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11 Jul 2018

Department of Transportation
Attn: Secretary Elaine L. Chao
1200 New Jersey Ave., SE
Washington, DC 20590

RE: Letter of Commitment for SARTA's proposal for a Midwest States Alternative Fuel Corridor

Dear Secretary Chao,

The Stark Area Regional Transit Authority (SARTA) is excited to submit this application to the US Department of Transportation (DOT) for funding to assist with regional planning efforts related to the Midwest States Alternative Fuel Corridor.

To complete this high-profile project, we have assembled a project team that includes a broad range of stakeholders, including private businesses, transportation agencies, nonprofits, universities, and one of the nation's largest truck stop and convenience store chains, Love's Travel Stops. Other prominent partners include the Ohio Fuel Cell Coalition, Cleveland State University, and CALSTART—a member-supported organization of more than 175 firms, fleets, and agencies worldwide dedicated to supporting the growth of the high-tech, clean transportation industry.

Our goal is to develop an actionable roadmap to the creation of a series of alternative-fuel transportation corridors in Ohio and southern Michigan. These corridors will be capable of supporting local, regional, and interregional travel by electric vehicles (EV), fuel cell electric vehicles (FCEV), and compressed natural gas (CNG) automobiles, trucks, and buses.

As the applicant, SARTA commits to the following activities: 1) leading all grant administration activities, including reporting, invoicing, contracting, and meetings; 2) leading all high-level project management activities, monitoring progress against budget and schedule; and participating in 3) project outreach and engagement, 4) workforce development evaluation, 5) plan development, and 6) knowledge transfer.

As an added demonstration of its dedication to this project, SARTA commits a total of \$200,000 in cost share from dedicated Sales Tax Revenue.

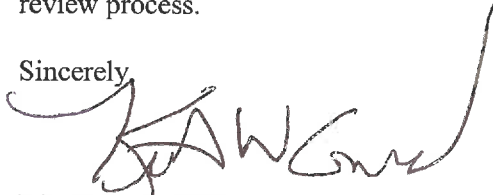
If the project is awarded funding, SARTA guarantees the availability of the staff and other resources needed to complete the activities described above. Further, SARTA guarantees the availability of the cost share funds, which will be sourced from a one-quarter of one percent (0.25) percent local sales tax.

SARTA has both the administrative and financial capacity to complete the activities and deliver the cost share described above. SARTA has received the State of Ohio Auditors Award for three years. Only five percent of the 5,800 governmental agencies that the State of Ohio audits receive this award. Importantly, SARTA has cash reserves of nearly \$12 million to put into the capital budget if necessary to cover unexpected shortfalls.

At the end of the project, our goal is to have an actionable plan that guides project team members quickly out of the proposed planning activities and into actual implementation of the developed alternative fuel corridor plan. The goal? Putting steel into ground by the early 2020s—well in advance of the September 30, 2025 deadline for expending FY2018 BUILD funds. In essence, this means that for the cost of a relatively affordable planning grant, DOT could see actual infrastructure in the ground on a timeline that is very competitive with applicants for capital grants under this solicitation.

We strongly believe in the proposed project and its potential to foster a safe transportation system, create long-term economic opportunities, reduce dependence on foreign oil, avoid adverse environmental impacts, and leverage private capital—all explicit DOT goals. Please give it every consideration in the review process.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "K. Conrad", with a long, sweeping flourish extending upwards and to the right.

Kirt Conrad, CEO
Stark Area Regional Transit Authority
1600 Gateway Blvd SE
Canton, OH 44707
Phone: 330-477-2782
Email: kconrad@sartaonline.com



July 18, 2018

Department of Transportation
Attn: Secretary Elaine L. Chao
1200 New Jersey Ave., SE
Washington, DC 20590

RE: Letter of Commitment for SARTA's proposal for a Midwest States Alternative Fuel Corridor

Dear Secretary Chao,

Trillium Transportation Fuels, LLC dba Trillium, a wholly owned subsidiary of Love's Travel Stops, is pleased to support the Stark Area Regional Transit Authority (SARTA) in its application to the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) for funding to assist with regional planning efforts related to the Midwest States Alternative Fuel Corridor.

