



March 27, 2024

Elizabeth Mahony
Commissioner
Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources
100 Cambridge St. 9th Floor
Boston, MA 02114

Dear Commissioner Mahony,

On behalf of the Trucking Association of Massachusetts (TAM), I am writing to express our enthusiasm for partnering with the Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources (MA DOER) on the Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) application. We are committed to working with MA DOER in its effort to support medium- and heavy-duty fleet electrification in Massachusetts and the application's goal to equitably benefit low-income and disadvantaged communities.

Trucking truly drives the economy in Massachusetts. There are over 33,000 trucking companies located in Massachusetts that provide over 135,000 trucking-related jobs in our State. Close to 90% of communities in the Commonwealth depend exclusively on trucks to move their goods.

Through the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) SmartWay Transport Partnership, the trucking industry is working with government and businesses to quantify greenhouse gas emissions and take steps to reduce them. The trucking industry continues to improve energy and environmental efficiency even while increasing the number of miles driven.

Even with the industry's proactive approach, medium- and heavy-duty diesel vehicles in Massachusetts still contribute approximately 20% of on-road transportation greenhouse gas emissions and almost all of 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.

In the CPRG proposal, MA DOER has proposed a set of comprehensive 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 definitively support an accelerated transition to zero-emission medium- and heavy-duty vehicles among fleets throughout the Commonwealth.

TAM has been the voice of trucking in Massachusetts for over 100 years. We work closely with state agencies to provide accurate and useful information regarding the roads and bridges truckers travel in our State. We also work closely with the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration as well as multiple other State and Federal agencies to ensure trucks are moving efficiently and safely throughout the Commonwealth. Our membership represents a significant amount of the trucking community in Massachusetts. From the largest national fleets to owner-operators, we enthusiastically represent everyone.

TAM will directly support the outreach and engagement component of the MA DOER CPRG program through a host of commitments, including:

- Partner with MA DOER and other applicable entities to coordinate an outreach strategy to identify fleets and ensure they are made aware of this opportunity.
- Execute outreach and engagement methods in order to recruit fleets and support the program.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts has proven to be committed to the decarbonization and electrification of Massachusetts and its fleets specifically. TAM 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, we believe MA DOER has demonstrated a 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,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "K. R. Weeks". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

Kevin R. Weeks

Executive Director