

Local Energy Resources Network



Meeting 30
May 14, 2024

*Featuring a Presentation on
DOE SCEP & C2C*



Welcome!

Purpose

Interactive 1-hour meetings designed to be a regular space where local governments - and those who work with them - can help each other learn about (and possibly inform) available opportunities to advance their energy and climate goals.

TODAY'S AGENDA

- Opportunity Roundtable
- Featured Presentations: DOE
- BPC Workshop - SLECC at CCEC
- Optional: Extended 15 minutes for Bonus Breakouts



Opportunity Roundtable

Need/Have Board

View all Opportunities

Policy Drives Investment



Agencies Scope/ Design Assistance Programs & Gather Input



Applicants Apply to Funding Solicitation

State

- FY 21-22 Budget (\$15B climate resilience)
- FY 22-23 Budget (\$38.8B climate change)
- Cap and Trade auction revenue allocations (~\$19B raised since 2013)
- FY 23-24 Budget
- FY 24-25 Budget - May revise
- State agency proceedings (e.g. *CPUC microgrid, CEC IEPR, *CARB Scoping Plan)
- 9th circuit panel of judges denied petition for an en banc rehearing of Berkeley's gas ordinance.
- CA Priority Climate Action Plan

Federal

- Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) (2021) = \$47B in climate resilience funding
- FY 22-23 Budget (\$44.9B climate change)
- Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) (2022)
- Biden's Proposed FY 23-24 Budget (\$52.2B climate change)

Funding

- CEC: Local Government Building Decarbonization Challenge (\$4M) - due May 20
- OPR: Adaptation Planning Grants Round 2 (\$9.5M) - due May 20 (if completed pre-application form)
- DOE: Upskill Prize for the Solar Manufacturing Workforce (\$5M) - due May 21
- DOE: Communities Sparking Investment in Transformative Energy (C-SITE) (\$18M) - due May 31
- DOE: Resilient and Efficient Codes - due June 6
- DOE: Clean Energy to Communities (C2C) program - In-Depth Partnerships - due June 14
- CTC: Active Transportation Program - due June 17
- CPUC: Equity, Engagement, and Education (EEE) Grant Account Cycle 2 - due June 30
- DOE: Renewable Energy Siting through Technical Engagement and Planning (RSTEP)
- CEC: Community Energy Reliability and Resilience (CERRI) Investment Program - due July 12
- DOE: EECBG Formula Grants and Voucher - due October 31
- EPA: Environmental and Climate Justice Community Change Grants - Nov 21, 2024. EPN app guide.
- IRS: Consumer clean energy tax credits live! DOE: Low-Income Communities Bonus Credit (rolling applications)

Other Assistance

- CivicWell: Host a CivicSpark Fellow: applications due June 7
- 3C-REN: The Past, Present, and Future of HERS Raters May 15 3-5pm
- SCE: Transportation Electrification (TE) Advisory Services
- DOE: Clean Energy to Communities (C2C) - NREL In-Depth Partnerships due June 14, Expert Match
- EESI: Fact Sheet: IRA Direct Pay (Tax Credits), Congressional Progressive Caucus Direct Pay Office Hours/Toolkit

Input Opportunities

- CARB: CA Climate Investment Triennial Investment Plan
- OPR/CNRA: Updated Statewide Climate Adaptation Strategy - workshops in June



Featured Presentation



Program Lead, DOE SCEP

Lisa Hu



SCEP

STATE & COMMUNITY ENERGY PROGRAMS

DOE Funding Opportunities and Resources for Local Governments

California Climate and Energy Collaborative (CCEC) Local Energy Resources Network (LERN) Meeting | 05.14.2024

Lisa Hu
Office of State and Community Energy Programs (SCEP)



Energy Codes: FOA Overview - Deadlines

Full Applications for Round 1 (Must have submitted concept paper)

April 30, 2024 (5pm ET)

Concept Papers Round #2

May 31, 2024 (5 pm ET)

Second Round Full Application

Late Summer 2024

Third Round
(pending funding availability):

Spring 2025

More Info: <https://www.energy.gov/scep/technical-assistance-adoption-building-energy-codes>



SCEP

STATE & COMMUNITY ENERGY PROGRAMS

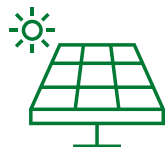
Whole Greater than Sum of its Parts

SCEP's Mission is to partner with State, Local, and Tribal governments and community organizations to catalyze local economic development and job creation through equitable, clean energy solutions.

SCEP does this through the **management and oversight of \$16 billion** in formula grants, competitive grant awards, consumer rebate grants, and technical assistance.



Prioritize
Justice40
Initiative



Deploy clean
energy
technologies



Catalyze local
economic
development



Create
jobs and
increase hiring



Avoid pollution
through place-based
strategies



Reduce
energy costs

28+ Programs Coming Out of SCEP

\$260M for
Building
Efficiency
Workforce
Training

\$750M for
State Energy
Program &
Revolving Loan
Fund

\$500M for
Energy Efficiency
& Renewable
Energy in Public
Schools

\$100M for
Energy
Future
Grants

\$50M for
Energy
Efficiency for
Non-Profits

\$550M for
Energy Efficiency
& Conservation
Block Grants
Program

\$1B for
Energy Codes
Technical Assistance

\$3.5B for
Weatherization Assistance Program

\$8.8B for Home Energy Rebates

Formula Funding Opportunities

Formula Funding Opportunities



Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG)

The \$550 million Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) program funds states, local governments, and Tribes to implement strategies reducing energy use, reducing fossil fuel emissions, and improving energy efficiency. **Local governments must apply by October 31, 2024; Tribes must apply by May 31, 2025.**



Latest and Zero Building Codes

Assistance for Latest and Zero Building Energy Code Adoption provides \$1 billion grants to support states and local jurisdictions in adopting, implementing, and enforcing the latest model, zero energy codes, or equivalent codes and standards. Applications for the first round of competitive awards were due on **April 30, 2024.**



Home Efficiency Rebates (HOMES) and Home Electrification and Appliance Rebates (HEAR)

The Home Energy Rebates program provides nearly \$8.8 billion, including \$4.3 billion Home Efficiency Rebates (HOMES) and \$4.5 billion Home Electrification Appliance Rebates (HEAR). DOE estimates these rebates will save households up to \$1 billion annually on energy bills and support over 50,000 US jobs. **States, Tribes, and territories can apply now.**



EECBG: flexible formula funds | Local govts apply by 10/31/24

Total Funding Amount:
\$550M

1,878 local governments are eligible for awards:

Average: \$159,318

Streamlined Option:

Vouchers for Equipment Rebates and/or Technical Assistance offer shorter applications and fewer reporting requirements.

