

State of
Washington
House of
Representatives



February 16th, 2024

The Department of Commerce
1011 Plum Street SE / PO Box 42525
Olympia, WA 98504-2525

Re: Letter of Support for Western Washington University Climate Pollution Reduction Grants

To whom it may concern,

I am writing in support of Western Washington University's (Western) Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) program requests, consisting of the following projects:

- 1) Heat recovery on exhaust air from two main science buildings, Morse Hall and the Biology Building: \$3.5M ROM budget for estimated 610 metrics tons CO2 reduction; and
- 2) HVAC controls recommissioning and upgrades at energy intensive buildings: \$1M ROM budget for estimated 680 metrics tons CO2 reduction.

These projects were identified as part of a 2022 campus wide strategic energy audit. Western is positioned as a leader in Washington state on campus greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction projects and these shovel-ready projects allow Western to leverage federal funding to support ongoing GHG reduction work.

The total request of \$4 to \$4.5 million for two categories of projects will reduce campus heating demand and are consistent with recommendations in Western's Heating Conversion Feasibility study. CPRG funding for these projects will ultimately reduce construction costs on the overall heating conversion project.

Washington state is strongly committed to climate pollution reduction efforts, including a commitment to energy upgrades and energy system conversion projects at public institutions to ensure a portfolio of state infrastructure that is ready to meet the needs of the next generation.

Thank you for your consideration of this request, for prioritizing critical GHG reduction projects, and funding projects that successfully leverage state and federal resources to meet important climate goals.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Alex Ramel", is written over a horizontal line.

Representative Alex Ramel
40th Legislative District