



# Community Energy Innovation Prize



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## Climate Equity Module for the Climate Tech Manufacturing Ecosystem

IMPACT Phase

# Impact Plan

The Scale for ClimateTech (S4C) program, led by SecondMuse in partnership with NYSERDA and key regional Manufacturing Extension Partnerships (MEPs), is committed to fostering a just and equitable clean energy transition within New York State's manufacturing ecosystem.

SecondMuse (2M) is an impact and innovation company dedicated to collaborating with communities focused on climate, equity, and technology to tackle global challenges. In partnership with NYSERDA, 2M launched the S4C program alongside NextCorps in 2018. Over the past seven years, S4C has transformed the climate tech manufacturing sector, helping startups achieve manufacturing success through a cohort-based model, a Manufacturer Readiness Level (MRL)-based curriculum, and critical connections to manufacturers and technical experts. Additionally, S4C has partnered with New York MEP centers across the state, engaging a vast network of supply-chain and contract manufacturing service providers to drive growth and innovation statewide.

Recognizing the need to extend education and guidance beyond traditional startups, particularly in the realm of climate equity, S4C introduced a critical new component for the fifth cohort in 2024: the Climate Equity Module (CEM). This module was developed in response to the pressing need for climate tech solutions that are inclusive and equitable. It consists of tailored workshops, mentorship, and accountability sessions designed to align cohort members with a mission of achieving meaningful and equitable climate impacts. By integrating this module into our program, S4C aims to ensure that climate solutions are not only innovative but also accessible and beneficial to all, especially historically marginalized communities.

The importance of the Climate Equity Module lies in its focus on embedding equity into the very fabric of climate tech manufacturing. Many traditional approaches to manufacturing have lacked diversity and inclusivity, often leaving out disadvantaged groups. The Climate Equity Module addresses this gap by educating and empowering startups and manufacturers to consider equity in their decision-making and operations, ensuring that climate advancements do not come at the expense of vulnerable populations. By adapting this module specifically for the manufacturing demographic, S4C seeks to drive systemic change, helping manufacturers understand and implement practices that promote environmental justice and equitable resource distribution.

Utilizing funds from the Community Energy Innovation Prize IMPACT phase, S4C will continue to expand the Climate Equity Module to all MEP centers in New York State. This effort will foster a shared vision of innovation, equity, and resilience, empowering local manufacturers and climate tech startups to adopt sustainable and inclusive practices. Through robust community engagement, strategic partnerships, workforce development initiatives, and collaboration with MEP centers, S4C is laying the groundwork for a resilient, equitable, and innovation-driven manufacturing sector that benefits all New Yorkers, particularly those historically marginalized.

## **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND PARTNERSHIPS**

The S4C program has made notable progress in engaging disadvantaged communities by forming strategic partnerships, hosting tailored workshops, and implementing capacity-building initiatives. Our approach aims to build trust, increase community involvement, and empower these groups to actively participate in climate tech advancements. For example, at the Brooklyn Chambers of Commerce Summit and Expo in June of this year, we worked with organizations like the Red Hook Initiative to gain a deeper understanding of how climate tech manufacturing

affects marginalized populations. These insights have shaped our strategies to ensure our efforts are aligned with the communities' values and needs. Our engagement strategy emphasizes consistent dialogue, collaboration with community-based organizations, and strategic partnerships with regional MEP centers, focusing on trust-building through relevant and responsive content.

S4C has also leveraged its growing partnership with the Northwest Xcelerator (NWX), a program dedicated to supporting Black and underserved entrepreneurs in developing pioneering climate tech solutions. NWX focuses on driving the growth of community-owned businesses in this sector through education, engagement, empowerment, and investment. As it looks to the future, NWX aims to expand and develop new capabilities to further support climate tech innovation among Black and underserved entrepreneurs. Jade Garrett, Interim CEO of NWX, and Todd Khozein, CEO and Co-Founder of SecondMuse, recently joined a fireside chat at Newlab's New Climate Future event during New York Climate Week. The discussion, titled "Accelerating Innovative Climate Technologies by Underrepresented Founders for Underserved Communities," was well-received and underscored the critical need to thoughtfully engage communities in the design and implementation of climate tech solutions.

