



Centralina - Letter of Commitment

April 1, 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*

I am pleased to provide Centralina Regional Council's (Centralina) commitment to North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality's (NCDEQ) application for the Climate Pollution Reduction Grants (CPRG) Implementation Program.

This effort to decarbonize North Carolina is critically important. Transportation is the largest emissions source sector in the state at 36%, followed by Electricity Generation and Use at 30%, and Residential, Commercial, and Industrial Combustion at 14%. Together, combustion activities contribute to 80% of the total statewide gross greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. The programs set forth in this application have the potential to create true market transformation and maximize benefits to North Carolinians. We are excited to partner with NCDEQ to leverage CPRG funding to establish the programs outlined which will invest in active transportation strategies and street connectivity to reduce vehicle miles traveled (VMT), as well as modernize building technologies and systems to further reduce GHG emissions associated with construction, operation, and maintenance of buildings and facilities.

Centralina was created to serve the needs of the nine-county Greater Charlotte region through planning, coordination, and advocacy services. Our mission is to lead regional collaboration and spark local action to expand opportunity and improve the quality of life of our community-members. Centralina's recent priorities include planning for and achieving low-cost reductions in GHG emissions, creating economic growth and job creation to foster a low carbon economy and substantial public health co-benefits. As the lead for the Charlotte-Gastonia-Concord NC/SC MSA Climate Pollution Reduction Planning Grant, Centralina is well versed in the priority climate actions that will transform our region. The measures outlined in NCDEQ's CPRG application align with our region's strategic priorities as outlined in the PCAP and Centralina's strategic plan.

We anticipate working with NCDEQ on the following CPRG activities:



704-372-2416 | info@centralina.org | www.centralina.org
10735 David Taylor Drive, Suite 250 | Charlotte, NC 28262



- Implement regional VMT reduction strategies including transit rider support projects and regional traveler access solutions.
- Fund local VMT reduction solutions with an emphasis on multi-modal projects such as bike and pedestrian infrastructure development that implement the CONNECT Beyond regional mobility plan.
- Decarbonize industrial facilities and weatherization+ in multi-family and single-family residential buildings.

As the Executive Director of Centralina Regional Council, I am excited to express my commitment to NCDEQ as they implement this transformative program. We will work with NCDEQ to advance decarbonization in the state as a partner and to carry out the above listed activities. Please feel free to contact me at ggardner@centralina.org with any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "G. Gardner", is positioned above the printed name.

Geraldine I. Gardner
Executive Director



704-372-2416 | info@centralina.org | www.centralina.org
10735 David Taylor Drive, Suite 250 | Charlotte, NC 28262