

# Funding Opportunities for Tribal Nations in the Inflation Reduction Act

NCAI Annual Meeting  
November 13, 2023



**USET Tribal Infrastructure  
Development Program**



### USET/USET SPF TRIBAL NATIONS

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1. Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians<br>Ani'Yunwiya              | 19. Oneida Indian Nation<br>Onyota'a:ka:   |
| 2. Miccosukee Tribe of Indians of Florida<br>Mikasuki           | 20. Aroostook Band of Micmacs<br>Mikmaq Nation   |
| 3. Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians<br>Chahta                | 21. Catawba Indian Nation<br>Ye Iswah h'reh  |
| 4. Seminole Tribe of Florida<br>I:loponathli                    | 22. Jena Band of Choctaw Indians<br>Chahta   |
| 5. Chitimacha Tribe of Louisiana<br>Sitimaxa                    | 23. The Mohegan Tribe<br>Mohiks  |
| 6. Seneca Nation of Indians<br>Onondowa'ga'                     | 24. Cayuga Nation<br>Gayogoho:no'  |
| 7. Coushatta Tribe of Louisiana<br>Koasati                      | 25. Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe<br>Maseepee Wöpanâak                                       |
| 8. Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe<br>Akwesasne                        | 26. Shinnecock Indian Nation<br>Shinnecock   |
| 9. Penobscot Indian Nation<br>Panawahpskek                      | 27. Pamunkey Indian Tribe<br>Pamunkey  |
| 10. Passamaquoddy Tribe - Pleasant Point<br>Peskotomuhkati      | 28. Rappahannock Tribe<br>Rappahannock   |
| 11. Passamaquoddy Tribe - Indian Township<br>Peskotomuhkati     | 29. Chickahominy Indian Tribe<br>Chickahominy  |
| 12. Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians<br>Metaksonikewiyik        | 30. Chickahominy Indian Tribe -<br>Eastern Division<br>Chickahominy - Eastern Division |
| 13. Tunica-Biloxi Tribe of Louisiana<br>Tayaroniku - Halyayihku | 31. Upper Mattaponi Indian Tribe<br>Mattaponi  |
| 14. Poarch Band of Creek Indians<br>Mvskoke                     | 32. Nansemond Indian Nation<br>Nansemond   |
| 15. Narragansett Indian Tribe<br>Nanaanongseuk                  | 33. Monacan Indian Nation<br>Monacan   |
| 16. Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Nation<br>Pequot                 | 34. USET Headquarters  |
| 17. Wampanoag Tribe of Gay Head (Aquinnah)<br>Aquinnah          | 35. USET SPF Office  |
| 18. Alabama-Coushatta Tribe of Texas<br>Alibamu & Koasati       |  |



## United South and Eastern Tribes (USET)

Established in 1969, the United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc. (USET) is a non-profit, inter-Tribal organization serving thirty-three (33) federally recognized Tribal Nations from the Northeastern Woodlands to the Everglades and across the Gulf of Mexico. USET is dedicated to enhancing the development of Tribal Nations, improving the capabilities of Tribal governments, and improving the quality of life for Indian people through a variety of technical and supportive programmatic services.

## USET Sovereignty Protection Fund (USET SPF)

Established in 2014, the USET Sovereignty Protection Fund (USET SPF) is a non-profit, inter-Tribal organization advocating on behalf of thirty-three (33) federally recognized Tribal Nations from the Northeastern Woodlands to the Everglades and across the Gulf of Mexico. USET SPF is dedicated to promoting, protecting, and advancing the inherent sovereign rights and authorities of Tribal Nations and in assisting its membership in dealing effectively with public policy issues.

Learn about our work to protect, promote, and advance the inherent sovereign rights and authorities of our member Tribal Nations at [www.usetinc.org](http://www.usetinc.org).