Our partnerships span a wide and impactful network, critical to advancing our Climate Equity Module and fostering a sustainable and inclusive manufacturing ecosystem. The New York Manufacturing Extension Partnership (MEP) system, supported by the federal National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), comprises eleven centers across the state, each dedicated to enhancing the competitiveness of small and medium-sized manufacturers. These MEP centers provide a range of services, including process optimization, workforce development, and technology commercialization, making them invaluable allies in promoting equitable and sustainable manufacturing practices.

We have established long-standing and strong relationships with the following MEP centers:

1. NextCorps: Based in the Finger Lakes region, NextCorps is a nonprofit MEP dedicated to supporting innovative tech companies in launching and scaling their operations. They operate multiple incubator and accelerator programs, including those focused on climate tech. Since 2018, SecondMuse has partnered with NextCorps to deliver the S4C program, which advances clean energy hardware from prototypes to commercial products. This collaboration has been instrumental in our joint efforts to promote clean energy innovation and ensure that climate tech startups have the resources needed for manufacturing success.
2. FuzeHub: As the statewide MEP center, FuzeHub connects New York manufacturers and technology companies with a vast network of experts and resources to solve productivity, commercialization, and R&D challenges. FuzeHub has been a pivotal partner in planning and promoting our CEM workshops, using its multiple marketing channels to reach manufacturers and supply chain partners across the state. Our collaboration leverages FuzeHub's strategic guidance and outreach capabilities, ensuring our climate equity efforts are well-supported and widely disseminated.
3. ITAC: Serving as the New York City MEP, ITAC focuses on reinvigorating manufacturing in NYC by helping companies become more competitive through process improvements, market expansion, and sustainability practices. Our nearly decade-long partnership with

ITAC, which began with the FutureWorks NYC Incubator, has continued with the delivery of our CEM. ITAC's emphasis on supporting minority-owned businesses and promoting sustainable practices aligns seamlessly with our mission to advance equity in the manufacturing ecosystem.

4. MTRC (rebranded as LIMEP): Located at Stony Brook University, MTRC/LIMEP is the Long Island MEP center and serves as a hub for innovation and industry partnerships. They support over 3,000 manufacturers on Long Island through consulting, workforce training, and supply chain engagement. Our partnership is particularly important for engaging with a large manufacturing base and connecting climate tech startups to regional opportunities [\[08\]](#).

These collaborations have significantly expanded S4C's reach and promoted equitable manufacturing practices. These partnerships have been essential in addressing critical needs identified through our engagement with MEP centers across New York State, such as workforce development, sustainable practices, and supply chain resilience. For example, Central New York's TDO focuses on upskilling to close workforce skill gaps, while ITAC offers strategic support to minority-owned businesses. By leveraging these specific relationships, we are well-positioned to advance equitable workforce development and drive a community-centered clean energy transition.

Further, engagements revealed critical needs, including workforce development to address skill gaps and the integration of sustainable practices within manufacturing. Community members emphasized the importance of local economic opportunities and equitable access to clean energy resources. Other key lessons include the necessity of framing climate equity in terms of tangible business benefits and the value of customizing engagement to community-specific challenges. These insights shaped our Climate Equity Module to be more practical and relevant for diverse stakeholders. The module emphasizes fair resource distribution, inclusive decision-making, and participatory governance, incorporating feedback and lessons from our community engagement efforts.

In July, our first workshop was specifically designed for MEP Directors, who are familiar with the Justice40 Initiative and its funding implications. In attendance were the Directors from each of the NY Regional MEPs along with a representative from the Empire State Development Corporation. The workshop opened with a high-level overview of the concept of climate equity and why it is important from an ethical, strategic, and financial standpoint. The Riffle Ventures team then dove a bit deeper into aspects of "equity in" (i.e. focusing on hiring processes, responsible supply chain, and representative leadership) and "equity out" (i.e. affordable innovation, community partnerships, and local economic benefits).

