



State of Wisconsin
Department of Health Services

Tony Evers, Governor
Kirsten L. Johnson, Secretary

March 20, 2024

Maria Redmond
Wisconsin Department of Administration
Office of Sustainability and Clean Energy
101 E Wilson St.
Madison, WI 53703

Subject: Support for Climate Pollution Reduction Grant Application – WI Department of Health Services

Dear Ms. Redmond:

The Wisconsin Department of Health Services is pleased to offer its enthusiastic support for the application submitted by the State of Wisconsin's Department of Administration through the Wisconsin Office of Sustainability and Clean Energy (OSCE) to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Climate Pollution Reduction Grants Program: Implementation Grants (EPA-R-OAR-CPRGI-23-07). We are pleased to endorse the OSCE's efforts, as described in this application, to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions through implementing measures in the Wisconsin Emissions Reduction Roadmap.

Given Wisconsin's proven success in implementing equitable climate policies, we have full confidence in the OSCE's ability to develop and achieve the objectives laid out in the application and believe they will lead to important reductions in emissions while mobilizing collective power to address historic injustice, improve health outcomes, create new jobs, and spur transformative climate action. Through the OSCE, the State of Wisconsin boasts a commendable track record of effectively utilizing state and federal grants while actively engaging with low-income and disadvantaged communities. Under the leadership of Governor Tony Evers, and through the OSCE, Wisconsin has demonstrated a strong commitment to achieving economy-wide carbon neutrality.

Throughout the period of this grant, we will work closely with the WI OSCE to further develop and deliver programs that reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Our organization feels strongly about the need for collective action related to pollution reduction implementation. We recognize there are inherent environmental, health, financial, political, societal, and economic benefits to reducing greenhouse gas emissions in our communities. This funding will help Wisconsin rapidly transition to a clean energy economy that benefits all residents in the state.

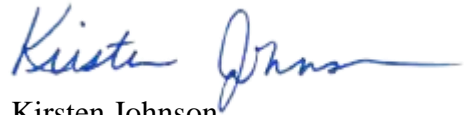
The work described in this application is squarely aligned with the Wisconsin Department of Health Services' mission to protect and promote the health and safety of everyone in Wisconsin. By addressing the root causes of climate change and promoting healthier, more equitable clean energy solutions, people living, working, and visiting Wisconsin will have a better quality of life.

DHS' Climate and Health Program, housed in our Division of Public Health, works with partners to understand how climate change impacts Wisconsinites' health and how we can develop adaptation strategies to protect health. We understand that frontline communities are most severely impacted, and this grant provides an extraordinary opportunity to prioritize investment in the health and well-being of people living in under-resourced communities who have shouldered disproportionate health burdens from pollution from fossil fuels.

The Climate and Health Program is committed to active collaboration with OSCE to bring a health equity lens to climate change measures that reduce greenhouse gas emissions. By understanding the health co-benefits of mitigation actions, Wisconsin can prioritize strategies that benefit the most residents with a focus on communities that are most impacted. We can also tell the climate action story using the health angle, so people understand the overall benefits of mitigation.

We are enthusiastic about partnering with the State of Wisconsin to advance the goals of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency through this critical initiative, and look forward to continuing our important collaborative work.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Kirsten Johnson", with a stylized, flowing script.

Kirsten Johnson
Secretary-Designee