



## GRANTS ALERT for Electricities

October 27, 2022

Contact Leslie Mozingo 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.

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

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) has opened the process whereby entities may file **bulk challenges to the data in the Broadband Serviceable Location Fabric (Fabric)**, which serves as the foundation for the Broadband Data Collection (BDC) fixed availability maps. To learn more about this process and the Fabric, view a recorded webinar at <https://www.fcc.gov/news-events/events/2022/09/broadband-serviceable-location-fabric-bulk-challenge-process-webinar>, or read an article issued by the National Leagues of Cities at <https://www.nlc.org/article/2022/09/21/fcc-broadband-data-challenge-process/>.

**NEW** – The **Grants.gov grants clearinghouse system** will be down for maintenance **November 19 to November 21, 2022**.

**NEW** – The National Association of Counties (NACo) will launch its new **Building Resilient Economies in Coal Communities Community of Practice Initiative (BRECC)** with a webinar on **Thurs., November 3 from 3 to 4 p.m. EST**. With funding provided by the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act and the U.S. Economic Development Administration (EDA), BRECC will provide “a knowledge-sharing and peer-learning community of practice to empower local leaders and other champions to develop new ideas, approaches and fundable projects as coal communities seek to retool local and regional economies.” [Register, here.](#)

**NEW** -- The National Association of Counties’ (NACo) **Building Resilient Economies in Coal Communities (BRECC) National Network** is a peer network connecting coal community leaders, including local governments, utilities, and local stakeholders. To sign up to receive information about virtual learning sessions and other resources, go to <https://www.naco.org/resources/signature-projects/building-resilient-economies-coal-country/building-resilient-economies>.

The Rails-to-Trails Conservancy is hosting a webinar entitled “**Trails and Utilities: A Powerful Partnership**” on how communities nationwide have built safe and accessible trails within utility corridors – **Tues., November 1 at 1 p.m. EST**. Register at [https://railstotrails-org.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_GJuj\\_J-WRJ-sLOYBoXzKRO](https://railstotrails-org.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_GJuj_J-WRJ-sLOYBoXzKRO)

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>

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) is hosting a webinar series as part of its **EV Grid Assist: Accelerating the Transition Initiative**. The last of the series is 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) 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>

**NEW** -- The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is hosting a series of listening sessions and is seeking public comment on the **Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund (GGRF)**. The listening sessions are **Tues., November 1 from 7 to 9 p.m. EST** ([register, here](#)) and **Wed., November 9 from 7 to 9 p.m. EST** ([register, here](#)). To read the Request for Information (RFI) and/or to submit comment, go to -- <https://www.regulations.gov/docket/EPA-HQ-OA-2022-0859/document>; the deadline to comment is **December 5, 2022**.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is hosting a webinar entitled “**Space Weather: What Your Water Utility Should Know.**” The webinar will be an overview of space weather and how it can impact the electric grid and critical infrastructure. Speakers will also share what water utilities can do to prepare for space weather events. **Wed., November 2 at 1 p.m. EST**. [Register, here](#).

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**.

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)

The U.S Treasury Department and the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) issued six notices asking for **comments on different aspects of extensions and enhancements of energy tax benefits in the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA)** including credits on clean vehicles; energy security tax credits for manufacturing; incentive provisions for improving the energy efficiency of residential and commercial buildings; energy generation incentives; elective payments of applicable credits and transfer of certain credits; and prevailing wage, apprenticeship, domestic content and energy

communities requirements. All six notices can be found at <https://www.irs.gov/newsroom/irs-asks-for-comments-on-upcoming-energy-guidance>. The deadline to comment is **November 4, 2022**.

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

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 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**.