



Monday, April 17, 2023

Scott Annis
International City/County Management
Association
777 North Capitol St. NE, Ste. 500
Washington, DC 20002

Theresa Perry
Interstate Renewable Energy Council
125 Wolf Road, Suite 207
Albany, NY 12205

Dear Scott Annis and Theresa Perry:

On behalf of the Capital Area Regional Planning Commission, I am proud to announce our commitment to become a SolSmart-designated regional organization. Our planning region encompasses Dane County and its eight cities, 20 villages, and 32 townships. In partnership with the Dane County Office of Energy & Climate Change and the SolSmart team, our staff will dedicate time and resources to improve the regional environment for solar PV development, making it faster, easier, and more affordable for residents and businesses to install solar energy systems. These efforts will also increase the efficiency of local processes related to solar development, which may save local governments time and money.

We will leverage SolSmart to achieve the following solar goals:

- **Reduce greenhouse gas emissions and foster community resilience to climate change, as established in CARPC's 2050 Regional Development Framework.**
- **Work with communities to identify regional priorities, preferences, and best practices for solar development, emphasizing equitable access to solar benefits.**
- **Support Dane County communities in attaining local SolSmart designation.**
- **Identify barriers to PV installation in local zoning codes and, where present, recommend revisions to remove them.**
- **Support Dane County's goal to meet one-third of electricity use (1200 MW) with solar by 2030.**

These goals demonstrate that our region is committed to making continual improvement in our solar market. This includes ensuring solar development is inclusive and equitable. We look forward to learning

more from the SolSmart program about how to expand access to solar for all our residents and support solar energy adoption for those that are under resourced or underserved.

The SolSmart program will build on CARPC's efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and foster climate resilience by convening interagency collaborations, including our tree canopy and green infrastructure initiatives.

To measure progress along the way, we will track key metrics related to solar energy deployment, such as community SolSmart designations and solar installations.

We understand that the SolSmart program has criteria and point requirements as outlined in the SolSmart Program Guide needed to achieve each tier of designation. We're excited to submit this solar statement to complete the first requirement of the program.

Inquiries related to our SolSmart participation can be directed to Caitlin Shanahan at caitlins@capitalarearpc.org.

Sincerely,



Steve Steinhoff, AICP
Agency Director