

## GRANTS ALERT for ElectriCities December 8, 2022

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## 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, <u>here</u>.

**NEW** – The Bipartisan Policy Center (BPC) will host an in-person event in Washington, D.C. entitled **"Risk to Resilience: Cyber and Climate Solutions Bolstering America's Power Grid"** on Tues., December 13. The event will also include a livestream of the program from 10:30 to Noon. Register, <u>here</u>, to attend.

**NEW** -- 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, <u>here</u>.

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-bulkchallenge-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>.

**NEW** – 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 Local Infrastructure Hub, along with the National League of Cities (NLC), is offering a **series of bootcamps designed to help local governments take advantage of grant opportunities in the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL).** The series will include more than 30 bootcamps over a two-year period. The first three bootcamps (Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program; Charging and Fueling Infrastructure grants; Safe Streets and Roads for All) will be offered beginning in January. Registration runs from November 21 through December 9, 2022. There are a limited number of spots, first-come, first-served. More information and registration, <u>here</u>.

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, here.

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. <u>Access the guide, here.</u>

The U.S. Department of Energy is **seeking applications for the Long-Duration Energy Storage (LDES) Demonstration Projects**. This program was created by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and will make awards for up to 11 projects through the current Notice of Funding Opportunity. The deadline to apply is March 3, 2023. Letters of Intent from potential applicants are due by December 15, 2022. <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>

**NEW** -- The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) will host a listening session on the **\$1 billion Clean Heavy-Duty Vehicle Program**. The intent of the listening session is so that EPA can hear from interested parties on how they should "build" the program. Tues., December 13 at 1 p.m. EST. Register, <u>here</u>. If you are unable to attend, feedback may be provided to <u>cleanhdvehicles@epa.gov</u>. Feedback is sought 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 <u>Request for Information (RFI)</u> 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 -- <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-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. Access the briefing deck, here.

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).

## **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, <u>here</u>.

**NEW** -- 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, <u>here</u>. 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 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>