



March 15, 2024

Philadelphia Energy Authority
Attn: Emily Schapira, President & CEO
1400 JFK Boulevard
City Hall Room 566
Philadelphia, PA 19107
(215) 686-4483
Info@philaenergy.org

Dear Ms. Schapira:

My name is Jim Stewart and I serve as Deputy CFO at Share Food Program. I am writing to extend my support to the Philadelphia Energy Authority as it pursues funding from the EPA's Climate Pollution Reduction Grants Program, which is designed to enable states, municipalities, tribes, and territories to 1) implement ambitious measures that will achieve significant cumulative GHG reductions by 2030 and beyond, 2) pursue measures that will achieve substantial community benefits in low-income and disadvantaged communities, 3) complement other funding sources to maximize GHG reductions and community benefits, and 4) pursue innovative policies and programs that are replicable and can be scaled up across multiple jurisdictions.

Share Food Program is the largest-serving hunger relief organization in the region, and one of the largest independent food banks in the nation. Founded in 1986 as a co-op for families in need of affordable food, Share became a 501(c) nonprofit organization in 1991 after being asked by public partners to take on a larger role fighting regional hunger. Each month, Share distributes 2.5 million pounds of food to hundreds of thousands of families across Philadelphia and the surrounding suburbs of Delaware, Montgomery, Bucks, and Chester counties. Our work targets the highest-poverty neighborhoods in the region, with an emphasis on serving families and communities facing intersecting challenges of systemic poverty, racism, and marginalization.

We intend to participate in the design and performance of a project that meets the EPA's Climate Pollution Reduction Grants Program's four goals through our effort to improve our facility and increase its efficiency of operations. We recently conducted a master planning study which resulted in a multi-phased approach to a major renovation effort to upgrade our main warehouse facility. In the resulting master plan, we have committed to the addition of solar panels that would cover a portion of our electrical usage, as well as full electrification of the facility. With these efforts to lower GHGs and promote environmental justice, our intent is to be a model for sustainability within the food storage/distribution industry, as well as within the low-income neighborhood in which we serve as an anchor.



We look forward to playing a role in helping to reduce greenhouse gas emissions across Southeastern Pennsylvania with the goal of protecting human health and the environment as part of this transformative opportunity.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jim Stewart".

Jim Stewart

Deputy CFO

Share Food Program

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