14 flexible, eligible use areas

Example eligible activities:

- Develop municipal emissions strategy (e.g., buildings, fleet)
- Community solar and storage installations
- Energy efficiency retrofits on public and private buildings, such as heat pump installations
- Workforce development programs to promote clean energy

DOE Technical Assistance

Blueprints. High-impact ideas with **step-by-step instructions** that focus on Energy Justice. Monthly **Blueprint Cohort sessions** enable learning from experts and peers.

Community Energy Fellows. DOE will sponsor a full-time fellow to support the implementation of your EECBG Program grant. The fellowship lasts 19 months.

Technical Assistance to Support Applications. Access no-cost, 1:1 application support.

Building Energy Codes

Comprehensive code interpretation for IRA funding to lift all eligible jurisdictions:

- ✓ Allow **flexibility for agencies** to determine the right building energy policy for their state or jurisdiction depending on their authorities and priorities
- ✓ Encompass traditional energy codes, building performance standards (BPS), and other innovative codes that **meet the statutory criteria** for "equivalent" energy savings
- ✓ Codes must be **implementable, verifiable, and enforceable**
- ✓ Codes can be applicable to **new or existing buildings** (residential and commercial)



Energy Codes: Overall Program Funding & Timing

Section 50131 Provisions

Grants to **States, and units of local government with code making authority** to:

- adopt the latest model building energy codes or equivalent codes
- adopt zero energy codes or equivalent

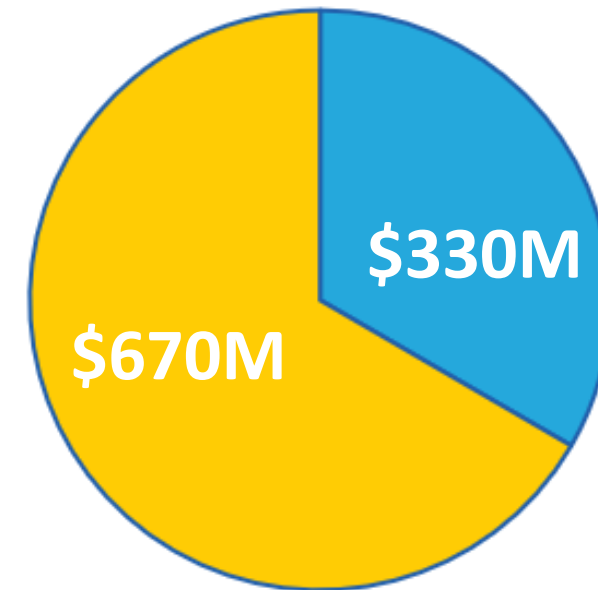
Grant recipient must **submit a plan** that shows how compliance with the latest, zero, or equivalent energy code or standards is going to be handled:

- implementation plan to achieve full compliance with any building energy code adopted with grants funds for new and renovated residential or commercial buildings;
- active training and enforcement programs; and
- measurement of the rate of compliance each year

Cost share is not required for grantees

Funding Details

- Latest Model Energy Codes or Equivalent
- Zero Energy Codes or Equivalent



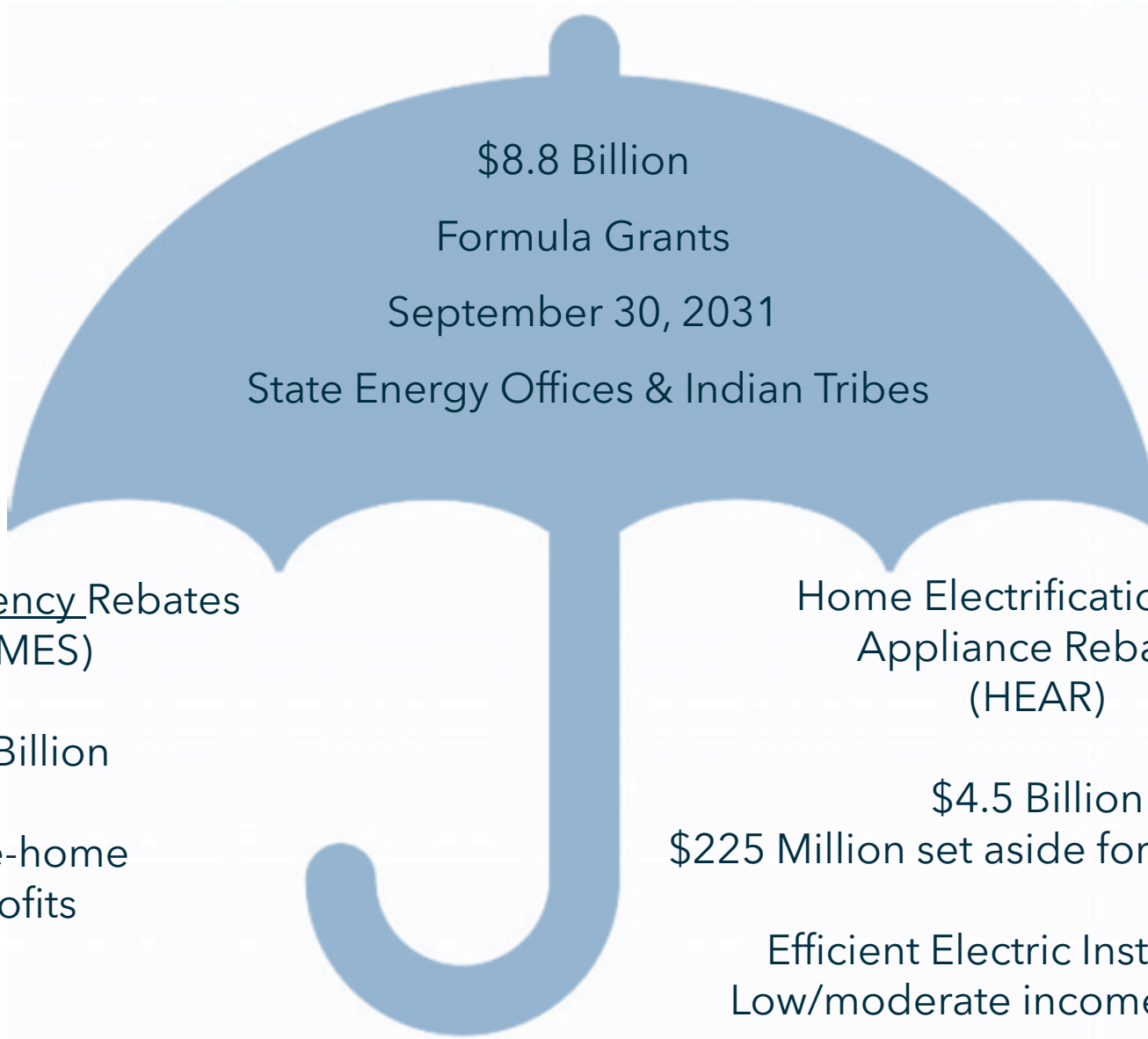
Statute allows for up to 5% of the total funding to be used for DOE administrative costs

