**Please upload this Letter of Support as a PDF to the Green Bank for Rural America website** [**here**](https://appalachiancommunitycapitalcdfi.org/oa-program/acc-green-bank-for-rural-america-upload-form/)**.**

[**https://appalachiancommunitycapitalcdfi.org/oa-program/acc-green-bank-for-rural-america-upload-form/**](https://appalachiancommunitycapitalcdfi.org/oa-program/acc-green-bank-for-rural-america-upload-form/)

**Receipt required by September 21, 2023**

*[Use your community or organization’s letterhead and include name, address, and website]*

*[Insert date]*

The Honorable Michael Regan

Administrator, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.

Room 3426 WJC North Washington, DC 20460

Subject: EPA’s Greenhouse Gas Recovery Fund CCIA program - Community Letter of Support for Appalachian Community Capital’s Green Bank for Rural America

Dear Administrator Regan:

We are pleased to submit this Letter of Support as a community that is deeply interested in engaging in Appalachian Community Capital’s Green Bank for Rural American application to the EPA Clean Communities Investment Accelerator program. As a community, we express our high level of interest in the program vision outlined by Appalachian Community Capital (ACC) to accelerate green energy lending through its Green Bank for Rural America program. It is our intent to work with the Green Bank partnership network to vision, plan, develop and seek financing for high impact projects and support businesses that create equitable economic opportunity and reduce the carbon footprint in our community, located in [INSERT Town/County, State].

The Green Bank for Rural America will focus on Appalachian, Coal and Energy Communities: underserved rural communities that have been disproportionately impacted by the closure of fossil fuel producing mines and power plants. By focusing on communities impacted by power plant and mine closures and communities that face coal, oil, and natural gas transitions over the next several years, the Green Bank for Rural America will address environmental justice imperatives facing these communities across all ten EPA regions.

Located in EPA Region #, we would be well-positioned to take this opportunity to strengthen and restore our community. We have been affected by [*Coal or power plant closure, fossil fuel industry decline, rural disinvestment, population loss,etc*.]. *[Expand upon your community’s socioeconomic or energy profile here, using this tool* [*here*](https://screeningtool.geoplatform.gov/en/#13.13/38.98974/-80.22839) *(just enter your address and expand the map for your service area) or* [*here*](https://www.epa.gov/ejscreen) *(a bit more complex with a series of maps and criteria)*

The Green Bank for Rural America will act as an accelerator to engage with community stakeholders, to offer technical expertise, to leverage public and private resources, and to provide critical capitalization and technical assistance funding to finance clean technology projects in target communities like ours.

As a community interested in this project we expect to [*Insert benefits you expect to access from this opportunity, including: 1) support for continued or expanded community engagement in your community to vision, identify, plan, support and/or develop projects and businesses that result in quality job creation, equitable opportunities, and reduced carbon emissions; 2) technical assistance for project visioning, planning, structuring and development; and/or 3) project and business financing.*]

*Please reference a potential pipeline of a qualified project or projects (see list in Comment) that your community is considering pursuing or is in the process of developing over a 36 month period. If your community already has projects in development that have pollution-reducing potentials, please refer to those projects that already have momentum. If possible, include a pipeline report that notes project name, location, anticipated $ project size, and a one sentence project description as an attachment to this letter. These projects may be in the early stages of visioning, planning or development.*

In conclusion, our community whole-heartedly supports ACC’s application to accelerate the economic transition in rural communities that have been most deeply impacted by the energy transition, and strongly urge the EPA to support their proposal.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

*Name*

*Title*

*Community Name*

*Email address*

*Telephone number*