



The Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation

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

March 25, 2024

Dear Mr. Regan:

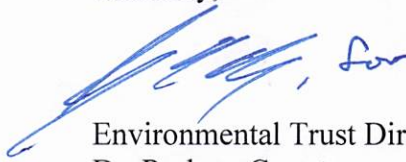
The Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation is one of the largest remote tribes in the Pacific Northwest making planning efforts more complex compared to the neighboring Upper Columbia United Tribes (UCUT). The Colville Tribes is a member of the UCUT coalition and is dedicated to reducing greenhouse gas emissions. The objective is to improve the lives of our tribal members and natural resources through the collaborative Climate Pollution Reduction Grant Projects, listed with the final Priority Climate Action Plan (PCAP). The Colville Tribes has devoted environmental staff, with assistance from facilities staff and leadership, to the development of the plan and we are excited to offer this letter of support for the UCUT submission for the CPRG Implementation Grant application.

Through the PCAP development process, we have identified data gaps: Capacity Building to hire a full-time energy manager, a thorough Comprehensive Greenhouse Gas Inventory to cover four districts which entails data collection from five utility districts and managing over 900,000 forested land with an estimation of 50% of the timber burned from devastating wildfires, identified a need for a Unified Forest Management Plan, as well as a Strategic Energy Plan. The PCAP development process identified key projects for the Colville tribes: GSA and Tribal Fleet Management conversion to hybrid EV concluded that transportation was the highest emitter in the GHG inventory, targeted high commercial building emitters and strategized residential building heat pump installations to help with energy consumption and improving air quality in the highest polluted air identified in the state of Washington, and the Climate Steering Committee will implement innovative energy policies across the reservation through tribal programs. Furthermore, the Colville Tribes looks forward in a collaborative effort with the neighboring Upper Columbia United Tribes in reducing greenhouse gases in our own unique way.

Funding the UCUT application will allow us to continue our regional environmental leadership providing an education example to our tribal communities and the surrounding communities through our actions; additionally, we can look forward to improved air quality, lower energy costs, and more climate-resilient communities, helping realize a more sustainable future for our people. Providing funding for UCUT to allocate as we have determined will also support tribal self-governance of our own tribal territories.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Rodney Cawston", written over the printed name.

Environmental Trust Director
Dr. Rodney Cawston