

## GRANTS ALERT for ElectriCities July 20, 2023

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## Highlight:

The <u>Southeast Crescent Regional Commission (SCRC)</u>, activated in January 2022, is a federal-state partnership authorized by Congress in the 2008 Farm Bill to promote and encourage economic development in parts of Alabama, Georgia, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia and all of Florida. SCRC invests in projects that support basic infrastructure, business development, natural resource preservation and workforce development. SCRC is committed to supporting job creation, building communities and improving the lives of those who reside in the 428 counties of the seven-state region. In North Carolina, 69 of 100 counties fall within the SCRC region.

Last month, the SCRC announced the <u>new State Economic and Infrastructure Development (SEID) grant</u> which identifies specific counties and local communities as eligible recipients for broad range funding including "public infrastructure projects categorized as basic public telecommunications and transportation, as well as projects to support basic health care, access to affordable housing, business and workforce development, resource conservation and preservation, tourism and recreation." The <u>SEID Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO)</u> is for \$20 million, of which North Carolina's share is over \$4.4 million. The range for funding for projects is between \$50,000 and \$500,000.

The deadline to submit a required pre-application Letter of Interest (LOI), which according to SCRC sources is "designed to be easily filled out," has been extended to September 15, 2023. The full application (applicants will be invited to apply) is due by December 15, 2023.

Upcoming grant deadlines of interest are listed below. *Note, the grant list includes 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	Rolling	https://www.grants.gov/view- opportunity.html?oppId=346815 AND https://www.eda.gov/
EDA-DISASTER- 2023	FY23 Disaster Supplemental	DOC-EDA	Rolling	https://www.grants.gov/view- opportunity.html?oppId=347414 for natural disasters occurring in 2021 and 2022
N/A	Electric Infrastructure Loan & Loan Guarantee Program	USDA	Rolling	https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs- services/electric-programs/electric-

DE-FOA- 0003100	Seeding Critical Advances for Leading Energy technologies with Untapped Potential 2023 (SCALEUP	DOE	7/21/23	infrastructure-loan-loan-guarantee-program check with a General Field Rep (GFR) to determine rural eligibility https://www.grants.gov/view- opportunity.html?oppId=348609 8 awards
DHS-23-GPD- 111-04-01	2023) FY23 Regional Catastrophic Preparedness Grant Program (RCPGP) - Region 4	DHS	7/24/23	https://www.grants.gov/view- opportunity.html?oppId=348320 10 awards
DE-FOA- 0002845	BIL: Section 41006(A)(2): U.S. Tidal Energy Advancement	DOE	7/25/23	https://www.grants.gov/view- opportunity.html?oppId=348010 4 awards
DE-FOA- 0002881	BIL: Joint Office of Energy and Transportation Ride and Drive Electric, FY23	DOE	7/28/23	https://www.grants.gov/view- opportunity.html?oppId=348195
DE-FOA- 0002940	BIL: Industrial Assessment Center (IAC) Program – IACs at Trade Schools, Community Colleges, and Union Training Programs; and Building Training and Assessment Centers (BTAC) Program	DOE	7/31/23	https://www.grants.gov/view- opportunity.html?oppId=347392
DE-FOA- 0002987	Heat Pump Defense Production Act Program	DOE	8/1/23	https://www.grants.gov/view- opportunity.html?oppId=347574
DE-FOA- 0003066	Energy Improvements at Nonprofits - Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) – Renew America's Nonprofits	DOE	8/3/23	https://www.grants.gov/view- opportunity.html?oppId=348353 15 awards; nonprofits
	Rural Energy for America (REAP) Technical Assistance Grant (TAG) Program	USDA-RD	8/15/23	https://www.grants.gov/view- opportunity.html?oppId=349329
DE-FOA- 0003034	Operation and Planning Tools for Inverter-based Resource Management and Availability for future power systems (OPTIMA)	DOE	8/15/23	https://www.grants.gov/view- opportunity.html?oppId=347647 13 awards
DE-FOA- 0003009	Bipartisan Infrastructure Law - Clean Energy Demonstration Program on Current and Former Mine Land Funding Opportunity Announcement	DOE	8/31/23	https://www.grants.gov/view- opportunity.html?oppId=347309 5 awards

