



Minnesota Housing
400 Wabasha St. N.
Suite 400
St. Paul, MN 55102

March 15, 2024

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

Subject: Minnesota Housing Support of the State Minnesota's Climate Pollution Reduction Grant
Coalition Proposal for Equitable Residential Decarbonization (Award Number EPA-R-OAR-CPRGI-23-07)

Dear Commissioner Kessler,

We write to affirm that Minnesota Housing will partner with 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 for the Climate Pollution Reduction Grant.

Housing is foundational to a full life and a thriving state, so Minnesota Housing equitably collaborates with individuals, communities and partners to create, preserve and finance housing that is affordable. In practice, that means we finance housing that low and moderate-income Minnesotans can afford while helping Minnesotans buy and fix up their homes. For more than 50 years, we've worked to provide access to safe, decent and affordable housing and to build stronger communities across the state. In 2022, we distributed \$2.18 billion in resources and served over 109,000 households.

Building decarbonization and climate resiliency in affordable housing is a key policy priority for Minnesota Housing. Since 2005, greenhouse gas emissions from residential buildings in Minnesota have risen 14%. Reversing this trend will require investment in greenhouse gas emissions reduction technology. However, communities of color, lower income communities, and renters are often the least able to invest in emissions reduction and climate resiliency strategies. Due to historical policies of housing segregation, such as redlining and mortgage discrimination, Minnesotans from these communities often have fewer financial resources and are less able to make home upgrades and pay a larger portion of their income on energy and housing costs.

Minnesota Housing has been actively involved in developing the Climate Pollution Reduction Grant proposal elements our agency will be taking the implementation lead on. The proposal language and budget reflect what has been discussed in the collaborative process to develop the proposal. Minnesota Housing looks forward to working together to implement the proposal by investing in deep decarbonization projects in multifamily and single-family affordable housing.

In addition to the specific proposal elements that Minnesota Housing will be leading on outlined in the grant application, we also fully support the proposal more broadly. We see a multi-pronged strategy engaging with multiple state agencies, local governments, and Tribal governments as having strong potential to deliver transformative impacts for equitable residential decarbonization in our state.

Sincerely,

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

Jennifer Leimaile Ho
Commissioner

Equal Opportunity Employer