

March 18, 2024  
File #: MGR24-203

Attention: Southeast Conference  
9360 Glacier Highway, Suite 201  
Juneau, AK 99801

**Re: Climate Pollution Reduction Implementation Grant (CPRG) - Letter of collaborative support for the Accelerating Clean Energy Savings in Alaska's Coastal Communities Program (ACES – AK)**

Dear Mr. Venables,

On behalf of the City of Ketchikan and Ketchikan Public Utilities (KPU), please accept this letter of support for an implementation grant application to the Environmental Protection Agency's Climate Pollution Reduction Grant program by the Southeast Conference (SEC) and Alaska Heat Smart (AHS). We strongly believe that their Accelerating Clean Energy Savings in Alaska's Coastal Communities Program (ACES - AK) will help catalyze critical rural energy improvements, lower homeowners' heating costs, and dramatically reducing carbon emissions.

The mission of the City of Ketchikan and Ketchikan Public Utilities is to provide quality municipal and utility services as efficiently and effectively as possible within guidelines established by federal and state law; the Charter of the City of Ketchikan; the Ketchikan Municipal Code; and the citizens of Ketchikan as represented by the City Council. The City/KPU can assist this project by offering technical utility expertise, providing analysis of utility engagement, assisting with community outreach and education, and providing inroads to the community's potential program applicants.

The City of Ketchikan believes strongly in the need to decarbonize and lower the costs of space heating. The majority of coastal Alaska's communities are economically disadvantaged. Weighed down by some of the nation's highest heating and electricity costs, many households spend over 50% of their incomes on heat alone. The ACES – AK Program being developed by SEC and AHS will lower this burden for thousands of lower to modest income coastal Alaska families. With decades of combined experience in the spaces of economic development and beneficial electrification, SEC and AHS are poised to better the lives of Alaska residents while meeting the goals of the CPRG program.

We look forward to this new home energy education and financial incentive program and the City of Ketchikan strongly supports the SEC - AHS proposal. We welcome the opportunity to partner with them to serve households along Alaska's coast.

Sincerely,



Delilah Walsh  
City Manager/General Manager