NEW (updated) N/A  NEW this week DE-FOA- 0002934 EPA-R-HQ-SFA- 23-01 RUS-PACE-2023	State Economic and Infrastructure Development (SEID) Grant  Underserved and Indigenous Community Microgrids (UICM)  SOLAR FOR ALL  Powering Affordable Clean	Southeast Crescent Regional Commissio n (SCRC) DOE	EXTENDED DEADLINE Mandatory pre- application now due 9/15/23 9/15/23	https://scrc.gov/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/SCRC-SEID-Grant-NOFA-06132023.pdf  https://www.grants.gov/view-opportunity.html?oppld=349332  https://www.grants.gov/view-opportunity.html?oppld=348957  https://www.grants.gov/view-
	Energy		J, 2323	opportunity.html?oppld=349160
RDBCP-REAP- RES-EEI-2023- 2024	FY23 and FY24 Rural Energy for America Program (REAP)	USDA-RD	9/30/23 (this will open every three months through 9/30/2024	https://www.grants.gov/view- opportunity.html?oppId=347523 AND https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs- services/energy-programs/rural- energy-america-program-renewable- energy-systems-energy-efficiency- improvement-guaranteed-loans small businesses, including agricultural producers and electric utilities
EDA- RECOMPETEPHA SE1-2023	FY23 Recompete Pilot Program - Phase 1	DOC-EDA	10/5/23	https://www.grants.gov/view- opportunity.html?oppId=348921
DE-FOA- 0002897	Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) Consumer Electronics Battery Recycling, Reprocessing, and Battery Collection	DOE	11/29/23	https://www.grants.gov/view- opportunity.html?oppId=348660
DE-FOA- 0002912	BIL Weatherization Program Assistance (WAP) Enhancement & Innovation	DOE	1/5/24	https://www.grants.gov/view- opportunity.html?oppId=348941
FR-6700-N-91B	Green and Resilient Retrofit Program (GRRPE) Elements	HUD	3/28/24	https://www.grants.gov/view- opportunity.html?oppId=348062
FR-6700-N-91C	Green and Resilient Retrofit Program (GRRP) Leading Edge	HUD	4/30/24	https://www.grants.gov/view- opportunity.html?oppId=348063
FR-6700-N-91A	Green and Resilient Retrofit Program (GRRPC) Comprehensive	HUD	5/30/24	https://www.grants.gov/view- opportunity.html?oppId=348061

## Webinars, Blogs, Funding Guides and More:

The Energy Communities Interagency Working Group (IWG) of Coal and Power Plant Communities and Economic

Revitalization released the updated **eligibility maps for the 10% Bonus Tax Credit**. More information and to access the map, <u>here</u>.

NEW – The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is seeking comments on the agency's efforts to implement the Community Disaster Resilience Zones (CDRZ) Act. FEMA specially is interested in "updates to the methodology, improvements to FEMA's provision of hazard data, the zone designation process, financial and technical assistance, and the Community Disaster Resilience Zones application and certification process." Comments are due by July 25, 2023.

**NEW** -- The Golden LEAF Foundation is hosting a webinar on the **SITE grant program** on Mon., July 24 at 10:30 a.m. EST. SITE grants will provide support to communities to "identify potential sites for economic development, enable completion of due diligence on sites already identified, or extend public utilities to or conduct grading and clearing of sites for which due diligence has been completed." Register, <a href="here">here</a>. The deadline to apply for a SITE grant is September 14, 2023.

**NEW** – Grants.gov will be down for maintenance August 19-21, 2023.

The Joint Office of Energy and Transportation issued a new EV toolkit guide to help urban communities build out charging infrastructure. Called the "Charging Forward: A Toolkit for Planning and Funding Urban Electric Mobility Infrastructure," the guide provides information on how to scope, plan, and identify ways to leverage funding provided by the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) law. A companion toolkit is available for <u>rural communities</u>.