*Because there is Strength in Unity*



# Inflation Reduction Act

August 16, 2022: President Biden signs into law **H.R. 5376, the Inflation Reduction Act**

- \$437 billion in spending on energy and climate, reducing health care costs, increasing corporate minimum tax

**Direct Funding to Tribal Nations/Native Hawaiians = \$720M—0.16% of total funding**

- \$235 million for Tribal climate resilience, including fish hatchery operations and maintenance;
- \$225 million for development of Tribal high-efficiency electric home rebate programs;
- \$150 million for Tribal home electrification;
- \$75 million for the Tribal Energy Loan Guarantee Program and \$20 billion in allowable loan guarantees;
- \$25 million for Native Hawaiian climate resilience; and
- \$12.5 million for Tribal emergency drought relief.

**Tribal Nations are eligible for billions more through dozens of additional federal programs.**



# USET National Outreach, Education, and Advocacy Project

- National outreach and education
  - In-person trainings at various org partner meetings and conferences
  - Webinars
  - Partnerships with orgs and federal agencies
  - Educational materials: webpage, social media, 1-pagers, short videos
- Advocacy for Tribal interests – both on and off Tribal homelands



# USET Tribal Infrastructure Development Program Goals

- Awareness of how infrastructure laws impact Tribal Nations and what funding is available
- Access to IRA and other infrastructure funding
  - Implement in ways that work for Tribal Nations
- Equity in the distribution of funding between Tribal Nations and with other units of government
- Flexibility to respond to local conditions
- Streamlining in application and reporting processes
- Protection for Tribal sovereignty, sacred/cultural sites, and public health



# Program Spotlight: Section 6417 Elective Pay



# What is it?

Elective pay or direct pay allows tax-exempt and governmental entities that do not owe federal income taxes to receive a payment equal to the full value of tax credits they would otherwise qualify for if they paid federal income taxes.



# Eligibility

- Tax-exempt organizations under § 501
- Indian Tribal governments and their subdivisions
- Agencies and instrumentalities of Indian Tribal governments
- Alaska Native Corporations





# What tax credits are eligible for elective pay?

## Energy Generation & Carbon Capture

- Production Tax Credit for Electricity from Renewables (§45, pre-2025)
- Clean Electricity Production Tax Credit (§ 45Y, 2025 onwards)
- Investment Tax Credit for Energy Property (§ 48, pre-2025)
- Clean Electricity Investment Tax Credit (§ 48E, 2025 onwards)
- **Low-Income Communities Bonus Credit (§ 48(e), 48E(h))**
- Credit for Carbon Oxide Sequestration (§45Q)
- Zero-Emission Nuclear Power Production Credit (§ 45U)

## Other Categories

- Manufacturing
  - Advanced Energy Project Credit (§48C)
  - Advanced Manufacturing Production Credit (§ 45X)
- Vehicles
  - Credit for Qualified Commercial Clean Vehicles (§ 45W)
  - Alternative Fuel Vehicle Refueling Property Credit (§ 30C)
- Fuels
  - Clean Hydrogen Production Tax Credit (§ 45V)
  - Clean Fuel Production Credit (§ 45Z, 2025 onwards)



# How does it work?

- Identify and pursue the qualifying project or activity.
- Determine the tax year for which the tax credit will qualify.
- Complete pre-filing registration with the IRS, leaving enough time before the filing deadline for the IRS to provide a registration number for each applicable credit property. The filer will need to provide that registration number on their tax return to make the elective pay election.
- Satisfy all eligibility requirements for the tax credit and any applicable bonus credits (e.g., place the facility that received a Capacity Limitation allocation in service).
- File the required annual tax return (e.g., Form 990-T, for a Tribal government) by the due date and make a valid elective pay election.



# Rules & Guidance

- There is no final rule on the elective pay provisions of the Inflation Reduction Act yet.
- Special Rule in proposed rule would enable entities to combine grants and forgivable loans with tax credits → can use tax free grant or forgivable loan to get the same value of eligible tax credit as if investment were financed with taxable funds. Credit + restricted tax-exempt amounts cannot exceed costs of investment.



