

Green CHIPS Sustainability Plan Template

DRAFT SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Instructions: To be eligible for the enhanced Green CHIPS benefits under the Excelsior Jobs Tax Credit program, applicants must submit a Green CHIPS Sustainability Plan to ESD for approval. Each Green CHIPS sustainability plan must describe the **project's annual milestones and specific and actionable commitments with respect to the methods being employed to mitigate the project's greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions over its lifetime as a program participant.** Please complete all sections as thoroughly as possible. Appendices can be provided, where needed.

Describe your overall plan for making specific, actionable sustainability commitments with regard to the project. Such plans may include, but need not be limited to, requirements relating to the use of renewable energy for project electricity, energy efficient design and operation, the use of electrification for space heating and cooling, investments to encourage or promote sustainable housing, achievement of minimum Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) standards for project facilities, and other measures intended to mitigate GHG emissions over the project's lifetime and support the goals of the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act (CLCPA).

In addition to the overall plan outlined above, a participant's Green CHIPS Sustainability Plan must address, at a minimum, the following specific elements. Please provide specific details on the investment you expect to make and milestones that will be achieved by your company in the following required areas. Details should include the specific methods, measures, and annual goals/milestones anticipated. Applicants are encouraged to be aggressive and exceed these requirements wherever possible

1. Electricity

Green CHIPS participants will be required to utilize 100% renewable energy for electricity in their operations and maintain that 100% renewable energy for electricity supply for the duration of the project.

- a) **How will your project meet this requirement?** *Specific actions may include, but need not be limited to, direct renewable energy project investments, renewable project offtake or power purchase agreements, procurement of renewable energy credits, and onsite renewable energy installations – all with appropriate claims of ownership of environmental attributes.*

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- b) **If applicable, discuss any additional measures** beyond this requirement you plan to undertake. *ESD encourages applicants to include additional commitments such as, but not limited to, plans to prioritize in-state sources of renewable energy, install on-site renewable energy systems and on-site battery storage systems, support for community solar or similar local clean energy projects, and 24/7 or other time matching-based renewable purchase commitments.*

2. Operations

Green CHIPS Participants will be required to agree to GHG emissions standards specific to the project that are reasonable and achievable given the state of technology advancements, and to create a plan to reduce GHG emissions over the life of the project.

- a) **Discuss how you will work with ESD to set a GHG emissions standard.** *Please describe plans to use best available control technology for mitigating and controlling GHG emissions from the commencement of the project's operations and implement commercially reasonable upgrades to maintain best available control technology for GHG mitigation over the life of the project.*
- b) **Describe how you intend to reduce process emissions and the prospects for significant emissions reduction.** In answering this question, please describe any plans or commitments to achieve significant emissions reduction over the lifetime of the project that go beyond commercially reasonable upgrades, including specific investments and measures to achieve the aim of reaching net zero emissions by 2050. In referencing any such aims, please refer and make reference to the [commitments](#) of the Semiconductor Climate Consortium (SCC), the U.N. panel's "Integrity Matters" [report](#) on net zero commitments, and to the specific [GHG emissions accounting](#) policies under New York's Climate Act.
- c) **If applicable, discuss any additional measures** beyond those required to mitigate GHG emissions from project operations. *ESD encourages applicants to include measures such as, but not limited to:*
- *Utilizing green hydrogen (hydrogen formed through electrolysis powered by renewable electricity, without GHG emissions) to displace or replace natural gas and gray hydrogen consumption;*
 - *Supporting or participating in New York's federal Hydrogen Hub development or other state-led research, market development, and policy initiatives; and*
 - *Pursuing other clean measures such as geothermal heat pumps for space heating and cooling loads.*
- d) Applicants are encouraged to incorporate New York State-based universities or other programs in research and development activities related to reducing emissions from facility operations. Please discuss any such commitments here.

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3. Buildings

Green CHIPS Participants must achieve and maintain a minimum Gold LEED status for all Fabs and office buildings, and make commercially reasonable efforts to achieve Platinum status at all Fabs and office buildings.

a) Discuss how you will meet this requirement. *In answering this question, please describe construction and operating plans that would contribute to your ability to obtain LEED status, including efficient, all electric/fossil free office buildings and non-manufacturing space.*

b) If applicable, discuss any additional efforts beyond those required that you plan to include to further reduce emissions associated with project buildings. *ESD encourages applicants to include measures such as, but not limited to, energy efficiency and electrification, encouraging contractors to utilize low-carbon construction vehicles and equipment; incorporating regional low-carbon building materials (green steel, green cement, mass timber, etc.) into construction; and providing support or opportunities for sustainable housing for employees.*

4. Transportation:

Green CHIPS participants will be required to facilitate low- and zero-emissions transportation opportunities related to the project.

a) Describe commitments you will make to install infrastructure for charging or fueling clean vehicles for employee, contractor, and company fleet use.

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- b) Discuss your plan for supporting public transportation or alternative transportation options for employees.** *Plans can include measures supporting smart growth, integrating facilities into public transportation services, and providing incentives for businesses to accommodate non-vehicular commuting, including: employee-based trip reduction programs, low-/no-cost transit passes for employees, micro-transit options for employees, ride-sharing programs, bike-sharing and scooter-sharing; and cycling accommodations).*

- c) If applicable, please discuss any additional measures** to reduce emissions from transportation associated with the project. *ESD encourages applicants to include measures such as, but not limited to, the development of an employee EV purchase program and/or employer-sponsored incentives.*

5. Water

Green CHIPS participants will be required to implement water conservation and efficiency measures. Such measures should target at least 75 percent water conservation reuse, recycling, and restoration by 2030.

- a) Discuss how you will meet this requirement.** *Specific plans should include a discussion of the resources you would utilize to ensure you are able to meet this goal and the metrics you would use to assess progress year over year.*

- b) If applicable, discuss any additional measures** beyond these requirements you plan to utilize. *ESD encourages applicants to include measures such as, but not limited to, the utilization of green infrastructure such as permeable pavement, stormwater runoff management solutions, and sustainable wastewater management.*

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6. Waste

Green CHIPS participants will be required to implement waste reduction and management measures. Such efforts should target at least 95 percent reuse, recycling, and recovery of waste and, to the extent feasible, sending zero hazardous waste to landfills by 2030.

- a) **Discuss how you will meet this requirement.** *Specific plans should include a discussion of the resources you would utilize to ensure you are able to meet this goal and the metrics you would use to assess progress year over year.*

7. Additional Plans

Please describe any additional sustainability-related plans or commitments. These may include community benefit projects that incorporate clean energy or sustainability solutions, support for procurement of in-state industries or suppliers of sustainability-focused products and services, and holding supplier and contractor forums or events targeted to in-state construction, engineering, and other firms that could support sustainability requirements and needs.