

ROY COOPER

Governor

ELIZABETH S. BISER

Secretary

JULIE WOOSLEY

Director



NORTH CAROLINA  
Environmental Quality

March 22, 2024

Hon. Michael Regan  
Administrator  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue NW  
Washington, DC 20460

RE: *EPA Climate Pollution Reduction Grant Implementation Grant Application (General Competition)*  
*submitted by the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality, Funding Opportunity Number:*  
EPA-R-OAR-CPRGI-23-07

Dear Administrator Regan,

The State of North Carolina is dedicated to the transition to a clean and equitable economy, as outlined in Executive Order No. 246, which established the goal to reduce statewide GHG emissions by 50% from 2005 levels by 2030 and reach net-zero no later than 2050. To date, North Carolina has established 48 individual climate action-related documents, including the Clean Energy Plan and the Climate Risk Assessment and Resilience Plan, that lay the groundwork for achieving these reductions. Additionally, DEQ established an Environmental Justice and Equity Advisory Board which has worked to achieve Executive Orders 246 and 292 to advance environmental equity in the state. Funding from the CPRG Implementation grant will help North Carolina achieve a transformative impact in these areas as we work to achieve the state's lofty but imperative climate and equity goals.

North Carolina's Department of Environmental Quality (NCDEQ), the lead applicant for the State of North Carolina's statewide plan, has partnered with the Centralina Regional Council and the Central Pines Regional Council (formerly Triangle J Council of Governments) on a collaborative application and are requesting a \$199,999,000 USD statewide Implementation Grant. As recipients of CPRG Planning Grant Funds to develop Priority Climate Action Plans, these partners have worked to identify areas of priority overlap and synergy. This partnership will allow for further efficiency in the project implementation and grant management processes to achieve unprecedented climate pollution reductions throughout the state. Building on the work outlined in climate action documents, this effort will spur transformative change in the transportation, buildings, industrial, and waste sectors, with a focus on the underrepresented and underserved areas of our state.

In addition to this statewide CPRG application to be implemented through a partnership with the two Metropolitan Statistical Areas in the state (the greater Charlotte and Raleigh areas), North Carolina will also submit CPRG Implementation Grant applications as: 1) the lead agency for the multi-state Atlantic Conservation Coalition ("ACC") focused on carbon reductions through natural and working lands; and 2) a member of Hawaii's coalition application entitled "States Enabling Resilient Local Energy Systems,"

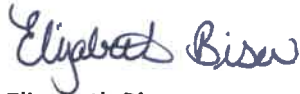


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which will advance the state's work outlined in the Clean Energy Plan and the Climate Risk Assessment and Resiliency Plan to bring resiliency investments to storm shelters in vulnerable communities in the area of our state most impacted by climate change.

North Carolina's clean energy, risk assessment and resilience, and environmental justice work ensure we are well prepared to implement transformative change across the state. We appreciate your agency's efforts to create this opportunity and look forward to working with you to achieve unprecedented climate reductions and resiliency benefits across the state.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Elizabeth Biser". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name and last name clearly distinguishable.

Elizabeth Biser  
Secretary



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