

GRANTS ALERT for ElectriCities March 16, 2023

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Highlight:

The <u>Charging and Fueling Infrastructure Discretionary Grant Program (CFI)</u> was created by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL). This new \$2.5 billion (over five years) program is intended to strategically deploy publicly-accessible electric vehicle charging and alternative fueling infrastructure in the places people live and work — urban and rural areas alike — in addition to along designated Alternative Fuel Corridors (AFCs). The overall CFI includes two funding categories: 1) Community Charging and Fueling Grants (Community Program); and 2) Alternative Fuel Corridor Grants (Corridor Program).

The <u>CFI Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO)</u>, published March 14, will cover both categories, and will award up to \$700 million in FY22 and FY23 funding, combined, for projects* that include:

- Development phase activities, including planning, feasibility analysis, revenue forecasting, environmental review, preliminary engineering and design work, and other preconstruction activities;
- Acquisition of real property and related construction and reconstruction costs for the installation of publicly accessible charging and fueling infrastructure for vehicles;
- Installation of traffic control devices located in the right-of-way to provide directional information to infrastructure acquired, installed, or operated with grant funds;
- Contracting with a private entity for operations and maintenance costs of infrastructure directly related to the vehicle charging and fueling;
- Propane fueling infrastructure for medium- and heavy-duty vehicles.

A priority of the CFI Discretionary Grant Program is bringing EV charging into urban and rural communities; downtown areas and local neighborhoods, particularly in underserved and disadvantaged communities; as well as to designated alternative fuel corridors. The deadline to apply is May 30, 2023.

*Additional eligibility criteria for the Community Program, and statutory priorities and considerations for both the Community and the Corridor program can be accessed, here. The CFI program is offered through the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT), the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) and the new Joint Office of Energy and Transportation (JOET). A recent article by the National League of Cities provides an overview.

Webinars for the CFI will be held on March 21 from 1 to 2 p.m. EST and on March 22 from 2 to 3 p.m. EST. The topic of each is the same. Register, here, for the March 21 webinar. Register, here, for the March 22 webinar.

Upcoming grant deadlines of interest are listed below. *Note, as of this GA, the grant list will include all currently-open grants of interest.* Click on information link or search on <u>Grants.gov</u> by the notice of opportunity number.

Notice of Opportunity Number	Grant Title	Federal Agency	Deadline	Information
PWEAA2023	FY23 EDA Public Works and Economic Adjustment Assistance Programs	DOC-EDA		https://www.grants.gov/view- opportunity.html?oppId=346815 AND https://www.eda.gov/
N/A	Kubota Hometown Proud	Kubota		https://www.kubotausa.com/hometown-proud/applications 5 awards
DE-FOA- 0002936	Industrial Decarbonization and Emissions Reduction Demonstration-to-Deployment Funding Opportunity Announcement	DOE	Due 4/21/23	https://www.grants.gov/view- opportunity.html?oppId=346695 AND https://oced-exchange.energy.gov/
DE-FOA- 0002948	Increasing Utilization and Reliability of Electric Infrastructure with Grid- enhancing technologies (GET)	DOE		https://www.grants.gov/view- opportunity.html?oppId=346389 5 awards
DE-FOA- 0002962	Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Carbon Capture Demonstration Projects Program Funding Opportunity Announcement	DOE		https://www.grants.gov/view- opportunity.html?oppId=346365 6 awards
DE-FOA- 0002963	Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Carbon Capture Large- Scale Pilot Projects Funding Opportunity Announcement	DOE	6/21/23	https://www.grants.gov/view- opportunity.html?oppId=346366 10 awards
DE-FOA- 0002970	Bipartisan Infrastructure Law: Energy Improvement in Rural or Remote Areas Funding Opportunity Announcement	DOE	6/28/23	https://www.grants.gov/view- opportunity.html?oppId=346517

Webinars, Blogs, Funding Guides and More:

Grants.gov will be down for maintenance March 18 to March 20, 2023.

The Interagency Working Group on Coal and Power Plant Communities and Economic Revitalization (Energy Community IWG) is hosting a two-part webinar series on "What Does the Inflation Reduction Act Mean for Energy

Communities." Part one is Mon., March 20 at 2 p.m. EST. Register, here.

NEW -- The Joint Office of Energy and Transportation is hosting two webinars for the Charging and Fueling Infrastructure (CFI) Discretionary Grant Program (693JJ323NF00004) will be held on March 21 from 1 to 2 p.m. EST and on March 22 from 2 to 3 p.m. EST. The topic of each is the same. Register, here, for the March 21 webinar. Register, here, for the March 22 webinar. The deadline to apply for a CFI grant is May 30, 2023.