# Example of Proposed Special Rule

- For example:
  - A school district receives a tax-exempt grant in the amount of \$300,000 to purchase an electric school bus. Under IRA, clean commercial vehicles are eligible for a tax credit of up to \$40,000.
  - The school district purchases the bus for \$400,000, using the grant and \$100,000 of the school district's unrestricted funds.
  - The school district's basis in the electric bus is \$400,000 and the school district's section 45W credit is \$40,000.
  - Since the amount of the restricted tax-exempt grant plus the amount of the section 45W credit (\$340,000) is less than the cost of the electric bus, the school district's 45W credit is not reduced.



# Program Resources

- [IRS Elective Pay Landing Page](#) – on this page:
  - [Proposed Rule](#)
  - Program Fact Sheets
    - [Overview](#)
    - [Alaska Native Corporations](#)
    - [Indian Tribal Governments](#)
    - [Elective Pay Eligible Tax Credits](#)



# Program Spotlight: Low Income Communities Bonus Credit (26 U.S.C. § 48(e))



# What is it?

The Low-Income Communities Bonus Credit Program adds a 10% or 20% increase to the existing energy investment tax credit for qualified solar and wind facilities < 5 MW-AC.



# How does it work?

- There are 1.8 GW of solar and wind direct-current capacity available per year (Capacity Limitation).
- Owners of eligible facilities can apply for a Capacity Limitation allocation.
  - For Program Year 2023, the total Capacity Limitation will be divided into four categories:

Category	Allocation (megawatts)	Tax Credit Percentage
(1) Located in a Low-Income Community	700	10%
(2) Located on Indian Land	200	10%
(3) Qualified Low-Income Residential Building Project	200	20%
(4) Qualified Low-Income Economic Benefit Project	700	20%





# How does it work? (cont'd)

- If the applicant receives a Capacity Limitation allocation, it has four years from the date of receipt of the allocation to place the facility in service. *Receipt of an allocation does not guarantee eligibility for the bonus credit.*
- After the facility has been placed in service, the IRS will determine whether the facility is eligible for the bonus credit, or disqualified.
- Once the IRS has completed its review, it will issue an eligibility or disqualification letter. If the IRS issues an eligibility letter, the applicant may claim the bonus credit on their applicable tax filing form OR make a direct pay election, if applicable.



# Reasons for Disqualification

- Facility location changes
- Facility cannot satisfy the financial benefits requirements for Category 3 or Category 4
- Facility is not placed in service within 4 years of the allocation award
- Facility received an allocation based on meeting the Ownership Criteria, and the ownership of the facility changes prior to the facility being placed in service such that the Ownership Criteria is no longer satisfied.



# Application Process

- Applications submitted within 30 days of the application opening (i.e. before 11:59 p.m. EST on 11/18/23) will be treated as submitted on the same date and at the same time.
- If at the conclusion of the 30-day period any category of Capacity Limitation is oversubscribed, a lottery will be held on 11/20/2023 to determine the order that applications submitted during the 30-day period will be reviewed.
- Applications will then be accepted on a rolling basis until the end of the program year (likely through early 2024) for any category that has not reached the Capacity Limitation. A Program Capacity Dashboard will be published after the initial 30-day period to show the remaining capacity for each application option.



# Additional Selection Criteria

- For Program Year 2023, at least 50% of the total capacity in each program category will be reserved for qualified facilities that meet Additional Selection Criteria.
- Facilities may qualify for Additional Selection Criteria based on Ownership or Geography.



# Ownership Criteria

- Tribal enterprise, defined as:
  - Owned at least 51%
    - Directly by an Indian Tribal government; or
    - Indirectly through a corporation that is wholly owned by an Indian Tribal government; and
  - Subject to Tribal government rules, regulations, and/or codes that regulate the operations of the entity
- Alaska Native Corporation, as defined by ANCSA
- Renewable energy cooperative
- Qualified renewable energy company – includes some companies that are majority owned by Indian Tribal governments and ANCs that meet additional criteria
- Qualified tax-exempt entity – includes Indian Tribal governments and some Tribal housing authorities, political subdivisions & instrumentalities of Tribal governments



# Geographic Criteria

- Does not apply to Category 2 facilities – “Indian lands” is defined in the Energy Policy Act
- Based on county or census tract where facility is located
  - Persistent Poverty County
  - Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool Energy Category
- [Public mapping tool](#) on DOE program landing page can help applicants identify if their facility meets the geographic criteria



# Category 1 Facilities – Additional Sub-reservation

- A sub-reservation will be made for Category 1 facilities that are residential behind the meter facilities, including rooftop solar.
- The remaining Category 1 Capacity Limitation will be allocated to applicants with front of the meter facilities and non-residential behind the meter facilities.



