



*LOCAL UNION 490 JOINT APPRENTICESHIP AND TRAINING*

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Training Director - Jonathan Webb  
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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,

IBEW Local 490 JATC 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.

As the IBEW Local 490 JATC we are training the next generation of electricians who currently are and will be working on solar arrays, wind turbines and other green energy sources across the state for the foreseeable future. We are also proud to say that for a significant period starting in 2008 we had the largest roof top solar array in the state all installed by apprentices. We also built a Trailer equipped with solar panels on the side that we bring to conferences, job fairs, and high school career fairs to demonstrate and educate people on what solar is, what it looks like, and how beneficial it can be to everyone. As the IBEW Local 490 JATC we partnered with federal and state grants that are for the purpose of assisting those who have barriers to following this apprenticeship due to being part of the low-income communities. The IBEW getting work associated with these green energy projects creates jobs and career paths that are accessible by people from all demographics.

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. 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.

IBEW Local 490 JATC 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 experience providing labor and qualified workers for solar and renewable energy projects statewide while advocating and working with state programs for the benefit of our



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signatory contractors, IBEW Local 490 JATC is 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 in all of New Hampshire. Therefore, IBEW Local 490 JATC agrees 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 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,

*Jonathan Webb, Training Director*

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