The S4C team elaborated on specifically relevant ways in which equity can show up using case studies from manufacturing and supply chain processes, focusing on responsible supply chains, workforce development, and community engagement. The goal of this workshop was to secure buy-in from the MEP Directors with these topics to get their support in promoting the second workshop to the manufacturers and supply chain partners in their respective regions.

The upcoming second workshop, scheduled for November 19, will shift focus to manufacturers, emphasizing the business case for integrating aspects of the Climate Equity Module. This

session will highlight the tangible benefits such as improved business performance, enhanced innovation, and alignment with climate goals.

While we have seen significant successes, such as securing FuzeHub’s support and effectively adapting our content for diverse audiences, challenges remain. Customizing content for various manufacturing sectors and sustaining long-term engagement are ongoing areas of focus. We have buy-in from multiple NY MEPs to date, but still require more formalized support from the remaining few. We will address these challenges through strategic communication, partnerships, and a robust evaluation framework to develop and maintain trust and relevance.

We also recognize that Diversity Equity and Inclusion (DEI) has become a controversial topic in some circles, posing challenges to the widespread acceptance of our Climate Equity Module. To navigate this, we will focus on demonstrating the practical business benefits of DEI, including increased competitiveness, improved employee retention, and enhanced innovation. By framing climate equity in terms of measurable outcomes and shared value, we aim to foster broader acceptance. Our commitment to open dialogue and adaptability ensures that our initiatives remain valuable and beneficial to diverse audiences.

**FOSTERING A CLEAN ENERGY MANUFACTURING ECOSYSTEM**

Our research, informed by recent data from MEP centers across New York State, has revealed several key trends that are driving our strategic approach. Workforce development emerged as a top priority, with initiatives like ITAC’s consulting programs and MTEC’s internship offerings helping to address critical skill gaps. Supply chain resilience was another major focus, exemplified by Insyte Consulting’s work on the Shift 2.0 program. These trends have been incorporated into the Climate Equity Module to meet the evolving needs of manufacturers, ensuring that our strategies are both data-driven and aligned with regional economic goals. This research highlights the importance of integrating equity into sustainable manufacturing practices and underscores opportunities for growth and innovation.

Looking ahead, our future steps involve elaborating on and expanding the Climate Equity Module statewide and collaborating with entities like NYSERDA and the Empire State Development Corporation to promote clean energy initiatives. By leveraging incentives such as the Sales Tax Exemption for Manufacturers and the Energy Cost Savings Program, S4C aims to support manufacturers in adopting sustainable practices. We will continue to prioritize resilience and equitable access to green jobs, guided by lessons from successful workforce training efforts, such as those led by Insyte Consulting.

**PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION AND RESULTS**

Funds from the CONCEPT and PROGRESS phases were used to design the Climate Equity Module overviews, conduct workshops, and engage stakeholders. This funding supported research, deck development, and outreach efforts.

Figure 1: CEP Core Team

Category	Area of Expertise	Qualifications	Indicative Personnel	Location
Senior VP (North America Programs)	Responsible for management, oversight, and client engagement.	Masters Degree and over 15 years experience: Global Head	Katey Metzroth	New York, NY

<b>ClimateTech Director</b>	Core subject matter expertise level experience and thought leadership. Responsible for managing the platform, personnel, and strategy.	Masters Degree and over 10 years experience: Director	Shai Fogelson	New York, NY
<b>Senior Associate</b>	Responsible for day-to-day management and operations of the platform,	Masters Degree and over 3 years of experience: Senior Associate	Sanya Srivastava	Chicago, IL
<b>Specialist</b>	Subject Matter Expert with industry-leading expertise leading the equity module	Masters Degree and over 20 years of experience	Suma Reddy	New York, NY

Our commitment to diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility is embedded in every aspect of our organization and extends far beyond our programming. It shapes our recruitment and selection processes, influences our approach to compensation and benefits, and guides professional development, training, promotions, and internal transfers. We are dedicated to maintaining a work environment grounded in principles of gender and diversity equity. Key members such as Shai Fogelson and Lara Croushore have been instrumental in implementing our programs, while Suma Reddy's expertise in climate equity has significantly enhanced the Climate Equity Module, ensuring it effectively addresses the needs of disadvantaged communities.

