



03-19-24

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

Subject: Ramsey County League of Local Government Support of the State Minnesota's CPRG Coalition Proposal for Equitable Residential Decarbonization (Award Number EPA-R-OAR-CPRGI-23-07)

Dear Commissioner Kessler,

I write that we, as the Ramsey County League of Local Governments (RCLLG), 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.

RCLLG's voting members include Ramsey County, 17 municipalities and 4 school districts. We are excited to partner in this equitable residential decarbonization work because it aligns with our mission. Our mission is to foster cooperation and collaboration among Ramsey County units of government to ensure all communities thrive.

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 governments 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.

In 2022, there were 15 manufactured home communities located across 8 suburban cities in Ramsey County. In those 15 manufactured home parks, there were 2,761 housing units that provided affordable homes for 7,518 Minnesotans. These housing units are not as well insulated as single-family homes and thus have relatively higher heating and cooling costs per square foot of living space. This is an environmental, economic and social equity concern. We propose setting up a grant program for owners of manufactured homes in Ramsey County to access funds to improve insulation as well as install high-efficiency heating and cooling equipment. 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 prioritized in the work of decarbonizing all homes in Minnesota.



At a minimum, we plan to:

1. Encourage and support our member cities to participate in the Metropolitan Council home decarbonization program proposed in the work plan,
2. Share information about the second cohort of local governments proposed in the work plan,
3. Actively participate in the four annual convenings described in the proposal,
4. Share information and resources from state and local government into the communities we serve to build awareness about programs and home decarbonization opportunities,
5. 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.

We appreciate your leadership and commitment to equitable residential decarbonization in Minnesota.

Sincerely,

Marylee Abrams

Marylee Abrams, RCLLG Chair and City of Maplewood Mayor