The ultimate goal of the project is to develop an actionable roadmap to create a series of ready-to-build alternative-fuel transportation corridors in Ohio and southern Michigan. These corridors will be capable of supporting local, regional, and interregional travel by electric vehicles (EV), fuel cell electric vehicles (FCEV), and compressed natural gas (CNG) automobiles, trucks, and buses.

At the backbone of these corridors will be one dozen locations operated by parent company Love's Travel Stops. This privately held organization owns a chain of more than 450 truck stop and convenience stores located along rural and urban highways in 41 states. During this project, Trillium, an alternative fuels/transit infrastructure engineering company, will finalize planning activities and preliminary design for these locations. We will, assuming commercial viability is demonstrated during the planning process, host a mix of alternative fuel refueling and recharging technologies. Trillium will also contribute to planning process outreach, and will provide planning support and documentation to facilitate plan development.

As a project partner, Trillium is well qualified to complete its assigned tasks. Trillium is a leading developer of alternative fueling system design and provides installation and operations for innovative energy solutions. The company's fuels solutions include Compressed Natural Gas (CNG), Renewable Natural Gas, Hydrogen, and Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging infrastructure, as well as energy solutions from solar installations to on-site generation.

We have exceeded customer expectations by delivering superior quality, reliability, and dependability at more than 200 alternative fueling stations nationwide. Trillium specializes in designing, building, and operating these facilities and provides 24/7 maintenance services for various types of professional fleets. Collectively, Love's Travel Stops and Trillium own 65 public-access CNG facilities.

If the proposed project receives funding, Trillium commits to:

- Participate in Task 2.1: Research activities to understand baseline conditions and identify target locations; includes gathering information on approximately one dozen travel stops from parent company, Love's.
- Participate in Task 2.2: Outreach/Engagement activities to solicit input from regional stakeholders
- Participate in Task 2.3 :Workforce Development activities to evaluate local and regional workforces
- Participate in Task 2.4: Planning workshops
- Participate in Task 3: Plan Development by performing the following activities:
 - Complete outreach to identify needed right of way acquisitions, access rights, site specific opportunities and constraints, potential for integration of on-site generation, review of existing facilities and compatibility, NEPA compliance planning and initial permitting
 - Develop preliminary equipment and installation costs for proposed facilities
 - Assess commercial viability of potential Love's Travel Stops sites.
 - Complete 10-percent Concept Design Drawings for 12 proposed recharging/refueling locations
- Participate in Task 4: Knowledge Transfer activities

As an added demonstration of its dedication to this project, Trillium commits a total of **\$400,000** in cost share, broken down as follows:

- **\$1,500,000** – Design and Planning Phase
 - \$1,200,000 – Federal Government (80%)
 - \$300,000 – Trillium (20%)
- **\$500,000** – Marketing and Local Community Outreach Phase
 - \$400,000 – Federal Government (80%)
 - \$100, 000 – Trillium (20%)

Trillium guarantees the availability of the staff and other resources needed to complete the activities described above, as well as the cost share if the project is awarded funding. Cost share will be sourced from in kind labor and other direct expenses.



We strongly believe in the proposed project will meet the explicit DOT goals because our solution has the potential to foster a safe transportation system, create long-term economic opportunities, reduce dependence on foreign oil, avoid adverse environmental impacts and leverage private capital.

We are excited to submit our application and kindly request every consideration in the review process.

Sincerely,

Bill Cashmareck, Managing Director

2929 Allen Pkwy. Ste. 4100

Houston, TX 77019

713.332.5726

Bill.Cashmareck@TrilliumCNG.com





July 16, 2018

Department of Transportation
Attn: Secretary Elaine L. Chao
1200 New Jersey Ave., SE
Washington, DC 20590

RE: Letter of Commitment for SARTA's proposal for a Midwest States Alternative Fuel Corridor

Dear Secretary Chao,

The Ohio Fuel Cell Coalition—a strong proponent of strengthening the fuel cell industry in Ohio and beyond—is pleased to support the Stark Area Regional Transit Authority (SARTA) in its application to the US Department of Transportation (DOT) for funding to assist with regional planning efforts related to the Midwest States Alternative Fuel Corridor.

