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Little Rock, AR 72206
(501) 490-1468
PortofLittleRock.com

March 6, 2024

Mr. Casey Covington, Executive Director
Metroplan
501 W. Markham St., Ste. B
Little Rock, AR 72201

RE: Letter of Commitment for Arkansas Tri-Region Coalition's CPRG application

Dear Mr. Covington:

This letter is intended to express the Little Rock Port Authority's strong commitment to support the energy efficiency and workforce development goals outlined in the Arkansas Tri-Region Coalition's Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) implementation application.

As the largest Arkansas port on the McClelland-Kerr Arkansas River Navigational System and the operator of our own Class 3 railroad, we provide affordable and environmentally friendly means to ship freight in the region, greatly reducing greenhouse gases produced by truck traffic. Additionally, abundant space is available both on rooftops and on the ground for solar installations to provide clean power in our area.

Because of our location close to South Arkansas mining operations supportive of the electric battery industry, we have seen great interest from manufacturers in bringing these green jobs to Central Arkansas. As these industries move here, they will add to our growing portfolio of green jobs at the Port.

We also support your proposed outreach efforts to low income and disadvantaged communities, which will enhance our existing efforts in the Highway 365 communities of Wrightsville, College Station, Sweet Home and Higgins at the edges of the Port Industrial Park. It is important to help our neighbors and those in similar communities have access to good jobs and clean, affordable energy.

Regardless of whether the grant is funded, you have our commitment to work with Metroplan on these issues.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Bryan Day', written over the word 'Sincerely,'.

Bryan Day