



March 14, 2024

U.S Environmental Protection Agency
Office of the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20460

RE: EPA Climate Pollution Reduction Grant Implementation Grant Application
(General Competition) submitted by the North Carolina Department of
Environmental Quality

This letter serves as North Carolina State Ports Authority's (the "Authority") commitment to support the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality's (NCDEQ) Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) program as part of the EPA CPRG Implementation Grant General Competition application. The Authority is proud to partner with NCDEQ to develop and implement ambitious plans for reducing greenhouse gas emissions and other harmful air pollution.

The Authority owns and operates an ocean terminal in Wilmington, North Carolina and the operation of such a terminal is a tremendous catalyst for economic growth and development throughout North Carolina and the region. The Authority contributes more than \$16.2 billion in annual economic contribution to the state's economy constituted by goods moving through the port facilities and supported 88,200 full-time jobs at North Carolina businesses. In 2022, the container terminal at the Port of Wilmington was ranked as the most productive port in North America in the latest Container Port Performance Index (CPPI), underlining its importance to the regional economy.

We anticipate supporting NCDEQ on the following CPRG implementation activities:

- Transportation Sector Implementation Grant Narrative – Measure 4, Project/Program #4: Significantly increase efficiency of freight container shipment system to reduce GHG emissions and foster many other benefits.
- The Authority commits to reducing GHG emissions and other pollutants by diverting shipping container transport from medium- and heavy-duty (MHD) vehicles to the intermodal railway system utilized by the Authority.
- The Authority also commits to improving the efficiency of freight container shipments to promote regional connectivity, facilitate economic growth and competitiveness, and reduce congestion and bottlenecks on the National Highway Freight Network.

We plan to work closely with NCDEQ to undertake greenhouse gas reduction efforts by improving the efficiency of freight container shipments to promote regional connectivity, facilitate economic growth and competitiveness, and reduce



congestion and bottlenecks. We look forward to your favorable consideration of the EPA Climate Pollution Reduction Grant Implementation Grant Application (General Competition) submitted by the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality application. For additional information, please contact Stephanie Ayers (910-746-6371, stephanie.ayers@ncports.com).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "BEC", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Brian E. Clark
Executive Director