

May 24, 2024

The Honorable Michael S. Regan Environmental Protection Agency 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. Washington, DC 20460

Re: Clean Ports Program: Zero-Emission Technology Deployment Competition

Grant Funding Opportunity: EPA-R-OAR-CPP-24-04

Dear Administrator Regan:

On behalf of the Board of Directors for Partners for Environmental Progress (PEP), I am writing to express our strong support for Alabama Port Authority's (ASPA) application for the EPA Clean Ports Grant. ASPA will use this grant to support the deployment of zero-emission technologies across the Port of Mobile for both its public and private terminals and launch the Port Operations With Emissions Reduction, or POWER, Program.

The grant includes the following components to help reduce carbon emissions at the Port – two electric switcher locomotives, installation of three shore power units (cold ironing) at two marine terminals, 36 electric terminal trucks, four electric container top loaders, two electric material handling cranes and two electric forklifts. This equipment will be deployed by the Port and several private operators who do business on the port – APM Terminals, Cooper Marine, SSA Marine, and CG Rail.

PEP is a coalition of business and education leaders who share the vision of applying science-based environmental best practices to business and community issues. Our 200 member companies, including ASPA, are chemical, steel, aerospace, and other manufacturers and the vendors, consultants, suppliers, and service providers that serve them. PEP member companies value our unique natural resources and our economy and routinely implement programs and infrastructure that goes beyond routine environmental compliance and regulations.

PEP's member companies rely on the efficiency, capacity, and accessibility of the Port to import raw materials and export their products in a timely and cost-effective method, but we expect the ASPA to do so while continually improving their operations to reduce their environmental impact. The ASPA has been a strong advocate for and partner with the environmental community in the Mobile region.

The POWER Program will be an investment that will enable the Port to bolster its longstanding commitment to sustainability and further contribute to the goals of companies located around the Port of Mobile in reducing climate impacts. With this collective, Port-wide application, the POWER Program will benefit communities surrounding the Port and provide citizens a healthier quality of life for generations to come.

For these reasons, we again express our strong support for the POWER Program and thank you for considering ASPA's for this grant funding.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Denson
Executive Director