

EXHIBIT Q

Statement from Commissioner Hardy on Amazon Project

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MN Dept of Employment and Economic Development

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Reporters and Editors,

The statement below is from Commissioner Shawntera Hardy regarding this afternoon's meeting with Governor Dayton and Greater MSP on Amazon's announced plans to build a second headquarters in North America.

"Today, the Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED) and Greater MSP submitted a comprehensive and competitive response to Amazon's HQ2 Request for Proposal. The submitted bid showcases the State of Minnesota's strongest assets: a talented and diverse workforce, robust public and private education system, strong transportation systems, and excellent overall quality of life – all indicators Amazon has identified as key factors in its final decision.

"On behalf of Governor Dayton and Lt. Governor Smith, I want to thank Michael Langley and the entire team at Greater MSP, as well as my team at DEED, for their work on this project. The State of Minnesota's bid is the culmination of six weeks of hard work by local communities, business leaders, and our economic development partners. Together, we made sure that Minnesota's unique story was told in a way that encourages Amazon to look again at this region very closely. We are confident that the bid we have submitted positions Minnesota as a serious contender for this once in a lifetime project.

"Now that the bid has been submitted, we await further instruction from Amazon regarding next steps."

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