



## GRANTS ALERT for ElectriCities

October 13, 2022

Contact Leslie Mazingo at [Leslie@strategics.consulting](mailto:Leslie@strategics.consulting), (202) 255-5760, or Amy Kirschbaum at [Amy@strategics.consulting](mailto:Amy@strategics.consulting), (503) 680-4189, for additional information.

### Highlight:

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) opened the Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) grant program, which includes a sub-applicant process for local governments. In North Carolina, interested sub-applicants must submit a Letter of Interest (LOI) to the State Department of Public Safety (NCDPS) by **November 4, 2022**. It is recommended that interested applicants first contact the state FMA representative prior to submitting a LOI; let us know if you need assistance with that.

FMA grants may be used for project scoping; technical assistance; community flood mitigation projects; individual structure/property-level flood mitigation projects; and management costs. According to the NCDPS, which administers the FMA grant process, "this program is tied to reducing or eliminating the risk of repetitive flood damage to buildings and structures insured under the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). LOI's are now being accepted for Capability and Capacity Building Activities, Individual Flood Mitigation Projects (traditional acquisitions and elevations) and now Localized Flood Risk Reduction Projects (community infrastructure protection)."

Links: <https://www.ncdps.gov/our-organization/emergency-management/hazard-mitigation/non-disaster-grants> AND <https://www.fema.gov/grants/mitigation/floods>; Recorded webinar: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YuF2X4bNSl8>

### Webinars, Blogs, Funding Guides and More:

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) opened **Round 4 of the Reconnect Program** for high-speed internet on September 6, 2022. Funded through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL), available funding includes up to \$150 million in loans, up to \$300 million in loan/grant combinations, and up to \$700 million in grants. The deadline to apply is **November 2, 2022**. <https://www.usda.gov/media/press-releases/2022/08/04/biden-harris-administrationbegin-accepting-applications-september>

**NEW** (updated) -- The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) is hosting a webinar series as part of its **EV Grid Assist: Accelerating the Transition Initiative**. Upcoming webinars include Rates and Incentives on **October 25 at 3 p.m. EST** and Planning for the Future on **November 10 at 3 p.m. EST**. <https://www.evgridassistwebinars.com/> To watch previous webinars, including one called "The Importance of Vehicle Grid Integration (VGI)", go to: <https://www.energy.gov/eere/evgrid-assist-accelerating-transition>

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Grid Development Office (GDO) is hosting the **National Transmission Planning Study Technical Review Committee Meeting** on **Fri., October 14 at Noon EST**. The public is invited to attend the meeting. This is part of the DOE's overall [Building a Better Grid Initiative](#). For more information about the meeting

and to register -- [https://www.energy.gov/gdo/oct-14-2022-technical-review-committee-meeting-2?utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_source=govdelivery](https://www.energy.gov/gdo/oct-14-2022-technical-review-committee-meeting-2?utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery).

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) and the Office of Clean Energy Demonstrations (OCED) has three upcoming workshops to inform the **Energy Improvements in Rural or Remote Areas (ERA) program** in preparation for a future funding opportunity announcement. Two workshops are in-person, with [the Eastern U.S. one](#) scheduled for October 26-27 in Little Rock, AR. The third webinar is virtual on **November 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>**. [Register, here](#). More OCED program information -- <https://www.energy.gov/oced/events/energy-improvements-rural-or-remote-areas>

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) is hosting a webinar series as part of its **EV Grid Assist: Accelerating the Transition Initiative**. The series aims to support decision makers by providing timely information on a wide range of topics important to the integration of electric vehicles and the grid. All of the webinars are from 3 to 4:30 p.m. on the dates scheduled; registration for any is at <https://www.evgridassistwebinars.com/>. To watch previous webinars, go to: <https://www.energy.gov/eere/evgrid-assist-accelerating-transition>

- ✦ Rates and Incentives: **October 25**
- ✦ Planning for the Future: **November 10**

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) issued a [Draft for Comment \(DE-FOA-0002740\) on the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law's \(BIL\) Grid Resilience and Innovation Partnerships \(GRID\) program](#). The deadline to comment is **October 14, 2022**. Submit written comments to [GDORFI@hq.doe.gov](mailto:GDORFI@hq.doe.gov).

**NEW** -- The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is seeking nominations for its **Local Government Advisory Committee (LGAC)** which advises EPA on environmental issues impacting local governments. It is also seeking nominations for the LGAC's Small Communities Advisory Subcommittee (SCAS). Candidates must be current elected officials or officials working full-time for a government who have been appointed directly by an elected official. Learn more about the committees and the [process to apply, here](#). The deadline to apply is **October 31, 2022**.

**NEW** -- The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) updated and improved its [EJScreen](#), the publicly available **environmental justice screening and mapping tool** that allows users to zoom in on a geographic area to see demographic socioeconomic and environmental information for that area. Tutorials and videos can be accessed on topics like Basic Features, How to Interpret a report and more. <https://www.epa.gov/ejscreen/ejscreen-videos>. Additionally, ["office hours"](#) will be held with EPA staff who can answer questions; there is no need to register: **November 2 at Noon. EST** ([join here](#)) and **December 21 at Noon EST** ([join here](#)).

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) released the newly updated [State Energy and Environment Guide to Action](#) to help states design and implement policies that reduce emissions associated with electricity generation and energy consumption. The guide was first published in 2006 and last updated in 2015.

On September 27, 2022, the U.S. Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) approved the state of **North Carolina's EV Infrastructure Deployment Plan** which describes how the state intends to use its portion of the National EV Infrastructure (NEVI) formula program funds. Read the plan -- [https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/nevi/ev\\_deployment\\_plans/nc\\_nevi\\_plan.pdf](https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/nevi/ev_deployment_plans/nc_nevi_plan.pdf)

### **Recorded Webinars and Other:**

The Interagency Working Group (IWG) on Coal and Power Plant Communities and Economic Revitalization and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) hosted a webinar on **EPA infrastructure programs that are relevant to energy communities** and funded through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL). Topics included drinking water,

wastewater, stormwater, Superfund sites and brownfield sites. <https://energycommunities.gov/events-archive/pastevents/>

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) hosted a webinar on the **NEVI program (Charging Forward – Bringing Electric Vehicles to Rural America)** as it relates to rural areas. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gu22KL1J5ko>

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) hosted a webinar on the ReConnect program **“Preparing for ReConnect Round 4.”** The slide deck and the webinar are available for review -- <https://www.usda.gov/reconnect>. The Round 4 funding is open now.

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) is hosting a webinar series as part of its **EV Grid Assist: Accelerating the Transition Initiative**. To watch previous webinars, including one called “The Importance of Vehicle Grid Integration (VGI),” go to: <https://www.energy.gov/eere/evgrid-assist-accelerating-transition>

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) hosted a webinar on the new **Transmission Facilitation Program (TFP)** which was created through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL); the [slide deck can be accessed, here](#).

The U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) posted the webinar **“Getting Ready to Apply” for a Strengthening Mobility and Revolutionizing Transportation (SMART) grant**. The “How to Apply” webinar is also posted. <https://www.transportation.gov/grants/smart/webinars> Additionally, a Frequently Asked Questions fact sheet can be accessed at <https://www.transportation.gov/grants/smart/smart-frequently-asked-questions> The deadline to apply for a SMART grant is **November 18, 2022**.