

March 26, 2024

Katrina Kessler, Commissioner  
Minnesota Pollution Control Agency  
520 Lafayette Road  
Saint Paul, MN 55155

Subject: City of Comfrey's Support of the Region Nine Development Commission CPRG Coalition  
Proposal for Solar on Rural Public Facilities (Award Number EPA-R-OAR-CPRGI-23-07)

Dear Commissioner Kessler,

I write to affirm that we, the City of Comfrey, are supportive of the Region Nine Development Commission and their coalition of rural development organization's application to implement 3.6 MW of solar systems on rural, publicly-owned facilities across 36 rural Minnesota counties. As a small city based in rural Minnesota, we hope to see increased renewable energy development in our area in a way that benefits our local communities. This application and engagement with rural public entities is an important step in making sure our communities are included in the clean energy transition.

We anticipate supporting the proposed work through our continuation of solar projects in our community.

The City of Comfrey is excited to partner in this proposal to implement solar on public-owned facilities in a manner that meets the individual needs of our diverse rural communities because it aligns with our mission. Our mission is to continue moving forward in identifying and addressing a changing climate as it affects our communities while finding greener energy sources for our future.

We have changed our city building lighting to LED, are working on an engineering study on our flooding issue, are looking into doing more residential energy audits in the community, and are finalizing our Resilience Plan, to name some projects in the works.

In particular, Comfrey can bring the perspective of a small, rural community that has experience, as we have been holding community meetings for over a year on such topics as solar, extreme weather, resiliency and recycling, to name a few of the topics we have discussed..

We have worked with Region Nine Development Commission, who is a coalition partner in this proposal, through their facilitation of meetings, grant writing and sharing of information, and we are committed to continuing and growing this partnership through the work of implementing the CPRG proposal.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gary Richter", with a stylized, flowing script.

Gary Richter  
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garyprichter@gmail.com