Timeframe: Funds to be available through September 30, 2029

Energy Codes: Funding Eligibility Overview

		ALRD #1	FOA #1	
Eligible Applicants	States	✓	✓	
	Territories	✓	✓	
	Localities		✓	
Eligible Codes	Latest Model Codes	IRA-Specified Latest Codes	✓	✓ (Locals Only)
		Pre-approved Amendments	✓	✓ (Locals Only)
		Custom Codes		✓
	Zero Codes	Innovative Approaches (BPS)		✓
		IRA-Specified Zero Codes	✓	✓ (Locals Only)
		Pre-approved Amendments	✓	✓ (Locals Only)
		Custom Codes		✓
		Innovative Approaches (BPS)		✓

Home Energy Rebates: HOMES & HEAR



Eligible to Single Family
and Multi Family Homes

Payments increase for
low and moderate
Income

Low Income - less than
80% Area Median
Income

Moderate Income - 80-
150% Area Median
Income

Prohibition on
Combining with other
federal rebates

Home Energy Rebate Provisions: Details

50121: Efficiency “Whole Home” Rebates Administered by States/Territories

Level of Savings	Maximum Rebate Amount Greater than 80% AMI / Less than 80% AMI
20-35% savings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$2000 / \$4000 Up to 50% Cost / Up to 80% Cost
More than 35% savings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$4000 / \$8000 Up to 50% Cost / Up to 80% Cost
Exception for Low-Income (<80% AMI)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> States can request to raise rebate amount
Exception for “Measured Savings” Approach	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Can begin as low as 15% savings No maximum savings or rebate amount Increased payment rate for low-income

50122: Electrification and Appliance Rebates Administered by States/Territories/Tribes



Upgrade Type	Equipment/Service	Maximum Amount
Appliance Upgrades	Heat Pump Water Heater	\$1,750
	Heat Pump for Space Heating or Cooling	\$8,000
	Electric Stove, Cooktop, Range, Oven, or Electric Heat Pump Clothes Dryer	\$840
Non-appliance Upgrades	Electric Load Service Center Upgrade	\$4,000
	Insulation, Air Sealing, and Ventilation	\$1,600
	Electric Wiring	\$2,500
Maximum per home or unit		\$14,000

Potentially Eligible Equipment & Housing Types


IRA authorizes some type of Home Energy Rebate for the following technologies and housing types



Electric Heat Pump Clothes Dryer



Electric Heat Pump for Heat & A/C



Electric Heat Pump Water Heaters



Whole Home Air Sealing



Duct Sealing & Insulation



& Potentially Other Energy-Saving Technology!



Attic, Wall, or Foundation Insulation



Ventilation Systems



Smart, Energy-Saving Technology



Electric Panel & Wiring Upgrades



Electric Stove, Cooktop, Range, Oven



Single-Family Homes & Multifamily Buildings



New Construction & Existing Housing Units



Owner-Occupied & Rental Properties

Competitive Funding Opportunities

Introducing C-SITE! - Due 5/31/24 at 5pm ET



SCEP
STATE & COMMUNITY ENERGY PROGRAMS

Communities Sparking Investment in Transformative Energy (C-SITE) Funding Opportunity

Powered by the Local Government Energy Program (LGEP)

\$18 million in funding for clean energy projects and programs



Deliver Local Benefits



Advance Energy Priorities



Spark New Investments

Tribes and Local Governments can
apply through **May 31, 2024**

Visit: [energy.gov/scep/
local-government-energy-program](https://energy.gov/scep/local-government-energy-program)

C-SITE: Program Goals



Deliver direct local community benefits of clean energy, such as reduced energy costs and improved air quality, through implementation of community-led energy projects or programs



Spark additional investments in communities that create long-term local economic development opportunities and support community revitalization



Advance community-identified energy priorities and right to self-determination



Build local capacity and partnerships in local governments and Tribes

C-SITE: Award Structure Overview



Eligible Entities

Tribes and Local Governments, representing:

- disadvantaged communities
- energy communities
- small to medium-sized jurisdictions



Up to 20 competitive awards of approx. **\$900,000 to \$3.6M** per award.

Grant period: 12-36 months



Customized technical assistance from experts, including peer exchanges



Community Energy Fellow, optional on-site or virtual capacity to support program implementation for up to 18 months

C-SITE: Topic Area- Transformative Energy Implementation

Projects may range in geographic scopes and technology areas including, but not limited to:

- building efficiency and/or electrification,
- electric transportation,
- microgrid development and deployment,
- renewable energy,
- resilience hubs, and
- workforce development

Community-identified priorities such as found in:

- ❖ Tribal strategic plans
 - ❖ local government climate action plans,
 - ❖ regional electrification plans,
 - ❖ utility community benefit programs,
 - ❖ long-range transportation or housing plans,
 - ❖ Previous DOE supported efforts
- ...and more!

Seeking High Impact Projects and Programs

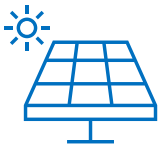
- ✓ Have **pre-existing community and decision-maker buy-in**, and benefit disadvantaged communities
- ✓ Demonstrate commitment to meaningful **community engagement**
- ✓ Build on existing **community assets**, or turn liabilities into assets
- ✓ **Attract additional investments** to complete, sustain, or scale implementation and impact
- ✓ Create **economic and community revitalization opportunities**

C-SITE: Possible Project Examples

Illustrations of potential projects funded through this award may include:



Energy efficiency upgrades and on-site battery storage for a **community resilience hub/s** located in a disadvantaged community.



Tribal partner-owned solar plus storage microgrid independent power project providing power to remote households.



Municipally-owned **utility-scale solar photovoltaic (PV) installation** on reclaimed industrial land accessing relevant tax credits.



Downtown revitalization led by **public/private partnership** creating energy efficient buildings primed for reuse for business or community use.



Electric vehicle ride-sharing program aimed at serving low-income residents to **increase mobility and access** to economic opportunities.

C-SITE: Applications Specifically Not of Interest

- ✘ Applications that **fall outside the technical parameters** specified in Section I.A. and I.B.
- ✘ Applications for proposed **technologies** that are **not based on sound scientific principles** (e.g., violates the laws of thermodynamics).
- ✘ Applications for which the **prime applicant is not an eligible applicant**, as described in Section III.i.
 - Entities not eligible as prime applicants, but can be subrecipients include but are not limited to
 - Nonprofit Organizations
 - Academic and/or research institutions, Colleges and Universities
 - For-profit entities
 - National laboratories
 - States
- ✘ Applications for projects in **visioning and planning stages** rather than implementation stage.
 - Projects in visioning and planning stages are strongly encouraged to explore additional Technical Assistance (TA) offerings and capacity-building strategies through SCEP.