The ultimate goal of the project is to develop an actionable roadmap to the creation of a series of alternative-fuel transportation corridors in Ohio and southern Michigan. These corridors will be capable of supporting local, regional, and interregional travel by electric vehicles (EV), fuel cell electric vehicles (FCEV), and compressed natural gas (CNG) automobiles, trucks, and buses.

At the backbone of these corridors will be one dozen locations operated by Love's Travel Stops. This privately held company owns a chain of more than 450 truck stop and convenience stores located along rural and urban highways in 41 states.

During the project, OFCC commits to completing its assigned activities, including:

1. Assistance with grant administration and oversight;
2. Work as part of the project team to perform initial baseline research and coordinate with Ohio EPA and other entities to eliminate duplication of efforts and maximize fuel range benefit;
3. Perform outreach and engagement with relevant stakeholders to discuss alternative fueling requirements, issues, concerns, and solutions, including hydrogen infrastructure;
4. Identify and perform specific targeted outreach to potential interested parties, i.e. commercial and private tethered fleets, municipalities and government agencies within the region.
5. Assist with economic and workforce development studies and evaluations, and in the planning and execution of workshops to educate and engage stakeholders and the public with respect to this corridor.
6. Collaboration on the final Action Plan to be able to move into final project implementation and development of the Corridor.

As a project partner, OFCC is well qualified to complete its assigned tasks. OFCC was established to ensure Ohio's presence both regionally and nationally in current fuel cell discussions. OFCC staff works to build upon existing industry and academic strengths of research and development, advanced manufacturing, advanced materials technologies, components, and services to advance the integration of a coordinated, robust fuel cell infrastructure and supply chain. OFCC staff also possesses considerable expertise in promoting public awareness about fuel cell technology, expanding networking and information sharing opportunities within the industry, and encouraging federal funding for the development of fuel cell technology.



As an added demonstration of its dedication to this project, OFCC commits a total of \$70,000.00 in in-kind cost share.

If the project is awarded funding, OFCC guarantees the availability of the staff and other resources needed to complete the activities described above, as well as the cost share.

We strongly believe in the proposed project and its potential to foster a safe transportation system, create long-term economic opportunities, reduce dependence on foreign oil, avoid adverse environmental impacts, and leverage private capital—all explicit DOT goals. Please give it every consideration in the review process.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Pat Valente". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Patrick Valente
Executive Director
Ohio Fuel Cell Coalition
151 Innovation Drive
Elyria, OH 44035
614.542.7308
pat.valente@fuelcellcorridor.com



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July 13, 2018

Debbie Swickard
Grants Manager
Stark Area Regional Transit Authority
1600 Gateway Blvd. SE
Canton, Ohio 44707
330 956 7903
dswickard@sartaonline.com

Dear Ms. Swickard,

I am pleased to write this letter confirming that Cleveland State University is willing to enter into a subcontractual agreement with Stark Area Regional Transit Authority for the purpose of conducting the research described in the proposal to the US Department of Transportation for the project entitled "Role of Transportation Technology Transition in Regional Economics"

The funding requested for the project is \$270,442 in Direct and Indirect Costs at CSU's federally negotiated rate of 48.5% for the proposed 18-month period.

Please do not hesitate to contact either myself at (216) 687-3675, or Andrew Thomas, Project Director for this proposal should it be funded,. (216) 687-9304 if you require additional information.

