

ROY COOPER

Governor

ELIZABETH S. BISER

Secretary

JAMIE RAGAN

Director



NORTH CAROLINA
Environmental Quality

March 18, 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**

Dear Sir or Madam:

I am pleased to provide NCDEQ's Division of Environmental Assistance and Customer Service's 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. We are excited about the opportunity to work with our Departmental colleagues to help decarbonize the waste sector.

The work proposed in this application will provide market transformation through funding for approaches that divert organics from landfills by directing food to communities in need and creating infrastructure for alternative management pathways.

I write this letter of commitment as the Section Chief of the Recycling and Materials Management Section (RMMS) in the NCDEQ. In this role, I manage statewide efforts to reduce waste, grow recycling and organics processing capacity and infrastructure, and expand recovery programs that enable the state to realize important emission reductions to meet state and national climate goals.

In 2022, NC generated 2.6 million tons of food waste across all sectors with a 2.1-million-ton gap for organics recovery and recycling infrastructure. This new funding opportunity through the CPRG Implementation Grant aims to reduce that gap by providing funding for a variety of edible food recovery strategies, organics diversion programs, and organics recycling infrastructure including onsite organics recycling processing that will expand access and reduce GHG emissions by eliminating the need for hauling heavy compostables across the state.

Our RMMS team will support NCDEQ's activities through the CPRG implementation efforts by administering the food waste reduction grant program to divert organics from landfills by directing food to communities in need and creating organic resources through composting or digestion.

Again, we are excited by the opportunity to bring new sustainable waste recovery infrastructure into productive use and are committed to making this program successful. For additional information, please feel free to contact me at wendy.worley@deq.nc.gov or 919-707-8136.

Sincerely,

Wendy Worley

Wendy G. Worley, Section Chief
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