

GRANTS ALERT for ElectriCities December 15, 2022

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Notice of Opportunity Number	Grant Title	Federal Agency	Deadline	Information
0002944	Notice of Intent to issue a Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) entitled "Onsite Energy Technical Assistance Partnerships"	DOE		https://www.grants.gov/view- opportunity.html?oppId=344897 11 awards

Webinars, Blogs, Funding Guides and More:

The Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) launched the **Ready Appalachia: A Community Capacity-Building Initiative – Ready LDDs – Request for Proposals.** The purpose of the READY LDDs (Local Development Districts) portion of READY Appalachia is to strengthen the ability of Appalachia's LDDs to help constituent communities design and implement truly impactful projects utilizing federal and other types of funds. The deadline is rolling. More information, here.

The Clean Energy Group will host a webinar entitled "New Federal Money for Energy Storage: The Inflation Reduction Act" on December 16 from 1 to 2:30 p.m. EST. Learn more, and register, here.

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/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 Interagency Working Group on Coal and Power Plant Communities and Economic Revitalization (Energy Communities IWG) is hosting a three-part webinar series highlighting federal and non-federal technical assistance opportunities to benefit energy communities. The first two webinars will focus on READY Appalachia, Rural Partners Network, plus the Thriving Communities and environmental justice programs administered by the DOT and EPA, respectively. Webinar #1: January 10 from 1 to 2 p.m. EST; Webinar #2: January 17 from 1 to 2 p.m. EST. The third webinar features non-federal technical assistance opportunities and is on January 24 from 1 to 2 p.m. EST. Register for one, or all webinars, here.

The Joint Office of Energy and Transportation (Joint Office) and its website **DriveElectric.gov provides technical assistance resources** to school districts, transit agencies and tribal nations, among others.

The National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) published an **interactive map which shows program progress by state and territory for the BEAD (Broadband Equity, Access, and Development) program**, as well as state and federal contacts. Access the map and contact list, <u>here</u>.

NEW – SAM.gov is reporting that there are **issues and delays** (seven to 10 days or longer) with users who are requesting a Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) through the SAM.gov portal or validating your entity. Watch a video on how to validate your entity, <u>here</u>.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Development and the Economic Development Agency (EDA) released a new **planning resource guide, called Stronger Together**. The guide features four key focus areas: Planning and Technical Assistance; Infrastructure and Broadband Expansion; Entrepreneurship and Business Assistance; and Workforce Development and Livability. Access the guide, here.

NEW -- The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) <u>published a Request for Information (RFI) on the Energy Efficiency Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) Competitive Program</u> (DE-FOA-0002883). Specifically, the RFI seeks input on: 1. potential partnership structures and models to achieve the goals of the provision and leverage the financial investment for deeper impact; 2. technical assistance needs of applicants and their stakeholders and partners; 3. program criteria and metrics; 4. opportunities to reduce administrative burden on award recipients while protecting against waste, fraud, and abuse; 5. employment and expanding union jobs; 6. equity, environmental and energy justice priorities; 7. market adoption and industry sustainability; and, 8. Build America, Buy America requirements. The deadline to submit comments is January 13, 2023. Read more, <u>here</u>.

NEW -- The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) updated the FAQs on the \$10.5 billion Grid Resilience and Innovation Partnership Program (GRIP) to enhance grid flexibility and improve the resilience of the power system against growing threats of extreme weather and climate change. The FAQs will continue to be updated so visit this page often: https://www.energy.gov/gdo/frequently-asked-questions-grid-resilience-and-innovation-partnerships-grip-program. The deadline to submit a Concept Paper (required first step) is December 16, 2022.

NEW -- The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) published an <u>RFI Preparing Workers and Businesses to Deliver Energy</u> <u>Efficiency and Building Electrification Measures (DE-FOA-0002885).</u> The deadline to submit comments is <u>January 26</u>, 2023.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is taking feedback on the \$1 billion Clean Heavy-Duty Vehicle Program. Feedback may be provided to cleanhdvehicles@epa.gov on the following questions: 1. How do you see this program working in conjunction with the existing Diesel Emissions Reduction Act (DERA), the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) Clean School Bus Program, and programs at other agencies given the overlap in vehicles that could be funded?; 2. For which significant Class 6/7 vehicle sectors should EPA prioritize funding?; 3. How can EPA ensure the benefits of this program reach low-income and disadvantaged communities?; 4. What should EPA consider in the design of the program to encourage grantees to support high quality jobs and adhere to best practices for labor standards, consistent with guidance such as Executive Order 14063 on the Use of Project Labor Agreements and the Department of Labor's Good Jobs Principles?; 5. What metrics should this program use for measuring success and ensuring accountability?

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 Request for Information (RFI)

are due by January 18, 2023. The six "dockets" for which EPA seeks input are:

- 1. Climate Pollution Reduction Grants -- https://www.regulations.gov/docket/EPA-HQ-OAR-2022-0873
- 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 https://www.regulations.gov/docket/EPA-HQ-OAR-2022-0877
- 6. Low Emissions Electricity Program & GHG Corporate Reporting -- https://www.regulations.gov/docket/EPA-HQ-OAR-2022-0878

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) 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. https://www.epa.gov/ejscreen/ejscreen-videos. 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).

Recorded Webinars and Other:

The National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) recorded a broadband 101 webinar entitled "Introduction to Broadband and High Speed Internet," which covered how it works, definitions of terminology, types of technologies, economics of a network and how the BEAD and other grant programs fit in. The webinar will be posted soon to the BroadbandUSA website, here.

NEW (updated with recording link) -- The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) hosted a webinar on the \$10.5 billion **Grid Resilience and Innovation Partnership Program (GRIP)** to enhance grid flexibility and improve the resilience of the power system against growing threats of extreme weather and climate change. Access the recording, here. Concept papers, which are the first step in the application process for the Grid Resilience Utility and Industry Grants, are due December 16, 2022.

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) recorded a webinar on the **Transmission Facilitation Program (TFP)**. View the slide deck, <u>here</u>. Under the TFP, the DOE is authorized to borrow up to \$2.5 billion through three financing tools: capacity contracts, loans, and public-private partnerships. Currently, the only option for funding is through capacity contracts and a <u>DOE Request for Proposals (RFP) process (GDO-TFPFY23CAP)</u>. The deadline to submit an application is February 1, 2023

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) hosted a webinar on the \$10.5 billion **Grid Resilience and Innovation Partnership Program (GRIP)** to enhance grid flexibility and improve the resilience of the power system against growing threats of extreme weather and climate change. Access the slide deck, here. Concept papers, which are the first step in the application process for the Grid Resilience Utility and Industry Grants, are due December 16, 2022.

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.