FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 28, 2026
Ally Beshouri, ally@migbc.org, 616-691-1234

MiGBC MICHIGAN GREEN BUILDING COLLABORATIVE
A USGBC COMMUNITY

Michigan Green Building Collaborative awarded "MI Climate Challenge: Go Big, Go Clean" Grant to Drive Statewide Industrial Decarbonization

LANSING, MI. — The Michigan Green Building Collaborative (MiGBC) has been selected as one of five awardees in the state's "**MI Climate Challenge: Go Big, Go Clean"** initiative. The challenge is a statewide program designed to accelerate industrial decarbonization, improve energy efficiency, and advance clean energy adoption across Michigan's manufacturing sector.

In partnership with Foresight Management and the Michigan State University Industrial Training and Assessment Center (MSU ITAC), the Michigan Industrial Transition Team (MITT) will deliver technical resources, workforce development training, and fully funded decarbonization feasibility assessments to participating industrial facilities.

"MiGBC is excited for the opportunity to do what we do best: collaboration. We are bringing together industrial experts, facility leaders, and the next generation of talent to create decarbonization paths that actually work for Michigan manufacturers."

-Audrey Whaling, Program Manager, MiGBC

Using a cohort model, the project brings together facilities with similar operational profiles to solve shared challenges, exchange peer-to-peer insights, and inform statewide sustainability strategies. The two cohorts include:

- **Metals in Motion Cohort:** Focused on heavy metal processes within Michigan's automotive supply chain.
- **State of the Systems Cohort:** Evaluating high-volume manufacturing and assembly operations with large physical footprints.

Foresight Management will serve as the technical lead, managing facility engagement, on-site energy audits, and feasibility modeling. Facilities will receive step-by-step

guidance through the assessment and implementation planning stages, positioning them as clean energy leaders.

> *"Foresight has helped global manufacturing companies build corporate decarbonization strategies. We are so excited to take the lessons learned across the globe and apply them to Michigan based businesses in our backyard!"*
>
> *-Mike Troupos, Vice President, Foresight Management*

What makes this project especially unique is the integration of hands-on education through MSU ITAC. MSU engineering students will participate directly in facility assessments and gather real-world data to help update university curriculum, preparing the next generation of energy professionals.

> *"We look forward to bringing this expertise and experience to the team and also taking the findings of what is learned from this effort and translating this into lessons learned that can be used to help the Michigan manufacturing sector as a whole and the future workforce that we are training. "*
>
> *-Dr. Kristen Cetin, Director of Michigan State University ITAC*

The initiative aims to deliver translatable decarbonization models that safeguard Michigan's manufacturing leadership while defining the key conditions required for long-term success.

Participants and partners are also invited to join the MI Industrial Clean Innovation Partnership, a public-private network designed to accelerate real-world deployment of clean technologies.

To learn more and stay up to date on this work, join the Michigan Green Building Collaborative Newsletter.

About the Michigan Green Building Collaborative

The Michigan Green Building Collaborative (MiGBC) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit working to transform the way buildings and communities are designed, built, and operated in a way that improves the quality of life in Michigan. The organization accomplishes its mission through education, advocacy, and collaboration through programs such as the Grand Rapids 2030 District, the Lansing 2030 District, and Michigan Battle of the Buildings. Additionally, MiGBC drives the decarbonization of Michigan's built environment by bridging

technical experts, building owners, utility companies, local government, and policymakers. By developing programs, tools, and resources, MiGBC works to lower barriers to energy efficiency, electrification, and renewable energy projects.

About Foresight Management

Foresight Management, founded in 2007 and headquartered in Grand Rapids, is a multidisciplinary engineering and sustainability firm that supports over 3,000 global manufacturing facilities annually. They combine advanced data tracking, facility energy procurement, and industrial engineering to design scalable decarbonization frameworks. Foresight serves as the technical lead on this project, providing complete oversight of the feasibility study work.

About the MSU Industrial Training and Assessment Center

Established in 2021 and funded by the U.S. Department of Energy, the Michigan State University Industrial Training and Assessment Center (MSU ITAC) helps small and medium-sized US manufacturers and commercial buildings save energy, improve productivity, and reduce waste by providing no-cost technical assessments conducted by a team of students and faculty. The ITAC is a faculty-supervised, student-driven technical center that conducts ASHRAE Level II energy assessments while building a hands-on workforce pipeline for long-term industrial decarbonization. MSU ITAC is the academic partner on this project providing curriculum and workforce development for the next generation of energy leaders.