DIGITAL CLIMATE ALLIANCE



November 18, 2022

The Honorable Michael S. Regan Administrator U.S. Environmental Protection Agency 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW Washington, DC 20004

Dear Administrator Regan:

The Digital Climate Alliance (DCA) would like to congratulate the Biden-Harris Administration on the enactment of the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA). The IRA provides unprecedented funding for the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and affords the federal government an opportunity to leverage and utilize digital technologies in helping the U.S. achieve its climate and clean energy goals.

Twenty-first century problems need twenty-first century solutions. The DCA is a coalition of companies developing and utilizing digital technologies and tools to reduce their environmental impacts and those of their customers. The Alliance's goal is to promote using digital technologies and tools to solve climate, water, and energy challenges that impact economic development, business growth, social well-being, and ecosystem health.

The IRA provides historic levels of funding for the federal government to advance climate action. However, it will be impossible for the U.S. to achieve the IRA's clean energy and decarbonization goals at the speed and scale needed without deploying and leveraging digital technologies. As the EPA implements provisions in the IRA, the DCA looks forward to collaborating with the Agency to utilize digital climate solutions.

Increasingly, companies are facing calls from stakeholders and consumers to take responsibility for the environmental impact of their activities and many now have public climate strategies and targets. While voluntary corporate commitments are welcome to addressing climate change, it is important for these commitments to be transparent and easily monitored by the public.

Developing a standardized process for corporations to report their greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions consistently and accurately is crucial for the Biden-Harris Administration to reach its goal of a 50-52% reduction in economy-wide net GHG pollution from 2005 by 2030. The DCA supports language in the IRA directing the EPA to support "enhanced standardization and transparency of corporate climate action commitments and plans to reduce GHG gas emissions."

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Furthermore, as the EPA implements this provision, the DCA encourages the Agency to meet with industry stakeholders to gain a better understanding of how existing digital tools and platforms could aid the development of a standardized and transparent GHG reporting process.

The IRA also promotes enhanced standardization and transparency for construction materials and products, including identifying and labeling materials and products with substantially lower levels of embodied GHG emissions, which will play an essential role in decarbonizing the U.S. economy. Measuring and labeling GHG emissions in construction materials and products is a challenging task. As such, the DCA urges the EPA to devote the necessary time and attention to developing standards that can be replicated by other agencies. Additionally, as the EPA develops this program, the DCA urges the Agency to work with industry stakeholders to promote the utilization of digital technologies to ensure that environmental product declarations are transparent and accurate, which will accelerate the decarbonization of the U.S.'s transportation sector and federal buildings.

As the EPA implements the IRA, the DCA would like to meet with the Agency to collaborate and explore additional opportunities to utilize digital technologies to help standardize corporate GHG emissions reporting.

Respectfully,

Digital Climate Alliance

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Autodesk, Inc., Baker Hughes, Black & Veatch, Dell Technologies, Enel, Intel Corporation, Johnson Controls, Nautilus Data Technologies, Project Canary, Schneider Electric, Trane Technologies, Water Foundry