Partnerships with NextCorps, which supports clean energy innovation, and Insyte Consulting, known for effective workforce development with urban minority communities, have ensured impactful program delivery. Additionally, successful case studies, such as those from Tremont Materials and Li-Cycle Corp., illustrate how sustainability and community impact can be effectively integrated into manufacturing practices.

Figure 2: S4C CEP Metrics

Goal	Metric (SMART)	Measurement	Progress
To track the percentage of MEPs in attendance at the Climate Equity Module workshops	To accurately track and report the attendance of MEPs at the workshops, by manually checking in participants at the entrance, to achieve a minimum percentage of 80%.	Percentage of MEPs in attendance for Climate Equity Module workshops	SET TO BE COMPLETED - The workshop held on 7/22 included the MEP Directors from each of New York's MEP regions. For the upcoming workshop on 11/19, every MEP has been contacted to distribute the announcement to their regional manufacturers and



			supply chain partners.
To track the number of workshop participants who report an increased awareness of climate equity concepts upon completion of the Climate Equity Module workshops	To accurately track and report the number of workshop participants who report an increased awareness of climate equity concepts upon completion of the Climate Equity Module Workshop via self-reported answers on a post-workshop survey, to achieve a minimum percentage of 75%.	Percentage of workshop participants reporting an increased awareness of climate equity concepts	SET TO BE COMPLETED - The first workshop on 7/22/24 included the Directors of the NY MEPs. With their commitment to sharing the invitation for the upcoming workshop on 11/19/24 throughout their MEP Network, we are confident that awareness of climate equity concepts has grown. Survey results will be provided after the completion of the second workshop..
To track the adoption of the Climate Equity Module within MEPs	To accurately track and report the percentage of MEP centers who agree to adopt and implement the Climate Equity Module in their practice, to achieve a minimum percentage of 75%.	Percentage of MEP centers adopting the Climate Equity Module	SET TO BE COMPLETED - The first workshop took place on 7/22/24, and a second is scheduled for 11/19/24. We have already secured letters of support from four MEPs, expressing their interest in collaborating with SecondMuse on this Climate Equity initiative.

Revisiting the initial plan and list of deliverables we proposed in the first phase of this prize (CONCEPT), we have made significant progress. The first workshop held on 7/22/24, successfully brought together MEP Directors from all regions of New York, marking an important milestone in our engagement efforts. Multiple Directors have committed to promoting the upcoming workshop on 11/19/24 throughout their MEP Network, helping to expand

awareness of climate equity concepts among regional manufacturers and supply chain partners. We have put together a comprehensive resource guide for public dissemination as well. We have also secured letters of support from four MEPs, demonstrating strong interest in ongoing collaboration with SecondMuse on our Climate Equity work.

Engagements with industry leaders like Brite Energy, mHUB, and SDA Metals Hub over the course of this prize competition have underscored the importance of workforce development and supply chain resilience. These insights have been incorporated into the CEM to ensure that startups are equipped for equitable and sustainable manufacturing practices. Our metrics reflect our progress: we achieved 100% attendance from NY MEPs at the first workshop, with participants leaving with increased awareness of climate equity. We aim to achieve 75% adoption of our Climate Equity Module among MEP centers, with ongoing monitoring and evaluation to track progress and impact.

Due to the labor-intensive nature of video production, we were unable to create video content for this phase. However, we have provided a comprehensive list of resource offerings, which serves as an alternative means for stakeholders to effectively absorb and engage with the materials.

