

4225 Roosevelt Way, NE, Suite 100, Seattle WA 98105

US Environmental Protection Agency
Michael S. Regan, Administrator
1200 Pennsylvania Ave. NW,
Washington, D.C. 20460
March 26, 2024

Dear Mr. Regan,

The Occupational Safety and Health Continuing Education Program (OSHCE) at the University of Washington is a strong supporter of Upper Columbia United Tribes (UCUT) and is dedicated to the efforts they are putting forth to reduce their carbon footprint through the Climate Pollution Reduction Grant Projects. The overall purpose of the OSHCE is to provide Region X with innovative, high quality continuing education and training for all disciplines of occupational health and safety practitioners, employers, and employees in Alaska, Oregon, Idaho and Washington. Many members from tribal nations attend our classes and participate in our certificate programs to build capacity in safety.

Our commitment to UCUT's goal in strengthening workforce development and forestry management among tribal members will include providing expertise in occupational health and sharing resources across our networks. OSHCE has successfully supported organizations with capacity building in occupational health and workforce development to achieve a more safe and equitable work environment. Currently, OSHCE is assisting Casa Latina (a Seattle worker center) in capacity building by providing occupational health training to staff so that they may teach the OSHA 10 Safety training, and other safety regulations to their members. In addition, we partnered with WSU Forestry Extension to develop a curriculum for foresters that focused on reducing risks among Latinx workers involved in high-risk wildfire mitigation activities. These type of materials can further support workforce development programs for UCUT.

We look forward to supporting UCUT's important endeavor that will focus on reducing pollution and elevating healthy living for all. Furthermore, we are especially excited that we can assist them in incorporating high labor standards, emphasize job quality, support equitable workforce development, and support creation of living wage jobs in tribal communities! We enthusiastically recommend funding this grant application, and we are dedicated to assisting them in achieving their goals.

We believe that the addition of this project will advance the mission of UW DEOHS by enhancing health and safety knowledge and skills across the region. Thank you for this opportunity to submit this letter of support.

Sincerely,



Nancy Simcox, MS, Director
Occupational Safety and Health Continuing Education
Department of Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences
University of Washington