Sincerely,

M. Therese Kocovar, CRA
Director

Mailing Address: 2121 Euclid Avenue • Cleveland, OH 44115-2214
Campus Location: Parker Hannifin Hall, 2nd Floor • 2258 Euclid Avenue • Cleveland, Ohio
Telephone (216) 687-3630 • Fax (216) 687-9382
www.csuohio.edu/offices/spr



July 11, 2018

Department of Transportation
Attn: Secretary Elaine L. Chao
1200 New Jersey Ave., SE
Washington, DC 20590

RE: Letter of Commitment for SARTA's proposal for a Midwest States Alternative Fuel Corridor

Dear Secretary Chao,

CALSTART is pleased to support the Stark Area Regional Transit Authority (SARTA) in its application to the US Department of Transportation (DOT) for funding to assist with regional planning efforts related to the Midwest States Alternative Fuel Corridor.

The ultimate goal of the project is to develop an actionable roadmap to the creation of a series of alternative-fuel transportation corridors in Ohio and southern Michigan. These corridors will be capable of supporting local, regional, and interregional travel by electric vehicles (EV), fuel cell electric vehicles (FCEV), and compressed natural gas (CNG) automobiles, trucks, and buses.

As a project partner, CALSTART is well qualified to complete its assigned tasks. If the proposed project receives funding, CALSTART commits to:

- Facilitate key stakeholder outreach and communications (i.e. to transit agencies, fleets, truck stop owners, utilities) to construct regional corridor partnership
- Lead key convening workgroup activities for strategic corridor planning
- Develop discussion and decision-making pathways (Roadmap) to address key barriers and identify solutions
- Lead organization of workshops/symposiums to support corridor planning and development
- Provide technical support on vehicle technologies, infrastructure, automation and intelligent transportation systems (ITS)
- Broker partnerships for infrastructure commitments along specified corridors
- Support development of alternative fuel corridor plan for future implementation
- Perform workforce analysis and workforce development studies
- Perform alternative fuels and vehicle regional economic impact studies
- Facilitate technology transfer activities including case study development

CALSTART is a member-supported organization of more than 190 firms, fleets, and agencies worldwide dedicated to supporting the growth of the high-tech, clean transportation industry. CALSTART has an extensive history of meeting deadlines and completing milestones associated with large, complex projects.

CALSTART has been a recognized leader when it comes to alternative fuels corridors and organized the nation's first Clean Corridor Conference on the promotion and development of alternative fuel corridors in timing with the Federal Highway Administration's (FHWA) roll out of its designation program for alternative fuel corridors. CALSTART is currently working with the FHWA to organize five regional convenings throughout the US to support multi-state coordination for the development of alternative fuel corridors. This first convening took place in June of this year in the Midwest.

**Clean Transportation
Technologies and Solutions**

www.calstart.org

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155 Water Street, 2nd Floor Unit 230 BROOKLYN, NY 11201 • 718.303.0787 | 510 W. Kearney Blvd Suite 105 FRESNO CA 93706 • 626.744.5680



CALSTART has successfully led or participated in many projects that have installed alternative fuel infrastructure; demonstrated alternative fuel vehicles (AFV); and/or allowed users to experience AFVs, analyze their benefits, and/or leverage incentive programs to purchase them. These programs include but are not limited to the Hybrid and Zero-Emission Truck and Bus Voucher Incentive Project (HVIP), Drive Clean Chicago, and SARTA's hydrogen (H2) bus deployment. In addition, CALSTART authored the Hydrogen Roadmap for the Midwest and are working closely with industry and the military here in the Midwest advancing AFV technologies and infrastructure in support of.

If the project is awarded funding, CALSTART guarantees the availability of the staff and other resources needed to complete the activities described above, as well as the cost share.

We strongly believe in the proposed project and its potential to foster a safe transportation system, create long-term economic opportunities, reduce dependence on foreign oil, avoid adverse environmental impacts, and leverage private capital—all explicit DOT goals. Please give it every consideration in the review process.