C-SITE: Eligibility

Federally Recognized Indian Tribe and Local Governments representing AT LEAST ONE of the following:



Disadvantaged Communities (DACs)

- Community encompasses census tract/s that meet the thresholds for at least one of the categories of burden through **Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool (CEJST)**, OR
- US territory or federally recognized Indian Tribe



Energy Communities

- A “brownfield site”
- A “metropolitan statistical area (MSA)” or “non-MSA” with
 - 0.17% or greater direct employment or 25% or greater local tax revenues from the extraction, processing, transport, or storage of coal, oil, or natural gas; AND
 - an unemployment rate at or above the national average unemployment rate for the previous year
- A census tract containing a coal mine closed after 1999 or a coal-fired electricity generating unit retired after 2009



Small and Medium-Sized Jurisdictions

- “Small” jurisdictions: under 100,000 people
- “Medium” jurisdictions: under 250,000 people

¹ [Climate & Economic Justice Screening Tool \(geoplatform.gov\)](https://www.geoplatform.gov)

² [IRA Energy Community Tax Credit Bonus \(doe.gov\)](https://www.doe.gov);
[Treasury Notice-2023-29 \(irs.gov\)](https://www.irs.gov)

How is “local government” defined in this FOA?

Local Government: For the purposes of this FOA, ‘local governments’ are defined as jurisdictions that include, but are not limited to, ANY of the following:

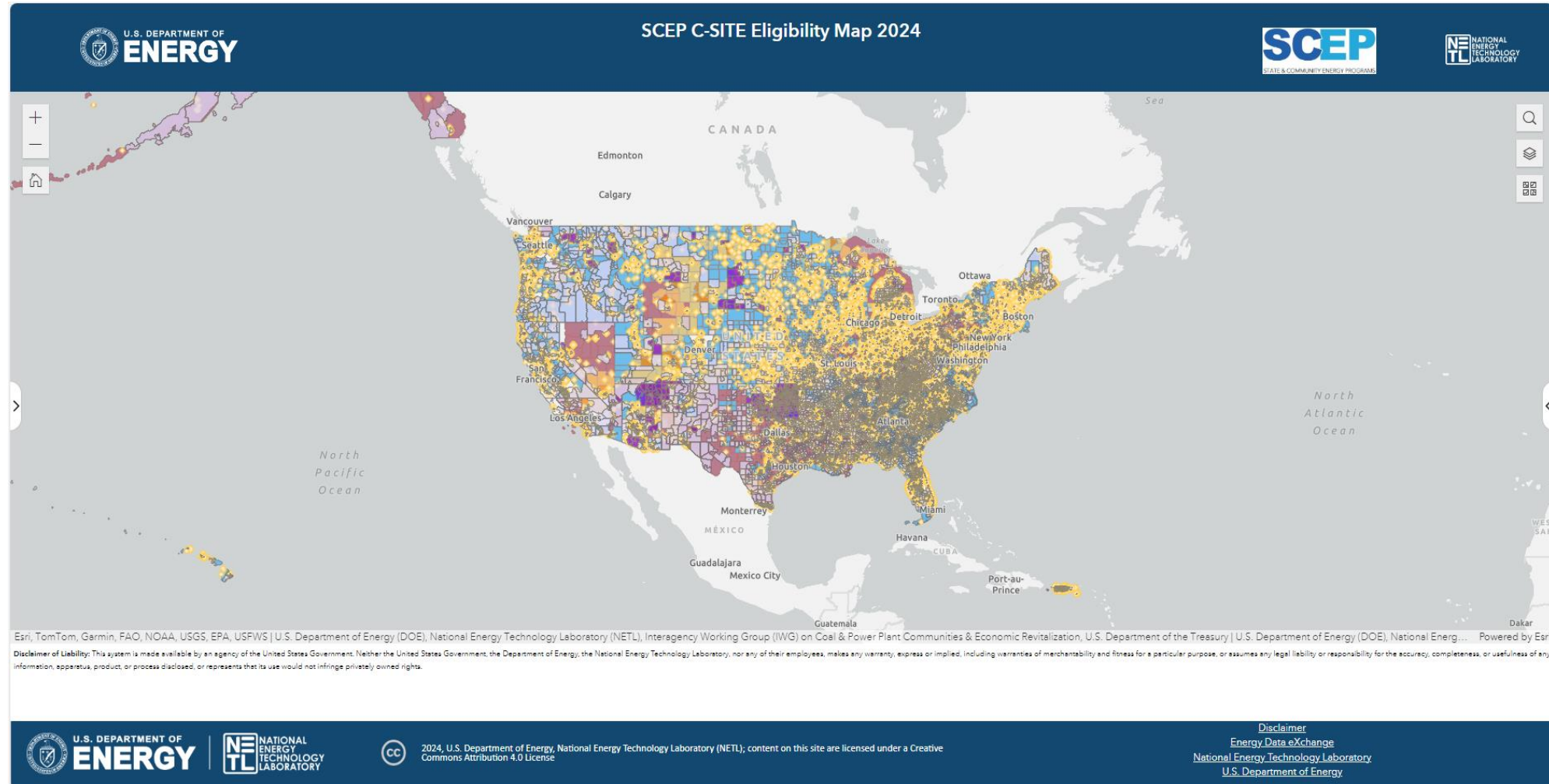
- Cities, towns, and villages;
- Counties, including on behalf of unincorporated communities, as well as special districts and joint powers authorities;
- Municipally or Tribally-owned utilities;
- Metropolitan planning organizations, regional planning organizations; and
- Councils of governments.

C-SITE: Eligibility Map

This web map provides an illustrative view of communities eligible for C-SITE.

Eligible Applicants:
Tribes and local govts representing

- disadvantaged communities OR
- energy communities OR
- small- and medium-sized jurisdictions



NOTE: If your community is not adequately reflected in this map, please state why you are eligible in your application.

C-SITE: Cost Share

Cost share requirement for this FOA is reduced to 5%.

- May be met through:
 - staff time,
 - municipal or Tribal budgets,
 - philanthropic funds, or
 - other contributions from a third-party entity to support project implementation or increase impact.
- Must come from non-federal sources, unless otherwise allowed by law
- May be met through the contribution of in-kind services that advance the proposed project.



C-SITE: Technical Assistance



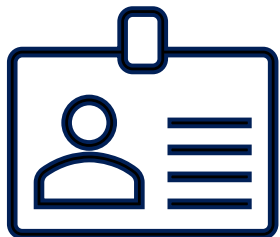
Customized Technical Assistance (TA)

- Comprehensive TA provided by technical experts.
 - 60 – 80 hours of expert access



Peer Exchange

- Awardees will have the opportunity to participate in peer exchanges to share ideas, wins, and obstacles.



Community Energy Fellow

- Awardees will have the opportunity to host a Community Energy Fellow.
 - Provide optional on-site or virtual capacity for up to 18 months
 - Support the implementation of the awarded project or program or additional clean energy plans.