Additionally, we chose not to conduct the workshops in person at FuzeHub. Given the geographic distribution of the MEPs across New York State, a virtual format made more sense logistically, allowing for greater accessibility and participation from all regions. Lastly, we were unable to complete the second workshop before the submission deadline due to scheduling conflicts with the MEPs.

Figure 3: Workshop #2

The image shows a screenshot of a virtual event registration page. The event title is "Integrating Climate & Equitable Friendly Approaches into your Business". The date is Tuesday, November 19, 2024, from 1:00 PM to 2:00 PM EST. The event is virtual. The registration status is "Approval Required", with a note that registration is subject to approval by the host. The host is Shai Fogelson, with the email shai.fogelson@secondmuse.com. There is a "One-Click Apply" button. The event is hosted by Shai Fogelson and Sanya Srivastava. Logos for New York Manufacturing Extension Partnership, SecondMuse, and RIFFLE are visible. A "Manage" button is also present.

Our second virtual workshop is scheduled for November 19, 2024, after the November 15 deadline for this Impact Report. This timing allows us to engage effectively with our second



audience group, which is essential for the program's success. Although the results will not be included in the written report, we will share key outcomes and insights during our live presentation, offering a more comprehensive understanding of the workshop's impact and our ongoing efforts to advance climate equity.

### **PROJECTED IMPACTS AND SUSTAINABILITY PLAN**

Our vision is to create a sustainable and inclusive manufacturing ecosystem that empowers marginalized communities through equitable access to clean energy opportunities and economic growth. We envision a clean energy landscape where economic opportunities are accessible to all, supported by a sustainable manufacturing ecosystem that prioritizes equity and environmental justice. This vision emphasizes workforce development and the creation of resilient green infrastructure to support long-term community and environmental well-being.

What sets S4C apart to advance this vision in the IMPACT phase of this competition is our uniquely scalable Climate Equity Module (CEM). Currently implemented in collaboration with New York MEPs, our module is designed to be adaptable and has the potential to expand state by state or even nationally through national networks like NIST. Our strategic partners, such as Riffle Ventures, which operates across the country, and our organization, SecondMuse (2M), with a national and global presence, make this scalability feasible.

Furthermore, the Climate Equity Module is crafted to be accessible and relevant in diverse settings, and our "train the trainer" approach empowers local stakeholders with the skills necessary to sustain climate equity practices. This method ensures that once we have equipped communities and organizations, we can step back and move on to support other companies, fostering independent growth and innovation.

If we secure funding from the final phase, we will allocate resources to further assess and refine the CEM into more formalized modules as well as host additional workshops. These sessions will enable us to collect feedback from a wide range of stakeholders, ensuring the module remains relevant, impactful, and adaptable to evolving community and industry needs. Our commitment to continuous improvement and real-world responsiveness will keep the CEM at the forefront of climate equity advancements.

To ensure the program's sustainability, S4C will also pursue a variety of funding streams. We plan to leverage NYSEDA grants and tax incentives, such as the Investment Tax Credit, to secure financial stability. Additionally, ongoing collaboration with organizations like MACNY and NIST will be key to maintaining resources and extending our reach and impact. Lastly, we have received interest in the past and will continue to pursue private philanthropy to help grow this body of work as the topic of climate equity fits squarely within many philanthropic portfolios.

Our post-prize efforts will also focus on driving the widespread adoption of equitable and sustainable practices within SecondMuse's other suite of entrepreneur support programs and engagements in New York and across the country. We envision this initiative creating a ripple effect that empowers more startups, builds a skilled and diverse workforce, and fosters sustainable economic development in disadvantaged regions. By prioritizing equitable workforce development, the Climate Equity Module will continue to support a robust and inclusive clean energy transition across New York State, contributing to economic growth and community resilience.

