



March 29, 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,

Lakes Region Community College, a unit of the Community College System of New Hampshire (CCSNH), is committed to partnering with the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) for the proposed measures included in the state's Priority Climate Action Plan (PCAP) and in NHDES's application for funding through EPA's Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) program. These five-year measures will create incentives to reduce harmful air pollution statewide, address barriers to implementation in disadvantaged communities, complement and unlock existing funding sources, and foster job growth and training in the necessary skilled trades.

Lakes Region Community College (LRCC) has a well-established energy training program (www.lrcc.edu/energy) that focuses on practices to reduce greenhouse gas emissions through building energy efficiency and renewable energy. LRCC trains energy auditors, facilities managers, weatherization installers, and other energy professionals throughout New Hampshire to implement practices that will reduce building energy use. Through technical assistance, LRCC's USDA Rural Development grant-funded NH Rural Renewables program helps rural small businesses obtain funding for and implement solar PV, energy efficiency, and sustainable wood heat projects. LRCC also trains electricians and automotive repair technicians in innovative building and automotive electrification technologies that reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

For the workforce development sector, incentives would help expand training opportunities, while reducing barriers, to stimulate high-quality workforce development activities that are critical to the success of New Hampshire residents' efforts at greenhouse gas (GHG) reductions through home weatherization and pre-weatherization, updating efficiency of heating and cooling systems (e.g. solar panels and heat pumps), expanding adoption of hybrid and electric vehicles (EV), and improving EV charging infrastructure. We understand these funds may be used for capital improvements and increasing teaching staff levels at training facilities, tuition assistance and offsetting the cost of required equipment and tools for students, and offsetting

the travel costs associated with attending classes and commuting to worksites for apprenticeships and internships.

Lakes Region Community College is aware that strong community partnerships and networks are needed to design and manage the proposed measure(s) to advance environmental and public health issues in New Hampshire. Because of our workforce development expertise, and our experience providing affordable, accessible, high-quality education, LRCC and CCSNH are well-positioned to support the design and implementation of the measure(s), including connecting the benefits of the program to low-income and disadvantaged communities throughout New Hampshire. Therefore, Lakes Region Community College and the Community College System of New Hampshire agree to work in New Hampshire 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.
- We agree to support NHDES in achieving meaningful involvement from employers, community, and labor groups when our expertise and networks may be helpful.

Should this funding request be successful, we look forward to working with you on this valuable project beginning in mid-2024. Please let us know how we may be of additional assistance.

Sincerely,



Patrick Cate
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