

Local Energy Resources Network



Meeting 38
February 11, 2025

*Featuring CARB &
Lawyers for Good Government*



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
- Jillian Blanchard, Lawyers for Good Government
- Adil Mahmood, CARB
- Submit a proposal for the CCEC Forum! Deadline Extended!
- 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 (>\$20B raised since 2013)
- FY 23-24 Budget
- FY 24-25 Budget - May revise
- State agency proceedings
- CCI Reauthorization
- Proposition 4 Climate Bond
- Wildfire response/recovery
- Governor's 2025-2026 State Budget (highlights)

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)
- Trump Transition

Funding

- CEC: Reliable, Equitable, and Accessible Charging for Multi-family Housing 3.0 - February 14, 2025
- TFN: Partners for Places Matching Grant Program - February 28, 2025
- CEC: Technical Assistance for Zero-Emission Vehicle (ZEV) Infrastructure Funding - February 28, 2025
- USDA: High Energy Cost Grants - February 28, 2025
- CalEPA: Environmental Justice Action Grants - Round 2 - February 28, 2025
- Climate Resilience Fund: Climate Smart Communities Initiative - March 3, 2025
- DOE: Career Skills Training Program - March 6, 2025
- Robert Wood Johnson Found.: Local Data for Equitable Communities Grants Call for Proposals - March 18, 2025
- CEC: FAST 2.0 Fast Available Charging for All Californians - March 31, 2025
- DOE: Energy Improvements in Rural or Remote Areas (ERA) Funding - concept paper due Feb 27, 2025; app August 28, 2025
- USDA: Community Facilities Program Disaster Repair Grants - Available Until Funds are depleted
- State Water Resources Control Board - Clean Water State Revolving Fund Water/ Energy Audit - Rolling
- DOE: Technical Assistance for the Adoption of Building Energy Codes - Rolling
- CCEJ: Thriving Communities Grant (Region 9 Subawards) - Rolling

Other Assistance

- CEC: HEEHRA Phase I Program - stackable SF/MF rebates (up to \$8,000)
- Federal Energy and Climate Funding Updates and Resources

Input Opportunities

- Prop 4 survey and workshops (pending)
- Solar for All workshops (pending)



Spotlight



Staff Air Pollution Specialist, CARB

Adil Mahmood



Advanced Clean Fleets (ACF) State and Local Government

Adil Mahmood

Staff Air Pollution Specialist

Mobile Source Control Division

Advanced Clean Fleets

- Advanced Clean Fleets Waiver Withdrawal
- State and Local Government (SLG) fleets portion of the regulation remains unaffected
- Annual reporting period for SLG fleets begins March 1, 2025 with a deadline of April 1, 2025
 - SLG fleets following the ZEV Milestones Option should report immediately as the reporting period was in January
- [TRUCRS Reporting Information](#)
- [Advanced Clean Fleets Fact Sheets](#)
- Please submit questions to ZEVfleet@arb.ca.gov



Featured Discussion



Vice President of Climate Change and Environmental Justice,
Lawyers for Good Government

Jillian Blanchard



Q&A and Discussion

Audience Prompt:

Beyond support outlined,
what else could help you

*Add comments or questions to the
chat or raise your hand*

Other Resources that Could Be Helpful

- Tracker for status of fed energy/climate/ej programs
 - Whether programs or portals are accessible for drawdown
 - Whether program awards are not progressing to contracts
- Letter template for agencies illegally withholding payment for work on existing contracts
- Information about the laws that are broken if payments are withheld on existing contracts
- Letter template and guidance for orgs receiving notices about stopping work on DEI (custom letter for Tribes)
- Letter for congressional offices
- An updated list of where orgs can share their stories with contact info (media outlets, congressional offices, NGOs)
- Tracker for economic hardships mounting for awardees and their contractors
- Matchmaking for organizations that wish to collaborate on litigation or legislative efforts

SAFEGUARDING FEDERAL FUNDING

Update as of Feb. 11, 2025



LAWYERS FOR
GOOD
GOVERNMENT



Lawyers for Good Government (L4GG)

Goal: Leverage 125,000 legal advocates in all 50 states to ensure the equitable distribution of historic federal funding for climate, infrastructure and water by providing legal resources and assistance to states, local governments, nonprofits, and frontline community grantees.



