



STATE OF MINNESOTA

Office of Governor Tim Walz
Lt. Governor Peggy Flanagan

130 State Capitol ♦ 75 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. ♦ Saint Paul, MN 55155-1611

March 18, 2024

The Honorable Michael Regan
Administrator
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20004

Re: Governor support of the State Minnesota's Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) Single Entity Proposal for Climate-Smart Food Systems (Award Number EPA-R-OAR-CPRGI-23-07)

Dear Administrator Regan:

I write to express my enthusiastic support of the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency and other state agencies involved in the proposal to implement the suite of climate-smart food systems programs in your agency's single entity CPRG implementation grant proposal.

In 2019, I signed Executive Order 19-37 on Climate Change, which established a Climate Change Subcabinet and directed agencies to collaborate to act on the existential crisis that is climate change. Since the signing of the Executive Order, our state agencies have been extensively collaborating to embed climate action across the work of our enterprise. This history of collaboration provides a strong foundation on which our agencies will collaborate to implement this grant proposal if awarded.

Minnesota is a national leader in climate-smart approaches to our food system and this proposal will support an impactful scaling of our work using a systems approach and capture multiple benefits, especially significant greenhouse gas emissions reductions and carbon sequestration.

In 2022, Minnesota's state agencies published the collaboratively developed Minnesota Climate Action Framework. The Framework establishes a vision for climate action that will make Minnesota carbon-neutral, resilient, and equitable. These three co-equal pillars of Minnesota's Framework guide our collaborative climate work. Our Priority Climate Action Plan was built off of that foundation. This proposal connects strongly with the ambitions in those documents and will help us achieve our vision.

I am enthusiastic about this interagency collaboration to advance our shared climate goals and the goals of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's ambitious and vital CPRG program.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "T. Walz", written in a cursive style.

Tim Walz
Governor