

## Memo

To: Region 10 Jurisdictions and partners

From: Shay Coburn, Region 10 Grant Navigator contractor

Date: 2.28.24

Re: Funding Opportunities for Energy Efficiency and Resiliency

## Colleagues:

Here are a few grant opportunities related to Energy Efficiency and Resiliency. Reach out with any questions any time. Also, please keep us updated if you are pursuing any federal monies.

## 1. Colorado Electric Grid Resilience Funds

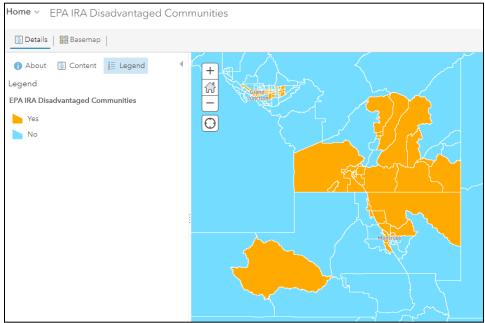
- a. CEO and DOLA via funding from DOE
- b. For Colorado's electric utilities and local governments to increase grid resiliency in the state through the following grant programs:
  - i. <u>Microgrids for Community Resilience</u> "designed to build community resilience regarding electric grid disruptions through the development of microgrids"; **opens March 13**, **due June 13**.
  - ii. <u>Grid Hardening Grants for Small Communities</u> "will support rural electric cooperatives and municipal utilities in funding critical grid resilience projects"; **future rounds to be announced later in 2024**.
  - iii. Advanced Grid Monitoring "to support electric utilities in funding critical grid monitoring and resilience projects"; future rounds to be announced later in 2024.
- c. Webinar 3/6/24 at 2:00 3:30pm MST to give feedback on the State's proposed approach to grid resilience funding. Register here.

## 2. Environmental Justice Thriving Communities Technical Assistance Centers Program

- a. EPA (in partnership with DOE) has selected regional Environmental Justice Thriving Communities Technical Assistance Centers to help <u>underserved and overburdened communities</u>. For our region, a center has not yet been picked so ICMA, which was selected as a national technical assistance center, will provide the services to our region for now.
- b. "...these centers will provide training and other assistance to build capacity for navigating federal grant application systems, developing strong grant proposals, and effectively managing grant funding. In addition, these centers will provide guidance on community engagement, meeting facilitation, and translation and interpretation services for limited English-speaking participants..."
- c. To request assistance, fill out this form.
- d. No deadline



- 3. Community Change Grants Program updated information
  - a. EPA
  - b. "To benefit disadvantaged communities through projects that reduce pollution, increase community climate resilience, and build community capacity to address environmental and climate justice challenges. These place-based investments will be focused on community-driven initiatives to be responsive to community and stakeholder input. They are designed to deliver on the transformative potential of the IRA for communities most adversely and disproportionately impacted by climate change, legacy pollution, and historical disinvestments."
  - c. EPA's IRA disadvantaged communities are shown on their map and include parts of Delta and Montrose counties as shown in orange below. One of the five focus areas is unincorporated disadvantaged communities so communities in orange below should strongly consider applying.



- d. The activities to be performed under the grants may generally fall under the following categories:
  - i. Climate resiliency and adaptation.
  - ii. Mitigating climate and health risks from urban heat islands, extreme heat, wood heater emissions, and wildfire events.
  - iii. Community-led air and other (including water and waste) pollution monitoring, prevention, and remediation.
  - iv. Investments in low- and zero-emission and resilient technologies and related infrastructure.



- v. Workforce development that supports the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions and other air pollutants.
- vi. Reducing indoor toxics and indoor air pollution.
- vii. Facilitating the engagement of disadvantaged communities in State and Federal advisory groups, workshops, rulemakings, and other public processes.
- e. A local government must partner with a community-based non-profit organization, additional collaborating entities also accepted.
- f. Expect to award a few smaller projects ranging from \$1-3 million, with most projects expected to be from \$10-20 million. Recipients will have 3 years maximum to complete the project.
- g. Technical assistance is available to eligible applicants:
  - i. <u>Community Change TA (CCTA)</u>: Assistance prepare an application for the Community Change Grants.
  - ii. Community Change Equitable Resilience TA (CCER TA): Assistance for disaster -prone and disadvantaged communities focused on place-based, site-specific design assistance to help communities increase their resilience in the face of disasters. Includes 2 site visits, free design and project development assistance, community engagement, and partnership development workshops. Also provides support in developing their Community Change Grant application.
- h. The NOFO was modified on 2/12/24.
- i. Due no later than 11/21/2024, accepted on a rolling basis
- 4. Public Building Electrification Grant updated information
  - a. CEO
  - b. "To provide public buildings with funding to explore and implement building system electrification measures and infrastructure upgrades required to support these technologies."
  - c. Funds may be used for:
    - i. An energy audit to determine electrification equipment type and sizing.
    - ii. The purchase and installation of high-efficiency electric equipment for space heating, water heating, or cooking;
    - iii. Electrical installations and upgrades necessary to support the installation of high-efficiency electric equipment; and
    - iv. The purchase and installation of other innovative building heating technologies that will likely achieve equal or lower levels of GHG emissions than high-efficiency heat pumps in 2030 and beyond.
  - d. Funding: for planning phase energy audits: 50% of total energy audit cost, up to \$8000; for implementation: 75% of total project cost. Applicants from disproportionately impacted, low-income or just transition communities are eligible for additional funds.
  - e. Additional funding rounds to open in spring 2024



- 5. <u>Title 17 Clean Energy Financing</u> updated information
  - a. Loans, flexible and custom.
  - b. "Can finance projects in the United States that support clean energy deployment and energy infrastructure reinvestment to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and air pollution."
  - c. Four project categories
    - i. Innovative energy to deploy new or significantly improved technology
    - ii. Innovative supply chain to employ a new or significantly improved technology in the manufacturing process
    - iii. State energy financing institution-supported for state agencies
    - iv. Energy infrastructure reinvestment for projects that "retool, repower, repurpose, or replace energy infrastructure that has ceased operations or upgrade operating energy infrastructure to avoid, reduce, utilize, or sequester air pollutants or greenhouse gas emissions."
  - d. Rolling deadline.