Sincerely,

Maureen Marshall
Midwest Regional Director
CALSTART
200 East Big Beaver Troy, Michigan 48083
Phone: 248-457-4508
Email: mmarshall@calstart.org

OFFICES IN :

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530 West Spring Street, Suite 250 • Columbus, OH 43215
(614) 884-7336 • CleanFuelsOhio.org

July 18, 2018

Department of Transportation
Attn: Secretary Elaine L. Chao
1200 New Jersey Ave., SE
Washington, DC 20590

RE: Letter of Commitment for SARTA's proposal for a Midwest States Alternative Fuel Corridor

Dear Secretary Chao,

Clean Fuels Ohio—a strong proponent of strengthening alternative fuel deployment in Ohio and beyond—is pleased to support the Stark Area Regional Transit Authority (SARTA) in its application to the US Department of Transportation (DOT) for funding to assist with regional planning efforts related to the Midwest States Alternative Fuel Corridor.

The ultimate goal of the project is to develop an actionable roadmap to the creation of a series of alternative-fuel transportation corridors in Ohio and southern Michigan. These corridors will be capable of supporting local, regional, and interregional travel by electric vehicles (EV), fuel cell electric vehicles (FCEV), and compressed natural gas (CNG) automobiles, trucks, and buses.

During the project, Clean Fuels Ohio commits, at a high level, to completing its assigned activities, including:

1. Conduct a thorough assessment of existing CNG and EV public stations in Ohio;
2. Conduct assessment of prospective locations for propane and biodiesel infrastructure;
3. Play a supporting role on assessment of hydrogen infrastructure;
4. Obtain and analyze data on Ohio fleets, especially class 8 OTR using a combination of sources;
5. Develop a comprehensive list of known and potential fleet users of medium to HD EVs and H2 vehicles – along with CNG;
6. Conduct outreach to a wide range of fleet prospects, station owners, site hosts, and additional stakeholders related to EV, H2, CNG, propane and biodiesel deployments; and
7. Organize planning workshops and technician training related to infrastructure development efforts.

As a project partner, Clean Fuels Ohio is well qualified to complete its assigned tasks. Clean Fuels Ohio is a statewide nonprofit organization that improves air quality and health, reduces environmental pollution, and strengthens Ohio's economy by helping businesses, governments, nonprofits and individuals transition to cleaner, domestic fuels and energy-saving vehicles.

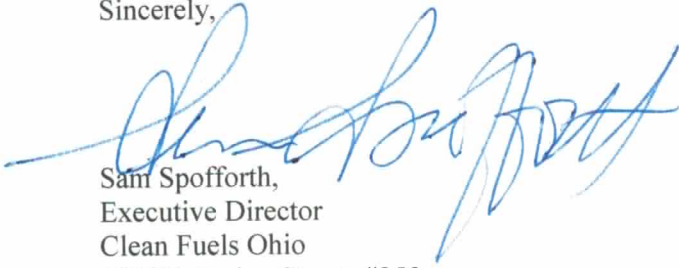
As an added demonstration of its dedication to this project, Clean Fuels Ohio commits a total of \$50,000 in cost share, broken down as follows:

- \$15,000: Corresponding and related membership dues
- \$35,000: Coordinating non-federal grants that share deliverables and activities with BUILD which could include, but not limited to, The Energy Foundation and The Gund Foundation

If the project is awarded funding, Clean Fuels Ohio guarantees the availability of the staff and other resources needed to complete the activities described above, as well as the cost share.

We strongly believe in the proposed project and its potential to foster a safe transportation system, create long-term economic opportunities, reduce dependence on foreign oil, avoid adverse environmental impacts, and leverage private capital—all explicit DOT goals. Please give it every consideration in the review process.

Sincerely,



Sam Spofforth,
Executive Director
Clean Fuels Ohio
530 W. Spring Street, #250
Columbus, Ohio 43215
(614) 884-7336
Sam@CleanFuelsOhio.org



July 13, 2018

Department of Transportation
Attn: Secretary Elaine L. Chao
1200 New Jersey Ave., SE
Washington, DC 20590

RE: Letter of Commitment for SARTA's proposal for a Midwest States Alternative Fuel Corridor

Dear Secretary Chao,

Grant Farm is pleased to support the Stark Area Regional Transit Authority (SARTA) in its application to the US Department of Transportation (DOT) for funding to assist with regional planning efforts related to the Midwest States Alternative Fuel Corridor.