# Application Options

Category and Application Option	MW	MW
(1) Located in a Low-Income Community - Eligible Residential Behind-the-Meter (BTM)	245	700
(1) Located in a Low-Income Community - Eligible Residential BTM – <b>Additional Selection Criteria</b>	245	
(1) Located in a Low-Income Community - Other Eligible LI Community Project	105	
(1) Located in a Low-Income Community - Other Eligible LI Community Project – <b>Additional Selection Criteria</b>	105	
(2) Located on Indian Land	100	200
(2) Located on Indian Land - <b>Additional Selection Criteria</b>	100	
(3) Qualified Low-Income Residential Building Project	100	200
(3) Qualified Low-Income Residential Building Project - <b>Additional Selection Criteria</b>	100	
(4) Qualified Low-Income Economic Benefit Project	350	700
(4) Qualified Low-Income Economic Benefit Project - <b>Additional Selection Criteria</b>	350	





# Program Resources

- Ejbonussupport@hq.doe.gov – for program questions and applicant portal assistance
- [DOE Program Landing Page](#) – on this page:
  - [Low Income Communities Bonus Credit Final Rule](#)
  - [IRS Procedural Guidance](#)
  - [Applicant Checklist](#)
  - [Applicant User Guide](#)



# Other Tax Incentives: Energy Communities Bonus Credit



# What is it?

The Energy Communities Bonus Credit adds an up to 10% bonus credit on top of an existing Production Tax Credit or Investment Tax Credit for energy projects, facilities, and technologies located in or placed in service in an “energy community.”



# Eligibility

The following are considered “energy communities”:

- A brownfield site (as defined by the Comprehensive Environmental Response and Liability Act (CERCLA))
  - Summarized in the guidance: “real property, the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant (as defined under 42 U.S.C. § 9601) and certain mine-scarred land (as defined in 42 U.S.C. § 9601(39)(D)(ii)(III)).”
  - Safe Harbor Rule: The IRS will accept that a site is a brownfield site if it meets one of the following:
    - The site was previously assessed through federal, state, territory, or federally recognized Indian tribal brownfield resources as meeting the definition of a brownfield site under 42 U.S.C. § 9601(39)(A).
    - ...etc.
- Potential sites can be found here: <https://www.epa.gov/cleanups/cleanups-my-community>



# Eligibility (cont'd)

- A “metropolitan statistical area” or “non-metropolitan statistical area” that has (or had at any time after 2009)
  - 0.17% or greater direct employment or 25% or greater local tax revenues related to the extraction, processing, transport, or storage of coal, oil, or natural gas; and
  - has an unemployment rate at or above the national average unemployment rate for the previous year
- A census tract (or directly adjoining census tract)
  - in which a coal mine has closed after 1999; or
  - in which a coal-fired electric generating unit has been retired after 2009
- See the [guidance](#) for more details.



# Is the bonus credit eligible for elective pay?

Yes, if it falls under the following categories:

- Production Tax Credit for Electricity from Renewables (§45, pre-2025)
- Clean Electricity Production Tax Credit (§ 45Y, 2025 onwards)
- Investment Tax Credit for Energy Property (§ 48, pre-2025)
- Clean Electricity Investment Tax Credit (§ 48E, 2025 onwards)



# Program Resources

- [Initial Treasury Guidance](#)
- [Updated Treasury Guidance](#) – There is no proposed rule yet for the Energy Communities Bonus Credit.
- [Program Webpage](#)



