

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 Darnell Deans and I serve as the Operations Supervisor at the William Penn School District. 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.

The William Penn's School District's mission is to provide a quality education that prepares all our students, regardless of background or circumstances, for success in college, career, and life.

We intend to participate in or directly assist in the design and performance of a project that meets these four goals by having the three (3) largest district boroughs operate on entirely self-sufficient solar energy. An objective of our goal is the construction of a solar farm by leveraging the district's resource of land. An intended outcome of this project will be the reduction of the district's reliability on fossil fuels and greenhouse gas emissions, while increasing the air quality within our schools and communities. An additional intended outcome is for the students to engage in STEM programs that are focused on solar-powered farming and renewable energy. This transition to solar energy not only aligns with the district's commitment to environmental justice efforts, it also will reduce the district's energy prices and spending allowing for more funding to be available for educational impact.

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,
Darnell Deans
Operations Supervisor
William Penn School District
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