## **CONCLUSION**

In conclusion, the Scale for ClimateTech (S4C) program is committed to creating a more inclusive and equitable clean energy manufacturing ecosystem across New York State and beyond. By expanding the Climate Equity Module and partnering with Manufacturing Extension Partnerships (MEPs), S4C equips climate tech innovators and manufacturers with the tools and knowledge needed to integrate climate equity into their operations. Our strategic focus on workforce development, community engagement, and supply chain sustainability ensures that the benefits of the clean energy transition are accessible to all, particularly marginalized communities.

As we continue to foster collaboration, adapt to evolving needs, and secure ongoing funding, S4C is dedicated to driving lasting impact and empowering the next generation of climate tech solutions. Our efforts will yield a more skilled and diverse workforce, strengthen community resilience, and promote widespread adoption of equitable manufacturing practices, paving the way for a cleaner, fairer, and more prosperous future that prioritizes environmental justice and equitable opportunities.



November 8th, 2024

Katey Metzroth, Head of North America Business Unit  
SecondMuse, LLC  
1 Dock 72 Way,  
Brooklyn, NY 11205

Re: Supporting SecondMuse's proposal for DOE's CEI Prize Phase 3 - Manufacturing Ecosystem Track

Dear Ms. Metzroth,

We are excited to provide a letter of support to SecondMuse on their DOE's Community Energy Innovation Prize - Manufacturing Ecosystem Track proposal submission for Phase 3. We continue to believe in SecondMuse's design and delivery of a Climate Equity Module to Manufacturing Extension Partners (MEPs) across NY State utilizing learnings from similar curriculum provided to climate tech startup companies in their Scale For ClimateTech accelerator program.

We are confident that SecondMuse can deliver on this Climate Equity Module by leaning on its extensive experience in designing and delivering hard tech manufacturing curriculum and resources to key climate stakeholders across regional, national, and global ecosystems. Additionally, their core mission to foster fair and equitable economies by prioritizing justice for marginalized and disadvantaged communities makes them ideally primed to deliver on this module. This confidence is further bolstered by SecondMuse's proposal having already advanced to the final phase of this prize competition.

As the statewide NY Manufacturing Extension Partnership Center (NY MEP), FuzeHub's mission is to provide New York State manufacturers and technology companies with guided access to our extensive network of industry experts, programs and assets to solve productivity, commercialization, research and development issues, and other challenges to growth. We have a history of working with SecondMuse to leverage FuzeHub's programs and events to further the success of the Scale For ClimateTech. In addition, we are well positioned to promote manufacturing and supply chain news and opportunities statewide through our multiple marketing and media channels as well as assist in matchmaking to NYS Ecosystem assets and businesses.

We were happy to host their team for a virtual Climate Equity workshop with the Directors of all NY MEPs on July 22nd as well as promoting their second virtual workshop coming up on November 19th to our regional manufacturer and supply chain partners. Lastly, we are interested in continuing to work with SecondMuse in sharing their resources through our channels going forward.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Elena Garuc', written in a cursive style.

Elena Garuc, Executive Director, FuzeHub



**Delivering Results to  
NYC Manufacturers**

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November 11, 2024

Katey Metzroth  
Head of North America Business Unit  
SecondMuse, LLC  
1 Dock 72 Way,  
Brooklyn, NY 11205

Re: Supporting SecondMuse's proposal for DOE's CEI Prize Phase 3 - Manufacturing Ecosystem Track

Dear Ms. Metzroth,

We are excited to provide a letter of support to SecondMuse on their DOE's Community Energy Innovation Prize - Manufacturing Ecosystem Track proposal submission for Phase 3.

We are confident that SecondMuse's mission to foster fair and equitable economies by prioritizing justice for marginalized and disadvantaged communities makes them ideally primed to deliver on this Climate Equity module. This confidence is further bolstered by SecondMuse's proposal having already advanced to the final phase of this prize competition.

ITAC is the New York City Center for the National Institute of Standards (NIST) Manufacturing Extension Partnership (MEP) federal program, which is dedicated to reinvigorating US manufacturing. As one of eleven designated MEPS within New York State, ITAC helps to grow manufacturing and technology companies in New York City. More specifically, we help them become more competitive and grow their top and bottom lines, by helping them expand into new markets, create innovative products, develop their customer base, find new partners, improve their processes and develop sustainable practices.