# Direct Federal Investments





# DOE Tribal Home Energy Rebates

High-Efficiency Electric Tribal Home Energy Rebates Program: \$225 million

- Fund energy efficiency and electrification home upgrades for Tribal households
- Provided to Tribal Nations via formula grant
- Application and guidance expected shortly.
  - [Program webpage](#)
  - [Informational slides](#)
  - [DRAFT Tribal Allocations](#)
    - Funding formula subject to change



# Background on Eligible Uses of Tribal Rebate Funding

## Maximum Rebate Per Improvement

Electric heat pump HVAC system	up to \$8,000
Electric heat pump water heater	up to \$1,750
Electric stove, cooktop, range, or oven	up to \$840
Electric heat pump clothes dryer	up to \$840
Electric circuit panel upgrade	up to \$4,000
Insulation, air sealing, and ventilation	up to \$1,600
Electric wiring upgrades	up to \$2,500

**Total electrification rebates cannot exceed \$14,000 per household**

While subject to the caps noted in the chart, rebates can cover -

- up to full project costs for low-income households (less than 80% Area Median Income)
- up to half of project costs for moderate-income households (80 - 150% Area Median Income)

***Tribes can choose to restrict rebates to certain technologies for local needs, such as only using rebates for wiring of non-electrified tribal households.***

# Planned \$150,000 Minimum for Each Tribe

## Goal: Ensure every Tribe has enough funds to launch a program

Must have minimum allocation per tribe that is meaningful

Must be high enough that admin funds are non-negligible (statute caps them at 20%)

## Proposed minimum allocation per Tribe at \$150,000

- At least \$120k for rebates; covers minimum 8 homes at \$14k per home
- Up to 20% for admin yields \$30k; if combined with ~10 small tribes can cover staff person
- Consultation feedback ranged from \$140,000 - \$200,000
- Prioritizing small/limited capacity tribes was 2<sup>nd</sup> highest selection on consultation poll

\$88.65M for minimum allocations

\$129.6M remaining for allocations based on weighted factors

# Intended Overall Timeline for Tribal Rebates Program

Development of model programs, tools, and technical assistance offerings for Tribes

Summer 2023

Fall 2023

Winter 2023/24

Spring 2024

Publish FRN with intended allocations

Finalize Tribal Program Requirements

Publish Tribal Program Requirements

Outreach and TA to help Tribes to apply

First Tribes submit apps for early admin \$

First Tribes Submit Full Apps

Continued Outreach and TA to help Tribes apply

More Tribes Submit Full Apps

*Other Tribes continue to apply for rebates funding throughout 2024 →*

# Investing in Coastal Communities & Climate Resilience

- **What is it?** NOAA received a \$2.6 billion investment for conservation, restoration, and protection of coastal and marine habitat and resources, including fisheries.
- **How much funding is available?** Of the \$2.6 billion invested in the Inflation Reduction Act, NOAA is setting aside 15%, or \$390 million, for Tribal priorities.
  - \$240 million to support Tribal salmon hatcheries through BIA's 638 program.
  - \$60 million for Mitchell Act hatcheries, to be made available through the existing Mitchell Act distribution process
  - \$70 million (\$83.4 million when combined with Bipartisan Infrastructure Law money) set aside for habitat restoration and fish passage grants (deadline passed November 8, 2023)
  - \$20 million set aside for capacity building and science support grants for tribal governments ([deadline December 19, 2023](#))
- **Additional Resources.** [NOAA Inflation Reduction Act landing page](#), [Tribal Input on Inflation Reduction Act \(NOAA\)](#)



# Competitive Grants



# BIA Tribal Electrification

**\$150 million total - \$145.5 million for programs and \$4.5 million for administration**

- The program will coordinate financial and technical assistance to Tribal Nations to increase the number of Tribal homes with zero emission electricity.
- Funding will be awarded through a competitive process.
- Criteria to make awards will vary based on the categories of capability to implement and parameters will be determined based on need and project readiness.

