

March 22, 2024

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 Renewable Energy Alaska Project (REAP), 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 feel strongly that their *Accelerating Clean Energy Savings in Alaska's Coastal Communities Program* (ACES - AK) will help catalyze critical rural energy improvements and lower homeowners' heating costs, while dramatically reducing carbon emissions across the region.

REAP is Alaska's only education and advocacy group focused solely on renewable energy and energy efficiency, and since its founding in 2004, REAP's mission has been to increase renewable energy development and promote energy efficiency across Alaska through collaboration, education, training, and advocacy. REAP intends to support this project by conducting community outreach, expanding community by community program awareness, and delivering education materials and lessons on relevant topics such as heat pump functionality, energy efficiency, and building energy assessments.

REAP believes strongly in the need to decarbonize and lower the costs of space heating. Most of coastal Alaska's communities are economically disadvantaged and face some of the nation's highest heating and electricity costs. Many families in the region spend over 50% of their household incomes on heat alone. The ACES – AK Program offered by SEC and AHS will lower this burden for thousands of lower to modest income coastal Alaska households. This program is poised to better the lives of thousands 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 REAP strongly supports the SEC-AHS proposal. Should it be selected, we welcome the opportunity to partner with them to serve households along Alaska's coast.

Sincerely,

Chris Rose



Founder and Executive Director

Renewable Energy Alaska Project

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