

GRANTS ALERT for ElectriCities November 9, 2022

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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 <u>https://www.fcc.gov/news-events/events/2022/09/broadband-serviceable-location-fabric-bulk-challenge-process-webinar</u>, or read an article issued by the National Leagues of Cities at <u>https://www.nlc.org/article/2022/09/21/fcc-broadband-data-challenge-process/</u>.

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

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 <a href="https://www.naco.org/resources/signature-projects/building-resilient-economies-coal-country/building-resilient

The U.S. Census Bureau is seeking comments on its **2030 census plan**, specifically on these aspects: reaching and motivating everyone, technology, new data sources, how they contact respondents, and respondent support services. Comments are due by November 15, 2022 to this link.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) announced the **expansion of the Rural Partners Network (RPN) into 17 counties in North Carolina** -- *Robeson, Bladen, Columbus County Community Network; Glow House Foundation Community Network including Randolph County; Wilson, Edgecombe, Nash, and Johnston Community Network; Halifax-Northampton Community Network; and Albemarle-Roanoke Community Network including Bertie, Martin, Tyrrell, and Washington counties.* The RPN provides partnering communities with on-the-ground support from fulltime federal staff members assigned to provide technical assistance tailored to the community's unique needs and objectives. <u>More information, here.</u>

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) launched the **Grid and Transmission Program Conductor** which is a clearinghouse for the Grid Deployment Office's (GDO) transmission and grid resilience financing programs that are part of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) and the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA). <u>More information, here.</u>

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. <u>https://www.evgridassistwebinars.com/</u> To watch previous webinars, including one called "The Importance of Vehicle Grid Integration (VGI), go to: <u>https://www.energy.gov/eere/evgrid-assist-accelerating-transition</u> **NEW** -- The U.S. Department of Treasury (Treasury) seeks public input on three tax credit provisions in the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA): the **qualified commercial clean vehicles provision and the alternative fuel vehicle refueling property; credit for carbon capture; and the credit for the production of clean hydrogen and the clean fuel production credit**. More information, <u>here</u>. The deadline to submit comment is <u>December 3, 2022</u>.

NEW -- The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is **requesting comment on the design and implementation of programs contained in the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA)**. All public comments for the <u>Request for Information</u> (<u>RFI</u>) are due by January 18, 2023. The six "dockets" for which EPA seeks input are:

- 1. Climate Pollution Reduction Grants -- <u>https://www.regulations.gov/docket/EPA-HQ-OAR-2022-0873</u>
- 2. Transportation Programs -- https://www.regulations.gov/docket/EPA-HQ-OAR-2022-0874
- 3. Methane Emissions Reduction -- https://www.regulations.gov/docket/EPA-HQ-OAR-2022-0875
- 4. Funding to Address Air Pollution -- https://www.regulations.gov/docket/EPA-HQ-OAR-2022-0876
- 5. Funding for Implementation of American Innovation and Manufacturing Act -- <u>https://www.regulations.gov/docket/EPA-HQ-OAR-2022-0877</u>
- 6. Low Emissions Electricity Program & GHG Corporate Reporting -- <u>https://www.regulations.gov/docket/EPA-</u> <u>HQ-OAR-2022-0878</u>

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) released its **guidebook for climate and energy funding** included in the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA). The guide previews new and existing programs accounting for about \$41.5 billion in appropriated spending and \$11.7 billion in new Superfund tax revenue. <u>Access the briefing deck, here.</u>

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is seeking public comment on the **Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund (GGRF).** To read the Request for Information (RFI) and/or to submit comment, go to <u>https://www.regulations.gov/docket/EPA-HQ-OA-2022-0859/document</u>; the deadline to comment is <u>December 5</u>, 2022.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) updated and improved its <u>EJScreen</u>, 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. <u>https://www.epa.gov/ejscreen/ejscreen-videos</u>. Additionally, <u>"office hours"</u> will be held with EPA staff who can answer questions; there is no need to register: December 21 at Noon EST (join here).

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) released the newly updated <u>State Energy and Environment Guide</u> <u>to Action</u> 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.

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. <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gu22KL1J5ko</u>

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) recorded a **webinar on the Grid Resilience Innovation Partnership (GRIP) Program**, originally held on October 6. Watch the webinar or access the presentation, <u>here.</u>

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: <u>https://www.energy.gov/eere/evgrid-assist-accelerating-transition</u>.

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 <u>slide deck can be accessed, here.</u>

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. <u>https://www.transportation.gov/grants/smart/webinars</u> Additionally, an updated Frequently Asked Questions fact sheet can be accessed at <u>https://www.transportation.gov/grants/smart/smart-frequently-asked-questions</u> The deadline to apply for a SMART grant is November 18, 2022.