovation and Resilience, created in January 2023 by Executive Order 604, is designed to marshal the resources of each of the eleven secretariats of the Massachusetts executive department to address climate change. The Climate Chief acts as the Commonwealth's chief climate

policy officer. The Climate Office consists of six professionals focused on integration of the work of all eleven secretariats and associated quasi-government entities across the executive branch of Massachusetts state government.

OCIR will directly support the MA DOER CPRG program through a host of commitments, including:

- Partner with MA DOER and other applicable entities to ensure the program is implemented according to the priority measure identified in the Priority Climate Action Plan submitted by the Massachusetts Department of Transportation and OCIR;
- Continue to analyze how this program supports and fits within the measures that will be further evaluated in the Comprehensive Climate Action Plan;
- Provide ongoing feedback and support necessary to meet program objectives;
- Ensure that program accomplishments are tracked with consistent and meaningful metrics;
- Support the program in leveraging other resources available through the Inflation Reduction Act, including tax credits and direct pay.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts has proven to be committed to the decarbonization and electrification of Massachusetts and its fleets specifically. OCIR is excited about the possibility of joining MA DOER to implement this important and far-reaching program. As evidenced by its oversight of the MOR-EV medium- and heavy-duty rebate program, as well as other related programs, MA DOER has demonstrated the clear ability to manage this CPRG grant and all its components.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or need any additional information.

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:

*Melissa Hoffer*

124FEE355BF8462  
Melissa A. Hoffer

Climate Chief

Office of Governor Maura T. Healey