



Northeast Resource Recovery Association

"Partnering to make recycling strong through economic and environmentally sound solutions"

March 26, 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,

The Northeast Resource Recovery Association (NRRA) is committed to partnering with the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) to implement a competitive solid waste grant program that will assist eligible New Hampshire municipalities and non-profits with food waste diversion, recycling, and other sustainable materials management measures. These measures will reduce both the need for disposal of waste in landfills and incinerators, and the greenhouse gas emissions resulting from such disposal methods. NRRA strongly supports NHDES' application to the EPA for an Implementation Grant through the Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) program.

In recent years, the State of New Hampshire has increased its focus on waste reduction and diversion, with an updated Solid Waste Management Plan and the adoption of statutory goals to reduce disposal of municipal solid waste (MSW) and construction and demolition debris (C&D) by 25% by 2030, and by 45% by 2050. New Hampshire also recently passed a food waste disposal ban that will go into effect in 2025. A robust grant program to incentivize development of waste diversion infrastructure would aid the State in achievement of these goals and policies and would simultaneously reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

NRRA is aware that a strong commitment is needed to assist NHDES with implementing a grant program and engaging the communities that would benefit from such a program. As a nonprofit that assists municipalities with implementing recycling programs, NRRA is familiar with the waste management needs faced by many of New Hampshire's municipalities. Approximately ninety percent of New Hampshire communities are members of NRRA, and NRRA has an expertise in directing cooperative marketing, technical assistance, and education to New Hampshire's smallest and lowest income communities. NRRA also has experience working collaboratively with the NHDES Solid Waste Management Bureau. Therefore, NRRA is well-positioned to support the design and implementation of the CPRG program, including connecting the benefits of the program to low-income and disadvantaged communities.

NRRA commits to work with NHDES to support deployment and community engagement of the grant program. NRRA agrees to provide input in public comments where needed and

participate in potential program design working groups. NRRA could also share information about vendors that sell approved equipment and supplies for diversion efforts. Should NHDES' CPRG funding request be successful, NRRA looks forward to working with NHDES on this valuable project beginning in late 2024. NRRA understands that, due to state and federal regulations, this letter of commitment for NHDES's CPRG application would not give NRRA a competitive advantage if NHDES uses a competitive process to procure contracts or subawards for CPRG funding.

Please let me know how NRRA may be of additional assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'RB' or similar initials, enclosed within a large, loopy oval stroke.

Reagan Bissonnette
Executive Director
Northeast Resource Recovery Association
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