

TOWN OF LANCASTER - *New Hampshire*



"The Friendly Town in the Friendly State"

03584

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March 27, 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 Town of Lancaster is committed to partnering with the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) for implementation of energy efficiency measures identified in municipal drinking water and wastewater energy evaluation reports performed through the NHDES Water Infrastructure Energy Program (WIEP). These measures and other identified energy saving projects identified after the evaluation was completed could potentially qualify for funding through EPA's Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) program. This five-year program will encourage New Hampshire's municipalities to pursue energy efficiency projects to reduce greenhouse gas and co-pollutant emissions from fossil-fuel and electricity consumption.

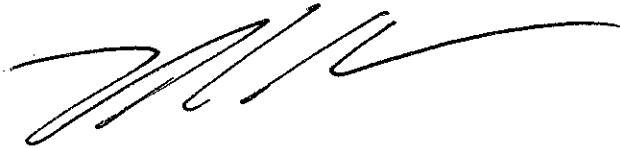
Municipal wastewater and drinking water facilities present a unique and critical opportunity to reduce energy consumption, avoid energy costs, and minimize taxpayer costs, all while reducing GHG emissions. Achieving this will require enhancement of existing efficiency programs and new initiatives tailored to empower action by local governments. By implementing energy efficiency, renewable energy, and energy storage projects at these facilities, New Hampshire communities can lower energy costs, reduce GHG emissions, and improve public and environmental health. Such actions can also improve overall grid resilience and critical infrastructure availability to residents and businesses.

Lancaster is aware that a strong commitment is needed to pursue energy efficiency projects to improve environmental and public health issues in New Hampshire. Because of our prior experience working with the NHDES WIEP, Lancaster 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 in our area. Therefore, Lancaster agrees to work with NHDES WIEP to support deployment and community engagement of the program.

We agree to provide input in public comments where needed and participate in potential working groups where the program is discussed. Should this CPRG funding request be successful, we look forward to working with NHDES WIEP on this valuable project beginning in mid-2024. Lancaster understands that, because of state and federal regulations, this letter of commitment for NHDES's CPRG application would not give Lancaster a competitive advantage if NHDES uses a competitive process to procure contracts or subawards for CPRG funding.

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'B. Gaetjens-Oleson', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Benjamin S. Gaetjens-Oleson
Town Manager
townmanager@lancasternh.org
603-788-3391