



Collaborative Solid Waste Strategies • PO Box 6163 • Penacook, NH 03303 • www.cswnh.org

25 March 2024

Michael Fitzgerald, Assistant Director
New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services, Air Resource Division
29 Hazen Drive, PO Box 95
Concord, NH 03302-0095

RE: Letter of Commitment for the EPA Climate Pollution Reduction Grant

Dear Mr. Fitzgerald,

Collaborative Solid Waste Strategies (CSWS) is committed to partnering with the NH Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) to implement a competitive solid waste grant program as one component of a Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG). The proposed grant program will assist eligible New Hampshire municipalities and non-profits with food waste diversion, recycling, and other sustainable materials management measures. These measures will reduce the greenhouse gas emissions resulting from disposal of waste in landfills and incinerators.

The State of New Hampshire has put a particular focus on waste reduction and diversion in recent years. An updated Solid Waste Management Plan and new statutory goals call for a 25% reduction in municipal solid waste (MSW) and construction and demolition debris (C&D) by 2030 and a 45% reduction by 2050. During the 2023 legislative session the New Hampshire General Court enacted a food waste disposal ban that will go into effect in 2025. A robust grant program to incentivize development of waste diversion infrastructure would help the State to achieve these goals and would simultaneously reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

CSWS is a New Hampshire-based non-profit environmental organization dedicated to promoting sustainable management of solid waste. We recognize that NHDES will need strong commitments to assist with implementing a grant program and engaging the communities that would stand to benefit. Because CSWS is familiar with the waste management needs of New Hampshire's municipalities, we are well-positioned to support the design and implementation of the CPRG program, including connecting program benefits to low-income and disadvantaged communities.

CSWS agrees to work with NHDES to support deployment of and community engagement for this program. We participated in the community outreach sessions held by New Hampshire Listens to gather input for New Hampshire's Priority Climate Action Plan. If this funding request is granted, we look forward to providing input to potential program design through public comments and participation in working groups. We understand that state and federal regulations prohibit any competitive advantage to CSWS in a NHDES process to select contractors or sub-awardees for CPRG funding.

Please let us know how we may be of additional assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Carol R. Foss". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Carol R. Foss
Executive Director

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603-731-7023