ITAC has promoted SecondMuse's first virtual workshop on July 22nd, 2024 and is also promoting their second virtual workshop coming up on November 19th. We are also interested in continuing to work with SecondMuse in sharing their resources through our channels going forward.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K.Y. - E.S.'.

Kinda Younes  
Executive Director



November 8th, 2024  
Katey Metzroth, Head of North America Business Unit  
SecondMuse, LLC  
1 Dock 72 Way,  
Brooklyn, NY 11205

Re: Supporting SecondMuse's proposal for DOE's CEI Prize Phase 3 - Manufacturing Ecosystem Track

Dear Ms. Metzroth,

NextCorps is pleased to provide this letter of support to SecondMuse for your DOE Community Energy Innovation Prize - Manufacturing Ecosystem Track proposal submission for Phase 3. We continue to believe in SecondMuse's goals of bringing Climate Equity education and tools to businesses across New York State.

We are confident that SecondMuse will deliver on its Climate Equity Module by leaning on its extensive experience in designing and delivering curriculum and resources to key climate stakeholders across regional, national, and global ecosystems. Additionally, their core mission to foster fair and equitable economies by prioritizing justice for marginalized and disadvantaged communities makes them ideally primed to deliver on this module. This confidence is further bolstered by SecondMuse's proposal having already advanced to the final phase of this prize competition.

NextCorps is a nonprofit whose mission is to help innovative tech companies launch and grow. Today we operate six different programs which include startup incubator and accelerator programs (including in the climate tech space), as well as manufacturing consulting services as a regional center of the New York Manufacturing Extension Partnership. New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) has supported a SecondMuse and NextCorps partnership since April 2018 for the creation and delivery of the "Scale For Climate Tech" program, which advances clean energy hardware devices from prototype stages to commercial production and market availability. The Scale For Climate Tech program has been a success and has become an important part of New York's value proposition to climate tech innovators around the world. Additionally our teams have partnered on the creation and delivery of the "Venture For Climate Tech" program since 2020, a global venture studio + accelerator program designed to connect founders with other leaders and provide tools, training, talent, and non-dilutive funding to launch their company around impactful ClimateTech innovations.

NextCorps has been promoting SecondMuse's upcoming virtual Climate Equity workshop coming up on November 19th to our regional manufacturer and supply chain partners. And we are interested in continuing to work with SecondMuse in sharing their resources through our channels going forward.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "James S. Senall".

James Senall, President, NextCorps

November 8th, 2024

Katey Metzroth, Head of North America Business Unit  
SecondMuse, LLC  
1 Dock 72 Way,  
Brooklyn, NY 11205

Re: Supporting SecondMuse's proposal for DOE's CEI Prize Phase 3 - Manufacturing Ecosystem Track

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Stony Brook University (SBU), part of the State University of New York (SUNY) system, serves as the region's hub for innovation and industry partnerships, collaborating with over 900 researchers, including their unique partnership with Brookhaven National Laboratory. MTRC (rebranded as LIMEP) aims to empower over 3,000 manufacturers who call Long Island, New York their home. By providing consulting and workforce training to small and medium sized companies, MTRC (rebranded as LIMEP), the official Manufacturing Extension Partnership (MEP) center for the Long Island region, assists manufacturers to increase profits, stimulate job creation, and engage with larger companies who can help to expand their supply chain options.

We look forward to hosting their team for a virtual Climate Equity workshop with the directors of all NY MEPs on July 22nd, 2024 as well as promoting their second virtual workshop coming up on November 19th to our regional manufacturer and supply chain partners. Lastly, we are interested in continuing to work with SecondMuse in sharing their resources through our channels going forward.

Sincerely,



Amy Erickson, Executive Director, MTRC (rebranded to LIMEP)