Directly assisted 24 state governments representing 54% of the U.S. population with implementing climate & equity policy



Provided legal guidance to over 700 municipalities and communities on climate project funding
Provided over \$30M in pro bono legal assistance in 2024 alone



Currently represent 13 communities on multiple fed programs in 11 different states & territories

Potential Vulnerabilities

FEDERAL FUNDING

- Funds are not awarded/obligated
- Funds are not allocated/disbursed
- Investigations, inquiries, and audits
- Decreased staff/delay of funds

TAX CREDITS/DIRECT PAY

- Full repeal of tax credits
- Decreased staff/delay of funds
- L4GG guidance on tax credit status [available here](#)



IRA and IJA Funding– Efforts to Freeze

- Relevant Executive Orders continue to threaten funding
 - [“Unleashing American Energy”](#) and [“Ending Radical and Wasteful Government DEI Programs and Preferencing”](#) Executive Orders ([and others](#)) issued January 20
 - [OMB Memo](#) issued January 27, nominally rescinded January 29
- Two lawsuits: 23 State Attorneys General & [NGO coalition](#)
 - [Treasury’s interpretation](#) issued February 2 -- very broad
 - Federal court [Temporary Restraining Order \(TRO\) issued January 31](#) and [February 10](#) stated that Administration **must unpause ALL IRA and IJA Funding**
 - Administration [appealed late February 10](#)
- Current state of play: [L4GG’s Guidance Brief](#)



Pre-Clinic Legal Support

Answering legal questions that grantees in all stages of the process may have leading up to the election.



Attorney Training

~1-2 hours of training on general topics relating to protection of federal funds and pro bono engagement

Fund Protection Clinic Launch

L4GG will launch a Fund Protection Clinic in February/March that will offer more comprehensive, tailored assistance to grantees.

Webinars and Workshops

Hold a series of ~12 workshops over the next twelve months, starting with financial systems and procurement compliance.

Office Hours

Grantees will have an opportunity to ask webinar presenters questions during topic-specific office hours.



FUND
COMMUNITIES FIRST

L4GG'S LEGAL ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE NOW

ACCESSING TAX CREDITS

Clean Energy Tax Navigator

- Free, interactive tool for fact-specific tax credit guidance
- Use tax credits NOW for 2024 and 2025 projects



PROTECTING FEDERAL FUNDING

Fund Protection Clinic

- Works directly with federal grantees to protect their funds from potential clawbacks
- Includes services such as:
 - Legal assistance regarding compliance with terms and conditions
 - Defense against potential and actual attacks to federal funding

EPN'S CRITICAL SUPPORT TO OBLIGATE AWARDS RIGHT NOW



We offer **pro bono 1:1 support**, please email epa-support@trccompanies.com

Also, please use these [Best Practices: Steps you take now to protect your funding](#)



We have also created specific resources, office hours and learning cohorts, for selectees of:

- [Climate Pollution Reduction Implementation Grants](#)
- [Community Change Grants](#)
- [Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund's Solar for All](#)



**Environmental
Protection Network**

EPN & L4GG'S 1:1 TA

For 1:1 technical assistance, please complete [this form](#) or scan the QR code below to connect directly with regional staff

This includes help applying for [Grantmakers \\$](#)



Safeguards & What You Can Do

IF THIS HAPPENS...

- Funds are not awarded/obligated
- Funds are not allocated/disbursed
- Investigations, inquiries, and audits
- Decreased staff/delay of funds

DO THIS...

- [Contact EPN](#) for help reaching final award
- Complete [this form](#) to stay informed, and [email your PO](#) to build records
- Register for TOMORROW's [Financial Compliance webinar](#)
- Document everything!



Safeguards & What You Can Do

IF THIS HAPPENS...

- You can share your story with local electeds
- Elective Pay success story & data
- Matchmaking with litigators

DO THIS...

- Contact [Lilette Consulting](#) for PR help
- Send to [Atlas Public Policy](#) or Climate Power
- Contact L4GG – we are working with litigators to uplift good stories





LAWYERS FOR
GOOD
GOVERNMENT

Email us:

jillian@L4GG.org
larissa@L4GG.org
nicole@L4GG.org

Last Chance for Proposals!

CCEC Forum 2025

The logo for the California Climate & Energy Collaborative (CCEC) is circular. It features a map of California in the center with the acronym 'CCEC' overlaid. The text 'CALIFORNIA CLIMATE & ENERGY COLLABORATIVE' is written around the perimeter of the circle. Below the circle is a stylized icon of a mountain and a sun.

**CALL FOR
SESSION
PROPOSALS**

LAST CHANCE!
Final Deadline: February 14, 2025

The background of the right side of the image is a photograph of a city street at dusk or night. A street lamp with a clock face is visible on the right. In the background, a building with a tall spire, likely a cathedral or church, is visible through the trees. A red ribbon banner is overlaid at the bottom of the image, containing the text 'LAST CHANCE!' and 'Final Deadline: February 14, 2025'.

Local Energy Resources Network



What's Next?

- Bonus Breakouts up next!
- Next meeting **March 11, 2025**
- Share [invitation](#) with others

See you next time!



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



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