



Bay Area  
Climate Change  
Council

Bay Area Climate Change Council  
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COW, March 4, 2024  
EICS-02-24

Correspondence from Jesse Elders representing  
the Bay Area Climate Change Council

March 1, 2024

Dear Members of Council,

**RE: Burlington solar incentive proposal**

The Bay Area Climate Change Council (“BACCC”) submits this letter in support of the proposal for a pilot incentive program to cover the cost of a building permit for solar system installations in the City of Burlington.

Renewable energy plays a crucial role in our fight against climate change. Unlike fossil fuels, renewable energy sources such as solar produce little to no greenhouse gas emissions during operation. By transitioning to renewable energy sources, we can significantly reduce the amount of carbon dioxide and other pollutants released into the atmosphere, mitigating the impact of global warming and climate change. Local renewable energy sources can also enhance local energy independence and security.

The City of Burlington should play a leadership role in the promotion of local renewable energy generation as part of its commitment to achieve net zero by 2050. As noted by the McMaster Community Engagement Project (Appendix B to Report EICS-11-22 in 2022), incentive programs catalyze local transition to green energy by delivering a market signal that encourages residents to pursue low-carbon choices (pg. 8). With incentives favouring the low-carbon choice, we are more likely to achieve our community climate goals.

BACCC is a multi-sector collective of organizations across Hamilton and Burlington who have come together to catalyze climate action in our communities. Members of BACCC and our implementation teams represent organizations in the municipal, non-profit, education and private sectors, and include citizen and Indigenous representatives. BACCC develops and advocates for climate change policies that reduce emissions in buildings, transportation networks, and local industry in order to reach net zero carbon by 2050.

We thank the Council for its consideration. Please do not hesitate to contact us with questions.

Sincerely,

**Jesse Elders**  
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