

## AFGE Council 222

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**From:** AFGE Council 222  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 20, 2023 11:02 AM  
**To:** HUD-AFGE-BUE-L@HUDLIST.HUD.GOV  
**Subject:** HUD Hypocritically Celebrates Climate Week While Denying Remote Work



### **National Council of HUD Locals – Council 222**

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES AFFILIATED WITH AFL-CIO,  
WE ARE COMPRISED OF HUD LOCALS THROUGHOUT THE U.S.

<https://www.afgecouncil222.com>

**September 20, 2023**

### **HUD Hypocritically Celebrates Climate Week While Denying Remote Work**

Dear Bargaining Unit Employees:

In an act of supreme hypocrisy, HUD sent an email on September 18 announcing Happy Climate Week. The email described how HUD awarded \$18 million in grants and loan commitments to multifamily property owners to support energy efficiency and climate resilience. This was “part of President Biden’s historic investment in climate resiliency,” according to Secretary Fudge. Deputy Secretary Todman put it bluntly, “We also have an obligation to address the effects of climate change.”

In the same day’s news, [The Washington Post reported on a study](#) that found that remote workers could have a 54% lower carbon footprint compared to onsite workers. In fact, fully remote workers [appear to have a 34% lower carbon footprint](#) than those who report to the office just once a week, according to the study, which was published by the National Academy of Sciences.

At the same time our senior leaders are celebrating HUD’s investment in climate resilience, HUD managers are denying employees’ requests for remote work and in some cases, even four-day telework. HUD has just ordered managers and supervisors to report to their HUD offices four days a pay period. None of these decisions are based on any evidence demonstrating that they will actually improve operations.

Just like charity, reducing our impact on climate change has to begin at home. Secretary Fudge and Deputy Secretary Todman, it’s time to support climate resiliency here at HUD. Tell your managers you support remote work because you support reducing our collective carbon footprint.

Solidarity,

Sal Viola  
President,  
American Federation of Government Employees  
HUD Council of Locals

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This e:alert is for HUD AFGE bargaining unit employees