C-SITE: Application Information

- Look at [LGEP program webpage](#) for more resources
 - Informational webinars posted
 - [5/9 How to Apply Webinar](#): application review criteria, application process & materials
- Check C-SITE [eligibility map](#)
 - *Note: communities not reflected are encouraged describe eligibility in application*
- Register and view materials on [Infrastructure Exchange](#)
 - Read the FOA, including the [Executive Summary](#)
- [Submit application materials](#) via Infrastructure Exchange
 - Due date: **Friday 5/31/24 at 5:00:00 pm ET**

Questions?

- Email LGEP@hq.doe.gov
- Visit energy.gov/scep/local-government-energy-program



Looking Ahead: SCEP's Annual Programs

- **Local Government Energy Program (LGEP)**
 - First C-SITE FOA due 5/31/2024. TA offerings launching late summer 2024. C-SITE FOA awardees announced late fall 2024.
 - Visit energy.gov/scep/local-government-energy-program
- **Energy Future Grants (EFG)**
 - First FOA closed. First FOA partner teams announced 4/4/24.
 - Visit energy.gov/scep/energy-future-grants



Office of Clean Energy Demonstrations (OCED): ERA Program

The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) authorizes U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) to invest **\$1 billion in Energy Improvements in Rural or Remote Areas**. The DOE Energy Improvements in Rural or Remote Areas (ERA) Program is managed by the Office of Clean Energy Demonstrations.

Purpose

To provide financial assistance to improve, in rural or remote areas of the United States, the **resilience, safety, reliability, and availability** of energy and environmental protection from adverse impacts of energy generation.

Program Goals

- 1 **Deliver measurable benefits to energy customers in rural or remote areas** by funding replicable energy projects that lower energy costs, improve energy access and resilience, and/or reduce environmental harm;
- 2 **Support new rural or remote energy system models** using climate-resilient technologies, business structures that promote economic resilience, new financing mechanisms, and/or new community engagement practices; and
- 3 **Build clean energy knowledge, capacity, and self-reliance in rural America.**

Current Status

Grant

- **April 2024:** Selected 19 projects for award negotiation
- **October 2023:** Received full applications
- **May 2023:** Announced \$50M in grant funding

Funding Opportunity Announcement

- **February 2024:** Selected 19 projects for award negotiation
- **August 2023:** Received full applications
- **March 2023:** Announced \$300M in funding

Energizing Rural Communities Prize

- **July 2023:** Selected 67 winners
- **May 2023:** Received full applications
- **March 2023:** Announced \$15M prize





For more information

- For questions regarding ERA projects email
EngageERA@hq.doe.gov

- OCED Website & Newsletter Sign-up
energy.gov/oced
Scroll to bottom to sign up here:

Sign Up for OCED News & Alerts

Subscribe and stay up-to-date on all upcoming funding opportunities, news announcements, upcoming events, and more.

- OCED Exchange (RFIs, NOIs, and FOAs)
oced-exchange.energy.gov
- Follow us on LinkedIn
linkedin.com/company/doe-oced/

SCEP Resources

New Resources and Partnership Opportunities



ESPC CAMPAIGN

Helps partners collectively achieve \$1B in measured & verified energy and cost savings by 2030.

Join the Campaign

The **Energy Savings Performance Contracting (ESPC) Campaign** engages the MUSH market to support, expand and enhance ESPC, drive the adoption of best practices, and achieve significant energy, environmental and cost savings benefits.



LEAD TOOL

Online tool that allows users to understand low-to-moderate income housing characteristics in the U.S.

Identify DACs Easily

The **Low-Income Energy Affordability Data (LEAD) Tool** has integrated the data from the White House Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool (CEJST), a geospatial mapping tool used to identify disadvantaged communities (DACs).

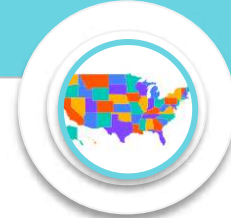


SLOPE TOOL

Online platform to support data-driven state and local energy and decarbonization planning

New Planning Data

The **State and Local Planning for Energy (SLOPE) Platform** added updated electricity market projections, new data on strategies for minimizing criteria air pollutant emissions, and new analysis on the impact of IRA on future electrification and emissions trends.



SEP

Quarterly opportunity for states to request 1-on-1 TA provided by subject matter experts.

DIRECT TA for SEOs

The **State Energy Program (SEP) Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) Technical Assistance (TA) Implementation Plan** presents strategies and actions for implementing SEP BIL TA, including Direct TA. The team's Revolving Loan Fund program also provides TA on state directed topics.



HOME Rebates

Resources to help SEO's support their application, implement the program, and educate consumers.

Rebate Program Support

SCEP's **Home Energy Rebates Program** has released several new resources to help state, territorial, and Tribal energy offices (SEOs) apply for, design, and implement their Home Energy Rebates programs.

Connect with Us

State & Local Solution Center (SLSC)

The SLSC is a resource hub for states, local governments, and K-12 school districts that compiles over 400 popular tools and resources, technical assistance offerings, funding opportunities, and more.



Subscribe to the monthly **State and Local Spotlight** newsletter stay up to date with new funding and technical assistance resources.

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY | OFFICE OF STATE AND COMMUNITY ENERGY PROGRAMS

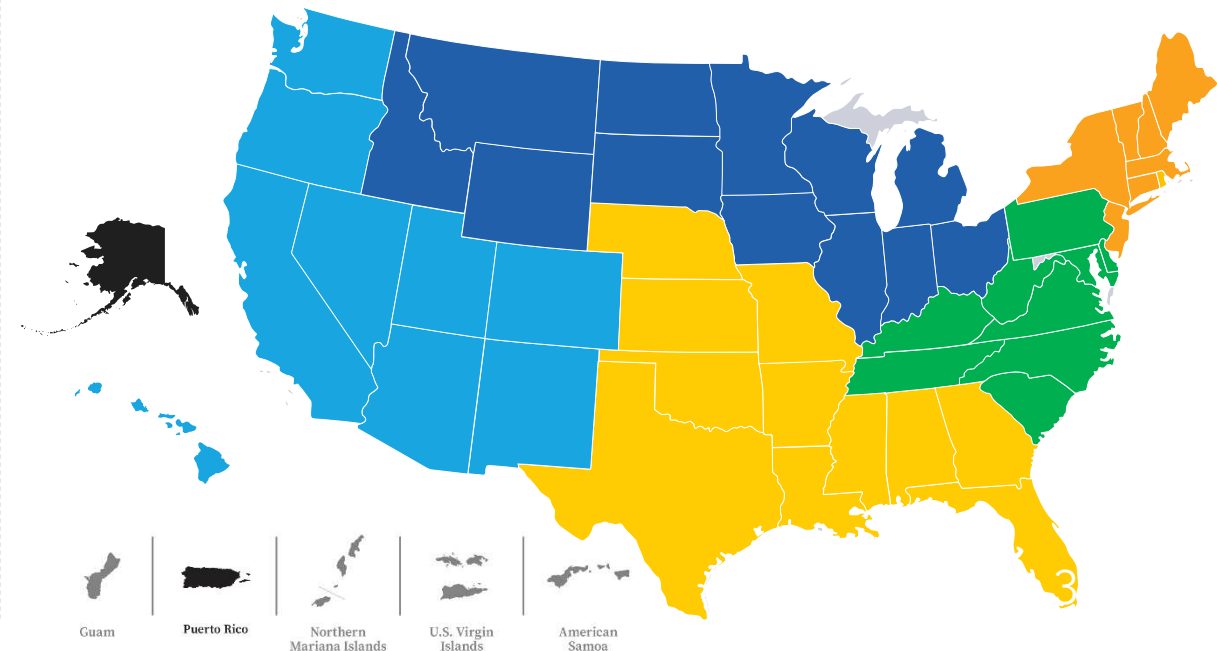
Office of Community Engagement (OCE)