## Upcoming Milestones:

- October 28, 2023 – November 03, 2023 – Invites and Declines
- November 06, 2023 – Full application period begins
- December 22, 2023 – Full application DEADLINE
- January 02, 2024 – February 15, 2024 – Full application review
- March 01, 2024 – Award announcements



# Transmission Siting and Economic Development (TSED) Grants Program

- **What is it?** DOE's TSED grants will provide resources to siting authorities and state, local, and Tribal governments to mitigate lengthy siting and permitting processes to construct electric transmission infrastructure.
- **How does it work?** There are two grant programs.
  - Strengthening and accelerating the siting and permitting of covered transmission projects. The following are authorized activities for grant monies:
    - Studies and analyses of the impacts of a qualifying transmission project.
    - Examination of up to three alternate siting corridors where a qualifying transmission project could be sited.
    - Participation by the siting authority in regulatory proceedings or negotiations in another jurisdiction.
    - Participation by the siting authority in regulatory proceedings at the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission or a State regulatory commission.
    - Other measures and actions that may improve the chances of, and shorten the time required for, approval by the siting authority. See the funding opportunity announcement for more detail on this activity.
  - Economic development in communities affected by covered transmission projects. There are no defined categories of activities for this grant program.
- **Additional Resources.** [Program Webpage](#), [Fact Sheet](#), [Funding Opportunity Announcement](#)





# TSED (cont'd) - Eligibility

- Siting and Permitting: Siting authorities – defined by the Inflation Reduction Act as “any state, Tribal, or local governmental entity with authority to make a final determination regarding the siting, permitting, or regulatory status of a covered transmission project.”
- Economic Development Activities: Siting authorities or any state, Tribal, or local government entity proposing to undertake an economic development project in a community impacted by the construction or operation of a “covered transmission project.”
- Definition of “covered transmission project”:
  - A high-voltage interstate or offshore electricity transmission line that is proposed to be constructed and to operate:
    - at a minimum of 275 kV AC or DC if onshore, or
    - at a minimum of 200 kV AC or DC if offshore
  - by an entity, and for which the entity has applied, or informed a siting authority of its intent to apply, for regulatory approval.



# TSED (cont'd) - Additional Requirements

- Siting and permitting applicants must agree to reach a final decision on an application for the applicable transmission project no later than two (2) years after the grant is disbursed. The Secretary may extend this timeline for good cause. Any funds not spent within two (2) years of disbursement must be returned to DOE.
- Cost Share:

Topic (i.e. Area of Interest under IRA Sec. 50152)	Section	Cost Share
Siting and Permitting - Impact Studies, Review Alternate Routes, Other Measures and Actions	1 A, B, E	5%
Siting and Permitting - Participation in Other Regulatory Proceedings or Negotiations in Another Jurisdiction & at FERC or a State Commission	1 C, D	50%
Economic Development Activities	All	5%



# TSED (cont'd) – Deadlines

- For the current round of funding (\$300 million)
  - [Concept Papers](#) due November 17, 2023
  - DOE Response to Concept Papers due January 2024
  - Full Applications due April 4, 2024
  - Expected Date for Selection Notifications: Summer 2024
- There will be additional rounds of funding in Summer 2024 and Fall 2025.



# Environmental and Climate Justice Block Grants

- **What is it?** The Inflation Reduction Act created the Environmental and Climate Justice (ECJ) Program within the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) with \$2.8 billion for ECJ Change grants and \$200 million for technical assistance.
- **How does it work?** The NOFO has not been published for this funding opportunity yet, but EPA has hosted some [informational webinars](#). These webinars have reported on some innovative competition features:
  - 12-month rolling application process with various program offerings at different amounts that applicants can access when ready
  - Adding an oral presentation evaluation component to enhance ability of capacity constrained organizations to receive awards
- **Additional Resources.** [Program Webpage.](#)



# ECJ Change Grants (cont'd) - Eligibility

- A community-based non-profit organization (CBO) (will be defined in the NOFO, but at minimum must be a nonprofit organization as defined by 2 C.F.R. § 200.1)
- A partnership of CBOs
- A partnership between a CBO and a federally recognized Tribal Nation, a local government, or an institution of higher education



# ECJ Change Grants (cont'd) – Additional Requirements

- Grants can be used for the following activities:
  - Community-led air and other pollution monitoring, prevention, and remediation, and investments in low- and zero-emission and resilient technologies and related infrastructure and workforce development that help reduce greenhouse gas emissions and other air pollutants;
  - Mitigating climate and health risks from urban heat islands, extreme heat, wood heater emissions, and wildfire events;
  - Climate resiliency and adaptation;
  - Reducing indoor toxics and indoor air pollution; or
  - Facilitating engagement of disadvantaged communities in State and Federal advisory groups, workshops, rulemakings, and other public processes.
- Grants cannot exceed 3 years.



