



Kalispel Tribe of Indians
P.O. Box 39
Usk, WA 99180

(509) 445-1147
(509) 445-5302 fax
www.kalispeltribe.com

US Environmental Protection Agency
Michael S. Regan, Administrator
1200 Pennsylvania Ave. NW,
Washington, D.C. 20460

March 25, 2024

RE: Climate Pollution Reduction Grant

Dear Mr. Regan:

The Kalispel Tribe of Indians is a member of the Upper Columbia United Tribes (UCUT) and is dedicated to reducing Greenhouse Gases and improving the lives of our Tribal Members through the collaborative Climate Pollution Reduction Grant Projects listed within our final Priority Climate Action Plan (PCAP/Plan). The Kalispel Tribe has devoted environmental staff, planning, and other key staff for the development of the Plan and we are excited to offer this letter of support for the UCUT application submission for the CPRG Implementation Grant.

Through the PCAP planning process, the Kalispel Tribe has identified several key projects for our Tribe. Three key projects to consider include in ranked order; 1) the Climate-Friendly Camas Center Improvements project 2) Habitat & Ecosystem Restoration and 3) Kalispel Tribal Home weatherization & efficiency. The goal of each of these projects is to ultimately reduce carbon emissions.

The Camas Center located on the Kalispel Reservation in Cusick, WA is a community hub for the Kalispel Tribe and Cusick community members alike. The existing HVAC system is 20 years old and requires modifications to increase energy efficiency and decrease greenhouse gas emissions. This project would also include upgrades to lighting and the natatorium area. If implemented, this project would have a 30% reduction in Camas Center's total energy use & elimination of R22 Refrigerant.

The Habitat & Ecosystem Restoration project would enhance climate resiliency efforts in forest and wetland areas already within tribal ownership (Reservation, trust and fee-simple). This would include actions on lands owned and managed by the Kalispel Tribe and could include acquiring additional lands (under federal acquisition rules) to manage and restore habitats that could further sequester carbon or improve overall climate resiliency. Efforts within ecosystem

resiliency include restoration of habitat, fire resiliency, and forest health including biochar creation within functioning ecosystems.

The goal of the Kalispel Tribal Home weatherization & efficiency projects would be to upgrade existing home appliances in tribal homes and determine other energy saving measures such as weatherization. Heat pumps, electric water heaters, or any other electrification/efficiency opportunities are examples of ways to reduce or eliminate combusting fuels currently in tribal homes.

Funding the UCUT submission will allow us to continue leading the way to not only educate our tribal communities and the surrounding communities through our actions, but it will provide better air quality, more resilient and affordable communities, and a more sustainable future for our people. Providing funding for UCUT to disperse as we have determined, will also support tribal self-governance of our own tribal territories.

Thank you, in advance, for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Deane Osterman', with a large, stylized flourish extending to the right.

Deane Osterman, Executive Director
Kalispel Natural Resource Department
Kalispel Tribe of Indians