The National Association of Counties (NACo) and the <u>Building Resilient Economies in Coal Communities (BRECC)</u> <u>Initiative</u> will host a webinar entitled "<u>Exploring Outdoor Recreation as a Component of Economic Diversification</u>" on July 27 from 3 to 4 p.m. EST. Register, <u>here</u>.

**NEW** – The <u>Southeast Crescent Regional Commission (SCRC)</u> has <u>extended the deadline</u> to submit a required preapplication for the new <u>State Economic and Infrastructure Development (SEID) grant</u> to <u>September 15, 2023</u>. Specific North Carolina communities are located within the SCRC footprint and have grant eligibility. More than \$4.4 million in funding has been allocated as North Carolina's share of the overall \$20 million in total funding.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) and Rural Development division developed an FAQ website specific to the Inflation Reduction Act and the new PACE (Powering Affordable Clean Energy) Program. The PACE loan program is for communities with less than 20,000 population. LOI's will be reviewed on *rolling basis*. Accepted LOIs will be invited to apply. LOIs are due by September 29, 2023.

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) released a map "Energy Community Tax Credit Bonus," which can help communities understand their qualification status and the benefits they can expect from this tax credit for advancing clean energy initiatives. Access the map, which provides detailed information regarding coal closures' census tracts versus adjoining MSAs, here.

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. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) released an updated version (effective May 2023) of the <u>Power Resilience Guide for Water and Wastewater Utilities</u> for water utilities and electric providers. New information has been included in the "Energy Efficiency," "Renewable Energy and Distributed Entergy Resources," and "Funding" sections. Resilience guide, <u>here</u>.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) released a Clean Water Act / National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) <u>Integrated Planning Toolkit for Permitting Authorities</u> assisting permitting authorities to review integrated plans and incorporate them into permits. Additionally, EPA is offering <u>free technical assistance</u> (TA) to municipalities and permitting authorities to support the integrated plan development and review process. <u>Learn more, and request TA</u>, here. The deadline to request TA is <u>August 31</u>, 2023.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is hosting a webinar series for the <u>2023 Clean School Bus (CSB)</u> grant program. Webinars will be held on a variety of topics through August 2023. More information and to register, <u>here</u>. The deadline to apply for a grant is August 22, 2023.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) released an updated version of the <u>Greenhouse Gas Equivalencies</u> <u>Calculator</u>. Available in both Spanish and English, the calculator "translates emissions and energy data into real terms, like annual emissions from cars, homes, smartphones, or natural gas fired power plants." New, the calculator now "includes two options for electricity inputs: estimated emissions equivalencies based on electricity consumed or electricity use avoided. Previously, the Calculator provided estimates only for electricity avoided. By providing this choice, users will be able to access the appropriate emissions factor based on their need."

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>.

## **Recorded Webinars and Other:**

The Economic Development Administration (EDA) of the U.S. Department of Commerce (DOC) recorded two webinars on the <u>FY23 Disaster Supplemental funding opportunity</u> which supports areas impacted by hurricanes Ian and Fiona, wildfires, flooding and other Presidentially-declared disasters. May 17 NOFO webinar – watch, <u>here</u>. June 1 NOFO Q&A webinar – watch, <u>here</u>. The deadline to apply is <u>rolling</u>.

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has a series of pre-recorded videos on the new **Green and Resilient Retrofit Program (GRRP)** cohort of three grants (Elements, Leading Edge, and Comprehensive), plus accompanying fact sheets. Go to the main GRRP website to access the information, <u>here</u>. The deadlines to apply are rolling through March, April and May 2024, respectively for the three grants.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) recorded a public briefing on the **Solar for All grant competition**. Access it and other information, here. The deadline to apply for a Solar for All grant is September 26, 2023.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) recorded an overview webinar on the **2023 Clean School Bus** (CSB) grant program. Access the recording, here. The deadline to apply is August 22, 2023.

The White House recorded a webinar on the Inflation Reduction Act's <u>Direct Pay (Elective Pay) program</u> that allows tax-exempt and governmental entities to receive a payment equal to the full value of tax credits for building qualifying clean energy projects. More information on the program, and access to the webinar, <u>here</u>.