# USDA Assistance to Forest Landowners and Forest Product Businesses

- **What is it?** Two categories of eligibility for grants to encourage participation in emerging private markets for climate mitigation or forest resilience:
  - Underserved forest landowners
  - Forest landowners who own less than 2,500 acres of forest land
- **How does it work?** Multiple application tracks are available.
  - Track A: Proposal budgets greater than or equal to \$2 million and less than \$25 million. (deadline: 10/21/2023)
  - Track B: Proposal budgets that are less than \$2 million (deadline: 8/21/2024, quarterly reviews)
  - Track C: Proposals to administer a national competitive regranting program may also be considered. Budgets must be greater than or equal to \$5 million, less than \$50 million, and include at least 80% sub-awards (deadline: 8/21/2024)
- **Additional Resources:** [NOFO](#), [FAQs](#), [Program Website](#)



# USDA Assistance to Forest Landowners and Forest Product Businesses (cont'd) - Eligibility

ELIGIBILITY	REQUIREMENTS
<b>Eligible Entities</b>	<p><b>Tracks A and B:</b> U.S. State Governments, U.S. Local Governments, Tribal Governments, Alaska Native Corporations/Villages, Other Tribal Entities, Education Institutions, Non-Profit Entities, For-Profit Entities</p> <p><b>Track C:</b> Nonprofit organizations with a mission focused on sustainable forestry and/or forest conservation and demonstrated success in managing competitive regional or national subgrant programs.</p>
<b>Eligible Lands</b>	Nonindustrial private forest land. See NOFO for definition.
<b>Eligible Activities</b>	All proposed activities should support participation of underserved and/or small-acreage landowners in emerging private markets for climate mitigation or forest resilience. See NOFO for example project activities.





# Green and Resilient Retrofit Program

- **What is it?** GRRP provides owners of HUD-assisted multifamily housing with capital resources to reduce carbon emissions, make utility efficiency improvements, incorporate renewable energy sources, and make properties more resilient against the effects of climate hazards.
- **How does it work?** HUD has three paths (cohorts) of funding available to meet the needs of properties at all stages of redevelopment.
  - [Elements](#): \$140 million total, up to \$40K per unit or \$750K per property. Provides gap funding to properties in the midst of a recapitalization transaction that includes utility efficiency, renewable energy, carbon emission reduction, and/or climate resilience measures.
  - [Leading Edge](#): \$400 million total, up to \$60K per unit or \$10M per property. Provides funding to owners with ambitious plans involving carbon reduction, renewable energy generation, use of building materials with lower embodied carbon, and resilience goals through achieving an advanced green certification. Development teams must be able to leverage other financing sources without extensive technical assistance from HUD.
  - [Comprehensive Awards](#): \$1.47 billion total, up to \$80K per unit or \$20 million per property. Provides funding to properties with a high need for investment in utility efficiency and climate resilience.



# Loan Guarantees



# What is a loan guarantee?

A loan guarantee is an enforceable promise by an outside party to assume the debt obligation of the borrower in the event of default. Federal loan guarantees can make obtaining financing easier.



# USDA Rural Energy for America Program (REAP)

- **What is it?** This program provides guaranteed loan financing and grant funding to agricultural producers and rural small businesses for renewable energy systems or to improve energy efficiency. Agricultural producers may also apply for new energy efficient equipment and new system loans for agricultural production and processing.
- **What funding is available?** The Inflation Reduction Act appropriated \$2,025,450,000 for the REAP program.
  - Loan guarantees on loans up to 75% of total eligible projects
  - Grants for up to 50% of total eligible project costs. Maximum grant size: \$500,000 for energy efficiency projects, \$1 million for renewable energy systems.
  - Combined grant and loan guarantee funding up to 75% of total eligible project costs

The maximum loan guarantee percentage for each fiscal year will be published annually in the Federal Register. For FY24, the loan guarantee percentage will be 80%.