The ultimate goal of the project is to develop an actionable roadmap to the creation of a series of alternative-fuel transportation corridors in Ohio and southern Michigan. These corridors will be capable of supporting local, regional, and interregional travel by electric vehicles (EV), fuel cell electric vehicles (FCEV), and other vehicles powered by compressed natural gas (CNG), propane, and biodiesel.

During the project, Grant Farm commits to assisting SARTA with fund development activities for future implementation of the Action Plan. If the project is awarded funding, Grant Farm guarantees the availability of the staff and other resources needed to complete the proposed fund development activities.

We strongly believe in the proposed project and its potential to foster a safe transportation system, create long-term economic opportunities, reduce dependence on foreign oil, avoid adverse environmental impacts, and leverage private capital—all explicit DOT goals. Please give it every consideration in the review process.

Sincerely,

Mark Filimonov
Chief Technical Officer
204 West Main St., Suite 107
Grass Valley, CA 95945
P: (916) 444-FUND
E: mark@thegrantfarm.com

801 K Street, 28th Floor • Sacramento, CA 95814 • Phone: (916) 444-FUND

THEGRANTFARM.COM

A stylized, low-poly mountain range graphic in shades of orange, yellow, and purple, spanning the bottom of the page.



July 12, 2018

Department of Transportation
Attn: Secretary Elaine L. Chao
1200 New Jersey Ave., SE
Washington, DC 20590

RE: Letter of Commitment for SARTA's proposal for a Midwest States Alternative Fuel Corridor

Dear Secretary Chao,

Clean Fuels Michigan—a strong proponent of strengthening alternative fuel deployment in Michigan and beyond—is pleased to support the Stark Area Regional Transit Authority (SARTA) in its application to the US Department of Transportation (DOT) for funding to assist with regional planning efforts related to the Midwest States Alternative Fuel Corridor.

The ultimate goal of the project is to develop an actionable roadmap to the creation of a series of alternative-fuel transportation corridors in Ohio and southern Michigan. These corridors will be capable of supporting local, regional, and interregional travel by electric vehicles (EV), fuel cell electric vehicles (FCEV), and compressed natural gas (CNG) automobiles, trucks, and buses.

During the project, Clean Fuels Michigan commits, at a high level, to completing its assigned activities, including:

1. Educate and engage various local organizations supporting clean fuel market development in SE Michigan
2. Develop a coalition of key business community stakeholders to provide input and feedback
3. Work to develop the Michigan strategy as it relates to the overall project development

As a project partner, Clean Fuels Michigan is well qualified to complete its assigned tasks. Clean Fuels Michigan is a group of 30 leading, local companies and organizations focused on growing a high-tech, clean transportation industry in Michigan. We are a member supported organization - Clean Fuels Michigan - with a clear focus on providing value added services and policy changes. Clean Fuels Michigan is driven by members in the business community and organizations that believe in economic growth and a sustainable environment. Communities and individuals will be part of our larger advocacy outreach efforts. Michigan's Clean Fuels Program supports a healthy economy and environment. Expanding clean fuel options gives Michigan's citizens more choice at the pump and an opportunity to invest in cleaner fuels produced right here at home. That means bringing economic vitality and more jobs here to Michigan and the region, while cleaning our air for healthier communities.



If the project is awarded funding, Clean Fuels Michigan guarantees the availability of the staff and other resources needed to complete the activities described above.

We strongly believe in the proposed project and its potential to foster a safe transportation system, create long-term economic opportunities, reduce dependence on foreign oil, avoid adverse environmental impacts, and leverage private capital—all explicit DOT goals. Please give it every consideration in the review process.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "M. Alaimo", is written over the word "Sincerely,".

Michael P Alaimo
Executive Director
Clean Fuels Michigan
malaimo@cleanfuelsmi.com
(248) 933-1798