



creating homeowners  
building community

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March 8, 2024

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

Subject: NeighborWorks Home Partners' Support of the State Minnesota's CPRG Coalition Proposal for Equitable Residential Decarbonization (Award Number EPA-R-OAR-CPRGI-23-07)

Dear Commissioner Kessler,

We at NeighborWorks Home Partners plan to partner with the State of Minnesota, including the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency and other state agencies involved in the proposal, to implement the suite of equitable residential decarbonization programs in your agency's proposal.

We are excited to have this proposal moving forward as a coalition because we see the work of residential decarbonization happening most effectively as a collaboration between state and local governments with support from community-based groups. Local government connect more effectively with individual community members to move forward on individual implementation while state government can more effectively provide backbone support and programming to foster learning and scale impact.

We anticipate participating in the proposed work through active engagement in developing and refining programming to effectively deliver on the purpose of ensuring low-income and disadvantaged communities are centered and prioritized in the work of decarbonizing all homes in Minnesota. At a minimum, this means we will:

- actively participate in the four annual convenings described in the proposal,
- share information and resources from state and local government into the communities we serve to build awareness about programs and home decarbonization opportunities,
- share information from the communities we serve to state program staff and relevant local government staff as part of program development and to improve programming and results over time.
- Contribute in specific ways identified through our engagement with this process and work

NeighborWorks Home Partners is excited about equitable residential decarbonization work because it aligns with our mission of "Empowering individuals and communities by helping people buy, fix and keep their homes". In particular, our organization can bring the perspective of a non-profit and a certified CDFI lender who has provided home repair and weatherization programs for 42 consecutive years. Through this work, we are able to connect with local communities to bring critical grant and loan programs to support this funding request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "JP", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Jason Peterson  
Executive Director  
NeighborWorks Home Partners