OCE serves as the central hub for DOE's engagement efforts, providing a consolidated platform for communities to access comprehensive technical assistance and guidance on clean energy development.

Get Engaged Hotline - 202-586-0822

Get Engaged Email Address - getengaged@hq.doe.gov

<https://energy.gov/GetEngaged>



Thank you!



Featured Presentation



Energy Technology & Policy
Researcher, NREL
Sika Gadzanku



C2C: Clean Energy to Communities

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

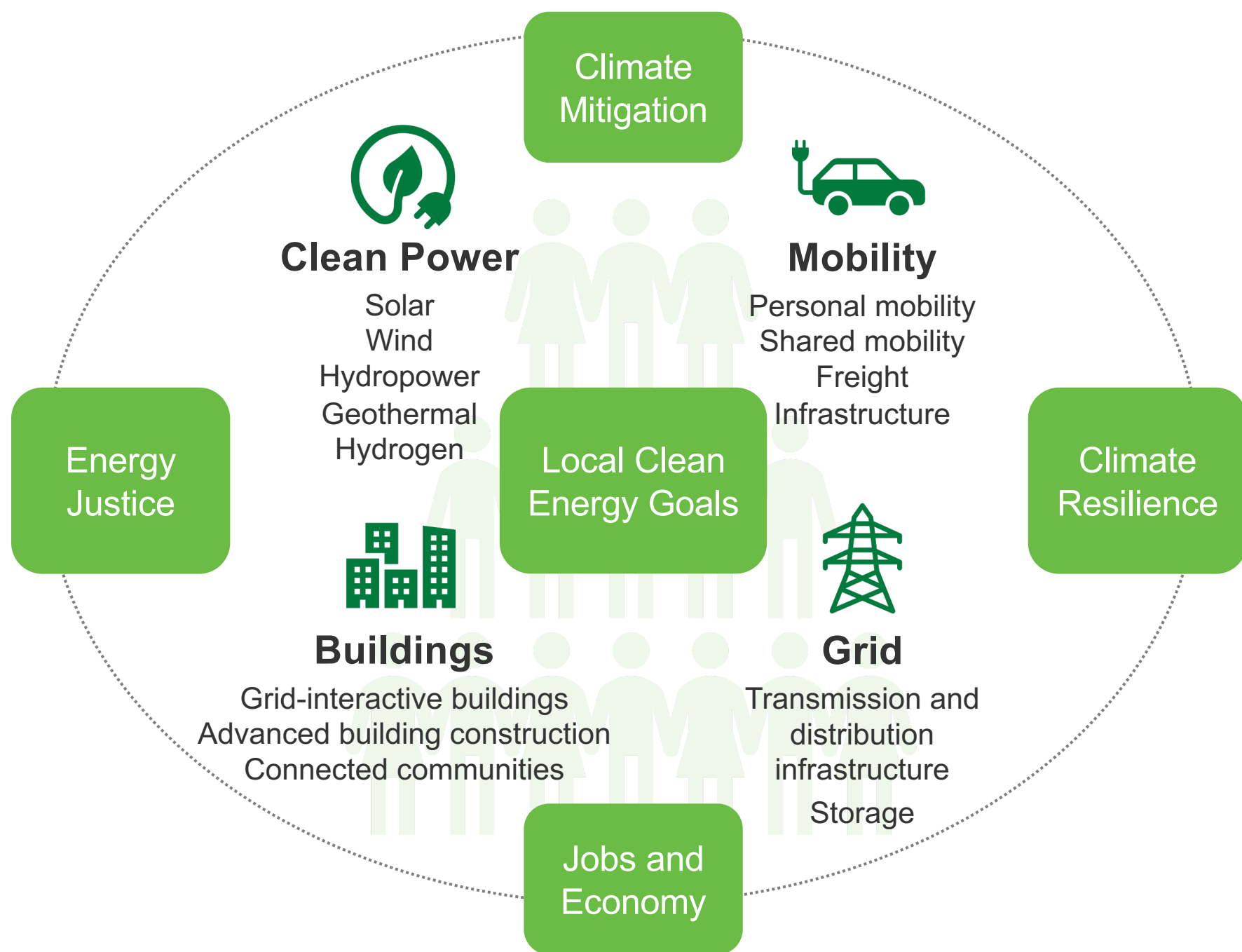
Clean Energy to Communities (C2C): General Program Overview

Sika Gadzanku, C2C Expert Match Lead

May 14, 2024



C2C provides **innovative, cross-cutting technical solutions** using an **integrated approach**



Clean Energy to Communities (C2C)

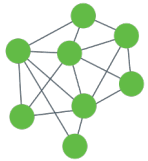
Technical Assistance Opportunities



In-Depth Partnerships ~3 years

Multiyear partnership made up of teams (local governments, community-based organizations, and electric utilities) that work alongside national laboratory staff to apply robust modeling and analysis tools and conduct hardware-in-the-loop testing of solutions to evaluate potential scenarios and strategies before full technology deployment.

Supports six communities currently. The pre-solicitation notice for the next application round is posted. The request for proposals will be released April 1.



Peer-Learning Cohorts ~6 months

Multi-community engagements that convene regularly for approximately 6 months to exchange strategies and best practices, learn in a collaborative environment, and workshop plans and strategies to overcome challenges around a common clean energy transition topic. Eligibility varies by cohort topic.

Can support about 100 communities per year. The next round of applications is open through April 30.



Expert Match ~3 months

Short-term, no-cost technical assistance for communities seeking to answer near-term clean energy questions. Eligible entities include local governments, utilities, community-based organizations, schools, and nonprofits.

Can support about 200 communities per year. Applications are accepted all year on a rolling basis.



C2C: Clean Energy to Communities

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Request for Proposals (RFP):

A pre-solicitation notice was released March 18 for an in-depth partnerships RFP. The RFP opened on April 1.

