



March 14, 2024

Phil Roos  
Director  
Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy  
525 West Allegan Street  
Lansing, MI 48933

**Subject: Michigan Electric Cooperative Association - Support for the State of Michigan's CPRG Implementation Grant General Competition Application, (Award Number EPA-R-OAR-CPRGI-23-07)**

Dear Director Roos:

The Michigan Electric Cooperative Association (MECA) is pleased to endorse Michigan's objective to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and ambitiously site renewable energy in Michigan through the Climate Pollution Reduction Grant program. Under EGLE's proposed Renewables Ready Communities Program, the Renewables Ready Communities Awards and the Brownfield Renewable Energy Pilot Program will unlock significant GHG emissions reductions in the near term, provide substantial community benefits in low-income and disadvantaged communities, and improve capacity and technical expertise in renewable energy siting statewide.

Through the CPRG grant program period, MECA anticipates encouraging its member cooperatives to collaborate with the State to explore potential opportunities as a part of the Renewable Ready Communities Award program, the Brownfield Renewable Energy Pilot Program, and the Renewable Energy Academy

Given the State's proven success in implementing equitable climate policies, MECA is confident in their ability to achieve the objectives laid out in the application. Furthermore, this initiative will stimulate increased investment in renewable energy projects critical to achieving the State's climate objectives.

MECA is the statewide trade association for Michigan's 10 electric cooperatives. MECA's members provide electricity, natural gas and high-speed fiber telecommunications services to rural residents in more than half of Michigan's 83 counties. Our members are the state's leaders in renewable and carbon free electricity with more than half of the electric energy delivered today to electric cooperative member-customers coming from renewable and/or carbon free resources.

MECA is enthusiastic about collaborating with the State of Michigan to advance the goals of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency through this pivotal program.

Sincerely,

Craig A. Borr  
President/CEO