



February 27, 2024

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Re: Minnesota Pollution Control Agency Climate Pollution Reduction Grant

To Whom It May Concern:

It is our honor and privilege to support the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency's (MPCA) Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) application.

Environmental Initiative's mission is to catalyze collaboration across perspective, power, and systems for social equity and environmental health. The MPCA's application elements include innovative, proven, and valuable project ideas. They are focusing on multiple pollutant reduction opportunities, equity benefits, and collaborative approaches to the work.

Environmental Initiative has decades of experience collaborating with the MPCA on voluntary emission and exposure-reduction projects that combine partnerships with units of government, Tribes, community organizations, other nonprofits, and businesses. With the MPCA, we administer the Clean Air Minnesota partnership, which includes organizations from the Minnesota Chamber of Commerce to the American Lung Association in Minnesota. Together, we have worked to create, fund, and implement projects such as:

- clean diesel initiatives through the Diesel Emission Reduction Act, the Volkswagen settlement, and private funding
- stove swaps and wood burning reduction efforts
- small business electrification and energy efficiency upgrades
- pollutant reduction gains with auto body, print, and other industrial shops
- vehicle emission repairs for income-eligible drivers

This experience and emphasize on partnerships to maximize outcomes will be applied to the greenhouse gas and pollution reduction efforts in the MPCA application regarding Minnesota's food distribution system and as related to other plan elements.

Thank you for your time and please contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mike Harley", written over a light blue circular stamp.

Mike Harley  
Executive Director