Application:

Community coalitions composed of staff from local governments, electric utilities, and CBOs respond to the RFP.

Selection:

Teams will be selected via a competitive RFP.

In-Depth Partnerships

In-depth partnerships engage teams of local government, utility, and community-based organization staff to work with national laboratory experts over the course of several years. Together, these coalitions apply robust modeling and analysis tools, and conduct hardware-in-the-loop testing of clean-energy solutions to evaluate potential scenarios and strategies before deploying technology, reducing risks to implementation.



In-depth partnerships offer:

- A dedicated national laboratory contact
- Up to \$500,000 in subcontractor funding
- Facilitation and community engagement support
- Extensive technical support from the DOE national laboratory complex (up to \$3.5 million).

For more information, visit:
www.nrel.gov/c2c/indepth

Apply for C2C In-Depth Partnership



In-Depth Partnerships

www.nrel.gov/c2c/indepth

Pre-solicitation: March 18–31, 2024

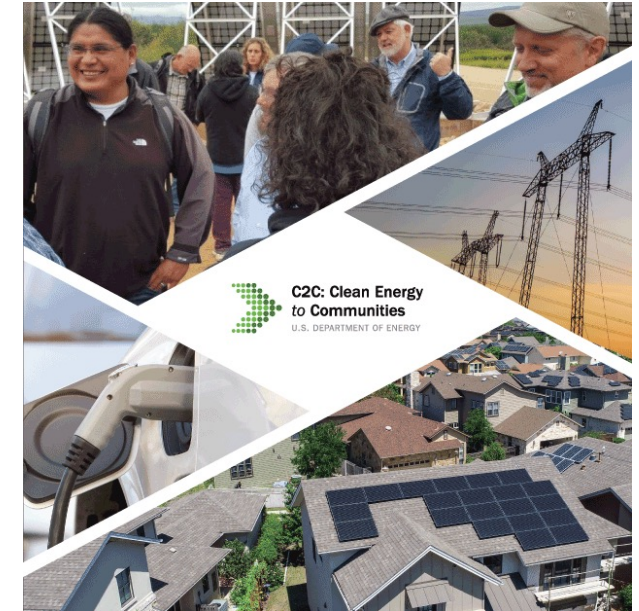
RFP opened: April 1, 2024

Deadline to apply: June 14, 2024

Partnerships will run: ~3 years



Scan to learn more
about In-Depth
Partnerships.



Contact c2c@nrel.gov with questions.



C2C: Clean Energy to Communities

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Every 6 months:

Three new cohorts launch on preselected clean energy topics.

Application:

Eligible entities (such as local governments, utilities, CBOs) apply to participate in a particular cohort.

Selection:

Evaluation committees review applications and select 8–15 communities to participate in each cohort.

Peer-Learning Cohorts

Peer-learning cohorts are multi-community engagements that convene regularly for approximately 6 months to exchange strategies and best practices and learn in a collaborative environment. Lab experts provide a cohort of up to 15 communities with education, case studies, analysis and modeling tools, templates, trainings, and facilitated collaboration to accelerate communities' clean energy progress.



Upcoming C2C cohorts:

- **Designing and Enhancing Energy Efficiency Programs for Residential Buildings**
- **Charting a Path to Municipal Fleet Electrification**
- **Implementing an Agrivoltaics Project.**

For more information, visit:
www.nrel.gov/c2c/cohorts



Expert Match Case Study

Washtenaw County, Michigan, has a population of 370,000. The Board of Commissioners of Washtenaw County recently approved the Resilient Washtenaw Climate Action Plan, which calls for an all-electric fleet by 2030. The county is very early in electrifying its fleet of 244 vehicles with only a few electric vehicles in their current fleet and just two chargers county-wide.

Expert Match supported the community by providing design guidance on:

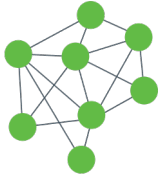
- **Municipal fleet transition** – analyzing the economic and emissions reductions options from transitioning the county’s municipal fleet, which is a mix of light- and medium-duty vehicles.
- **Funding pathways to support fleet transition efforts** – identifying state and federal funding opportunities that can support fleet transition efforts.

For more information about Expert Match, visit:
www.nrel.gov/c2c/expertmatch

Example Requested Questions

Topic Area	Most Requested Question
Clean Power	<p>What is the optimal size of solar plus storage for our municipal buildings and facilities?</p> <p>What sizing and configuration options are possible for this site if we want to pair solar with farming (agrivoltaics)?</p> <p>Could geothermal heat pumps be cost effective at our site(s)? What are some regulatory pathways to deploying geothermal systems?</p>
Buildings	<p>What are some cost-optimal options to retrofit critical facilities?</p> <p>Are heat pumps a cost-effective option for our buildings? What heat pump types make sense for our specific climate and building type?</p> <p>What are some pathways to decarbonize municipal building energy operations?</p>
Mobility	<p>What are some fleet transition pathways for our county?</p> <p>Where can we locate charging infrastructure to increase access to EVSE?</p> <p>What are some funding pathways that could support our fleet transition efforts?</p>
Jobs and Economic Development	<p>What are the clean energy job prospects in our county?</p>
Climate Mitigation and Resilience	<p>How can we increase the resilience of our critical facilities? Are microgrids a potential solution?</p>

Apply for C2C Technical Assistance



Peer-Learning Cohorts

www.nrel.gov/c2c/cohorts

Application closed but will open in the fall for Jan-June 2025 Cohorts.



Scan to learn more about Cohorts.



Expert Match

www.nrel.gov/c2c/expertmatch

Apply year round, at any time.

- Applications are reviewed on a rolling basis.



Scan to learn more about Expert Match.

Contact c2c@nrel.gov with questions.



Q&A

Please add your questions in the chat or raise your hand



Audience Discussion

DOE would appreciate your input:

We are designing future TA programs. Please share with us your experiences or ideas related to accessible, meaningful, and effective TA. What is or isn't working?



“Better Funding” on TA

“Task state administrators in each region to help develop regional capacity for climate resilience efforts. These administrators can also serve as “pinch-hitters,” adding capacity through secondments to organizations as needed, while also creating more accessibility by being more transparent owners of specific grant programs.” - Climate Crossroads Report

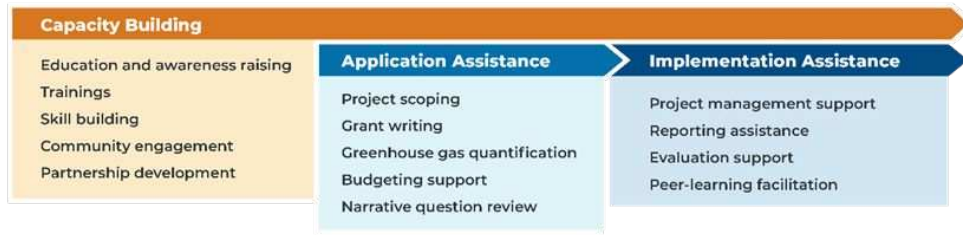
“We need upstream capacity building long before applications are made available, and preferably in a regional capacity with other jurisdictions.” – Input from March 14 SLECC

“80% of (California) jurisdictions are interested in more technical assistance for grant applications and writing.” – [OPR's 2020 Annual Planning Survey](#)

“Tribes at the 2024 Catalyst Conference asked that the State empower them directly rather than sending them unfamiliar, short-term help. Ongoing diversion of resources into these programs deserves a nuanced look to understand what models really work to enhance local capacity and funding success.”

