



March 19, 2024

Philadelphia Energy Authority  
Attn: Emily Schapira, President & CEO  
1400 JFK Boulevard  
City Hall Room 566  
Philadelphia, PA 19107

Dear Ms. Schapira:

My name is Jerome Shabazz, and I am the Executive Director of JASTECH Development Services, Inc., and the Overbrook Environmental Education Center (OEEC). On behalf of the OEEC I'm writing this letter along with my colleague Todd Baylson, Director of Business Development with local solar installer Solar States, to express our enthusiastic support for Philadelphia Energy Authority's proposal for the ***EPA's Climate Pollution Reduction Grants Program***. We know that this is an ambitious program that aims to support states, municipalities, tribes, and territories in developing and implementing projects that reduce greenhouse gas emissions and other harmful air pollution.

Both Solar States and the OEEC are long-standing Philadelphia-based organizations that share a passion for training, workforce development, and investing in community-based projects in our city. We also intend to champion technologies that improve the environment and reduce greenhouse gas emissions with initiatives such as solar energy, green roofs, and batteries. In this proposal, we intend to directly participate in the design, installation, and performance of a 30-kW rooftop solar array on the roof of the OEEC's training facility as well as adding an off grid solar + battery system that reduces fossil fuel demands on an existing greenhouse and agricultural training facility. A new electrical service will be established in an adjacent property to support growth and expansion of the OEEC's educational programming and our shared building electrification goals.

We look forward to playing a pivotal role in helping to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in this environmental justice community in Philadelphia, and to supporting the larger regional goal of reducing carbon impacts across the entire Southeast Pennsylvania.

Again, we strongly support this proposal and will be available for any questions that you may have.

Sincerely,

Jerome Shabazz, MS  
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