



GRANTS ALERT for ElectriCities

January 5, 2023

Contact Leslie Mazingo at Leslie@strategics.consulting, (202) 255-5760, or Amy Kirschbaum at 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](#) or read an [article issued by the National Leagues of Cities](#).

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](#).

NEW – The National Association of Regional Councils (NARC) posted a **blog on the FCC’s new National Broadband Map and “Understanding the Data Challenge Process.”** Read it, [here](#). The recommended date to submit challenges to the map is **January 13, 2023**.

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 **SAM.gov website** has [a tool that allows registrants the option to check their “entity status.”](#) Additionally, if you need to register, update your registration, or get a UEI (Unique Entity Identifier), a webinar has been recorded by the U.S. General Services Administration (GSA). Watch the webinar, [here](#).

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, [here](#).

NEW -- The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) proposed **new energy-efficiency standards** for three categories of distribution transformers to improve the resiliency of America’s power grid, lower utility bills, and significantly reduce domestic carbon-dioxide (CO2) emissions. A webinar on **Thursday, February 16, from 1 to 4 p.m. EST** will take public feedback on the rule. Register, [here](#).

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) [published a Request for Information \(RFI\) on the Energy Efficiency Conservation Block Grant \(EECBG\) Competitive Program](#) (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, [here](#).

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 U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) published an [RFI Preparing Workers and Businesses to Deliver Energy Efficiency and Building Electrification Measures \(DE-FOA-0002885\)](#). The deadline to submit comments is **January 26, 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 White House released the first edition of a new guidebook entitled [“Building a Clean Energy Economy: A Guidebook to the Inflation Reduction Act’s Investments in Clean Energy and Climate Action”](#) which provides descriptions of the law’s tax incentives and funding programs to build a clean energy economy, lower energy costs, tackle climate change, and reduce harmful pollution.

Recorded Webinars and Other:

The Bipartisan Policy Center recorded a discussion with Administration officials, elected Members of Congress and others entitled **“Risk to Resilience: Cyber & Climate Solutions Bolstering America’s Power Grid.”** [Watch the recording here.](#)

The Energy Storage Technology Advancement Partnership (ESTAP), which is a federal-state funding and information sharing project, recorded a webinar called **"New Federal Money for Energy Storage: The Inflation Reduction Act."** Watch it, [here](#).

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](#).

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](#).

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) recorded a webinar on the **Transmission Facilitation Program (TFP)**. View the slide deck, [here](#). 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 [DOE Request for Proposals \(RFP\) process \(GDO-TFPFY23CAP\)](#). The deadline to submit an application is **February 1, 2023**