“The expense of these programs should lead agencies to question whether grants must require so much time and expertise and if the better investment would be in making the process simpler on the front end.”

Spectrum of Technical Assistance



SGC's Technical Assistance Toolkit on [Determining the TA Program Structure](#)



“Better Funding” on TA

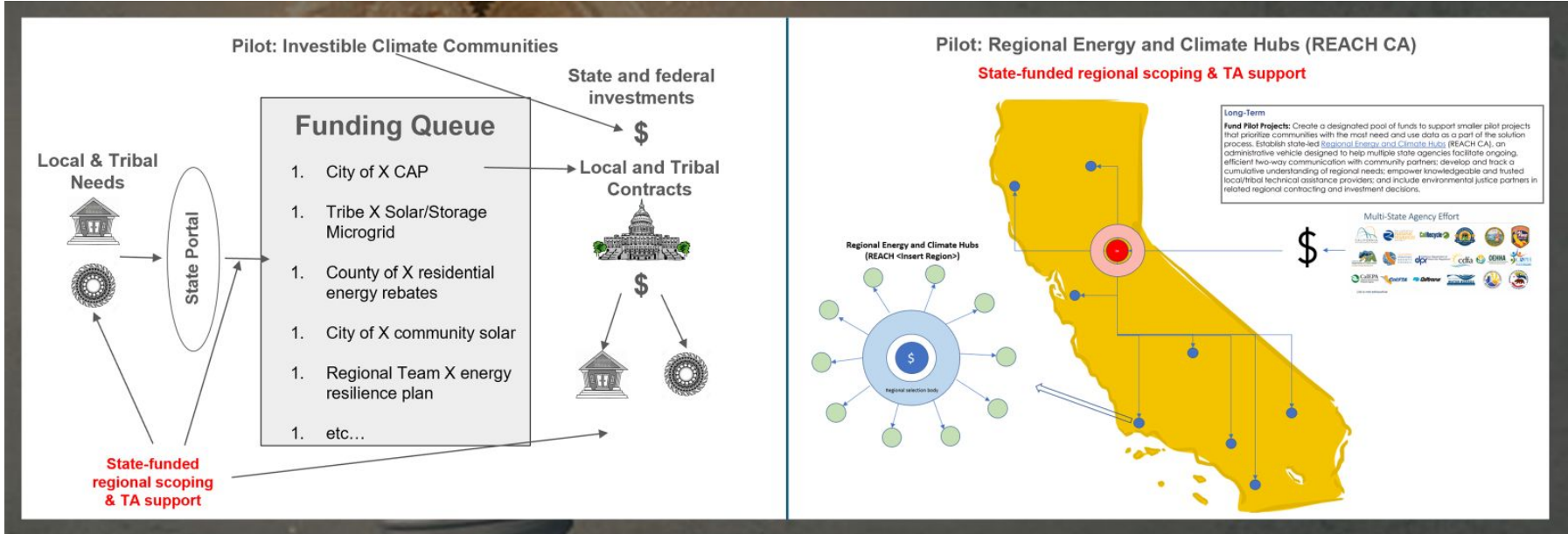
Idea	Best Practice
<p>Idea 21: Provide technical assistance in the form of grant tracking, matching, and application support, inclusive of pre-application vetting and advising to ensure “fit.” Craft blueprints and templates.</p>	<p><u>DOE EECBG Blueprints</u> ; <u>ILG BOOST</u>; <u>SGC’s Community Readiness Model</u>, <u>SGC’s Transformative Climate Communities</u>, <u>Regional Climate Collaboratives</u>; <u>Just Transition Fund</u>; <u>CalOES Resiliency Branch</u> is building a technical assistance team designed to help communities access funding.</p>
<p>Idea 25: Provide an easy to access, free TA service with a directory of grant experts from around the State with different types of subject matter and local knowledge.</p>	<p>SDSU’s <u>Center for Community Energy and Environmental Justice (CCEEJ)</u> is an EPA funded consortium of organizations that invites community organizations to request technical assistance for grant getting.</p> <p>SGC’s <u>Technical Assistance Toolkit</u> provides guidance for State agencies to offer meaningful TA.</p>
<p>Idea 26: Fund a subsidized fellow to support both application and administration of grants (should be long term)</p>	<p>The DOE’s EECBG program funds on-site <u>Community Energy Fellows</u> or Clean Energy Coaches to eligible local and tribal governments.</p>



“Better Funding” on TA

Idea 27: Direct dollars towards regional technical assistance providers for project scoping/grant TA where possible, which already have the proximity, local knowledge, and relationships to best serve local needs. TA providers can support multiple applications over multiple years.

SGC’s [Regional Climate Collaboratives](#). Consider piloting a regional administrative structure like REACH (see Appendix D).



BPC Workshop

Topic: Discussion



EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION
OPEN NOW!

15TH ANNUAL CCEC FORUM

Margaritaville Resort
Palm Springs, CA



June 25-26

No LERN next month - come to CCEC!

[Register Now](#)

***State and Local Energy and Climate Coordination
(SLECC) at the CCEC Forum***

June 25 | 9 - 11am

- *Possible discussion:*
 - Activity: Local Roles
 - Direct Pay Tax Credits and Bridge Funding
 - OPR Adaptation Listening Session

Local Energy Resources Network



What's Next?

- Bonus Breakouts up next!
- Next meeting **May 14th, 2024**
 - **Featuring DOE SCEP**
- No June meeting!
- Share [invitation](#) with others



Optional: Bonus Breakouts

Thanks for joining us!

This is a space for informal discussion among the LERN network. Feel free to:

- Offer an announcement, success story, or opportunity
- Share a need for information, collaborators, or advice
- Raise a suggested topic or speaker for future LERNS

If you need an in-depth discussion, you can pitch a specific bonus breakout topic and invite others to join you (today or we can plan ahead for next month)



CCEC Serves Local Needs



wEEkly Update



CURRENTS Quarterly



Webinars



Annual Forum



Active Funding Opportunities



Funding Program Database



Technical Assistance



Technical Assistance Directory



Local Government Roundtables



Best Practice Database



Interviews and Case Studies