

**Grant Johnson**  
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Assistant Secretary/Treasurer

March 13, 2024

Katrina Kessler, Commissioner  
Minnesota Pollution Control Agency  
520 Lafayette Road  
St. Paul, MN 55155

Re: 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 Commissioner Kessler:

The Prairie Island Indian Community ("Community") reaches out in support of the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency ("MPCA") and the other state agencies involved with the grant application for EPA-R-OAR-CPRGI-23-07, for the implementation of a suite of climate-smart food systems programs in your agency's single entity Climate Pollution Reduction Grant ("CPRG") implementation grant proposal.

We support this proposal because we all have a role to play in addressing the impacts of climate change in Minnesota, including investing in climate-smart approaches to our food system. Our Community supports the partnerships in this climate-smart food systems work because it aligns with our values of respect for Unci Maka (Mother Earth). An important part of these values is to improve local food systems, restore landscapes to support traditional foods and medicines, and support and build thriving food sovereignty programs. Tribal nations bring unique skills and perspectives to these efforts.

We support the inclusion of \$15 million directed to Tribes for noncompetitive food systems grants.

Our governments supporting one-another on climate initiatives allows us to take a holistic, multi-system approach and capture multiple benefits while achieving significant greenhouse gas emissions reductions and carbon sequestration across all aspects of our food system.

We are enthusiastic about supporting and working with the MPCA to advance our shared climate goals and the goals of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's ambitious and vital CPRG program.

Pidmayaya (Thank you),

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'G. Johnson', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Grant Johnson  
Tribal Council President