The Joint Office of Energy and Transportation is hosting a webinar entitled "Utilities, Commissions, and State DOTs: Working Together to Deploy EV Charging" during which participants will get a better understanding as to how these stakeholders can collaborate to bridge transportation and energy needs for EV charging station deployment. The webinar is March 21 from 2 to 3 p.m. EST. Learn more and register, here.

NEW – The National Association of Regional Councils (NARC), in conjunction with the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) will host a webinar on the **2022 update to the Solar Power in Your Community Guidebook** which highlights new and existing technologies and strategies to maximize the benefits of solar power to all communities. Wed., March 29 from 3 to 3:45 p.m. EST. Register, here.

On March 9, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) signed a joint <u>Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)</u> that provides a "framework for both agencies to support reliable electric service as they carry out their respective missions and authorities, and as the power sector adapts to rapid and significant changes." More information, <u>here</u>.

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) has opened the <u>Energizing Rural Communities Prize</u>, offered through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL). The \$15 million prize "challenges individuals and organizations to develop partnership plans or innovative financing strategies to help rural or remote communities improve their energy systems and advance clean energy demonstration projects." Applications are due May 24, 2023.

NEW (updated deadline) -- The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) and the Grid Deployment Office (GD) are seeking feedback on the Draft National Transmission Needs Study which provides information about "present and anticipated future capacity constraints and congestion on the nation's electric transmission grid and serves as DOE's triennial state of the grid report." Email comments to NeedsStudy.Comments@hq.doe.gov by April 20, 2023.

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) is offering more than \$22 million in cash prizes and technical assistance for winning ideas to accelerate widespread, equitable energy efficiency and building electrification upgrades. The Buildings Upgrade Prize (Buildings UP) was developed and funded by the U.S. Department of Energy Building Technologies Office as part of its overall mission to reduce the carbon footprint of the U.S. building stock while maintaining or improving affordability, comfort, and performance. Phase 1 submissions are due July 18, 2023.

The U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) <u>Solar Power in Your Community Guidebook</u> serves as a resource to assist government officials and stakeholders in increasing deployment and local access to solar photovoltaics.

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), in conjunction with the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL), launched a new \$50 million program called the <u>Clean Energy to Communities (C2C) program</u> that will provide three levels of technical assistance to local governments, electric utilities, community-based groups and others across renewable power, grid mobility, and building sectors. Deadlines to apply and eligibility vary for each of the three levels of assistance offered. Questions about the partnerships and the application process can be submitted directly through the RFP links, with answers being made available to the public. Proposals for the in-depth partnerships are due May 17, 2023. Learn more, watch the kick-off video, review the FAQs, <u>here.</u>

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. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) released a **Clean Energy Financing Toolkit for Decisionmakers**, which lists financing programs and policies by state and local governments and others that support investments in clean energy. Access the toolkit, <u>here</u>.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) released two new chapters in its publication "State Energy and Environment Guide to Action" which was first published in 2006, then updated in 2015 and again in 2022. The "Overview of Electric Utility Policies" chapter provides an overview of the U.S. power system, the roles of utility and environmental regulators, and "themes across the Guide to Action's utility policy chapters, including the accelerated deployment of distributed energy resources, an emerging state focus on environmental justice and equity, and the alignment of utility policies with state environment, energy, and equity goals."

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) released two new chapters in its publication "State Energy and Environment Guide to Action" which was first published in 2006, then updated in 2015 and again in 2022. The "Maximizing Grid Investments" chapter provides state policymakers, regulators, and stakeholders with "technical background and examples of established, near-term opportunities for grid investments that support a modern electric distribution system, such as the deployment of clean and distributed energy resources (DERs)."

The White House has released a document that <u>highlights funding opportunities</u>, both that are open now and those that will post in 2023, that are part of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL). The document is current as of February 2023.

Recorded Webinars and Other:

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) posted the **Round One EVGrid Assist webinar series** which includes the following topics: the Importance of Vehicle-Grid Integration; EV Basics; DCFC Charging for Light, Medium, and Heavyduty Vehicles; Grid Aware Site Selection; Load Forecasting; Rates and Incentives; and Planning for the Future. Watch the webinars, 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. Additionally, DOE recorded a webinar to provide applicants and teaming partners with programmatic guidance highlighting Concept Paper submission trends, criteria, and next steps in the application process. Access the recording, here.