- **Additional Resources.** [Program Webpage.](#)



# REAP (cont'd) – Deadlines

EA/REDA = Energy Audit and Renewable Energy Development Assistance

RES/EEI = Renewable Energy Systems and Energy Efficiency Improvements

Type of application	Application window opening dates	Application window closing dates
EA/REDA .....	February 1, 2023 .....	January 31, 2024.
RES/EEI (Q1) .....	April 1, 2023 .....	June 30, 2023*.
RES/EEI (Q2) .....	July 1, 2023 .....	September 30, 2023.
RES/EEI (Q3) .....	October 1, 2023 .....	December 31, 2023.
RES/EEI (Q4) .....	January 1, 2024 .....	March 31, 2024.
RES/EEI (Q5) .....	April 1, 2024 .....	June 30, 2024*.
RES/EEI (Q6) .....	July 1, 2024 .....	September 30, 2024.
RES/EEI/EEE Guaranteed Loans .....	Continuous application cycle .....	Continuous application cycle.

\* Unless subsequent deadlines are published via a Notice, applications received after this date will be considered in the next quarter for the subsequent FY funding.





**THE POWER OF  
NATIVE ENERGY**

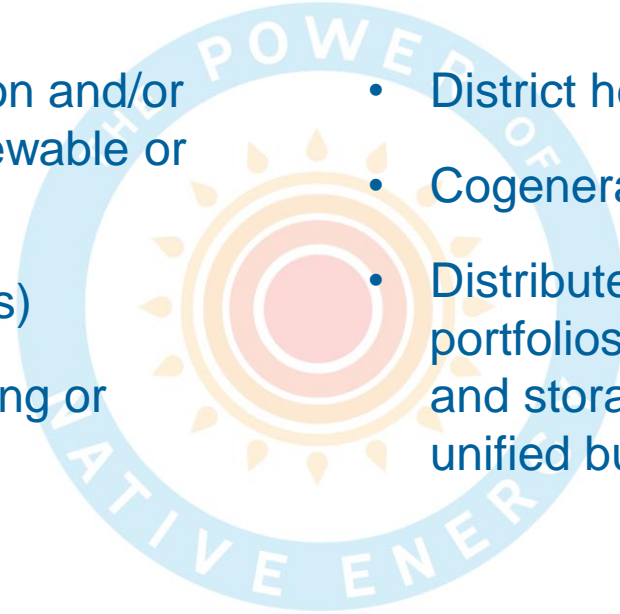
# FINANCING TRIBAL ENERGY PROJECTS & INVESTING IN TRIBAL SOVEREIGNTY

- **Tribal Ownership**
- **Energy Independence**
- **Energy Reliability**
- **Generational Investment**
- **Profitability**



# ENERGY TECHNOLOGY SAMPLES

- Electricity generation, transmission and/or distribution facilities, utilizing renewable or conventional energy sources
- Energy storage facilities (batteries)
- Energy resource extraction, refining or processing facilities
- Energy transportation facilities
- District heating and cooling facilities
- Cogeneration facilities
- Distributed energy project portfolios, including portfolios of smaller distributed generation and storage facilities employed pursuant to a unified business plan





# **\$20 BILLION DESIGNATED FOR TRIBES & TRIBALLY OWNED ENTITIES**

## **5 MUST HAVES**

- 1. Borrower Is a Tribe or Tribal Energy Development Organization**
- 2. Can be Located On or Off Tribal Land**
- 3. Financially Viable**
- 4. Energy Project used as collateral and the Tribe is insulated**
- 5. Investment in Energy Resources, Products, and Services**



**THE POWER OF  
NATIVE ENERGY**

# LPO

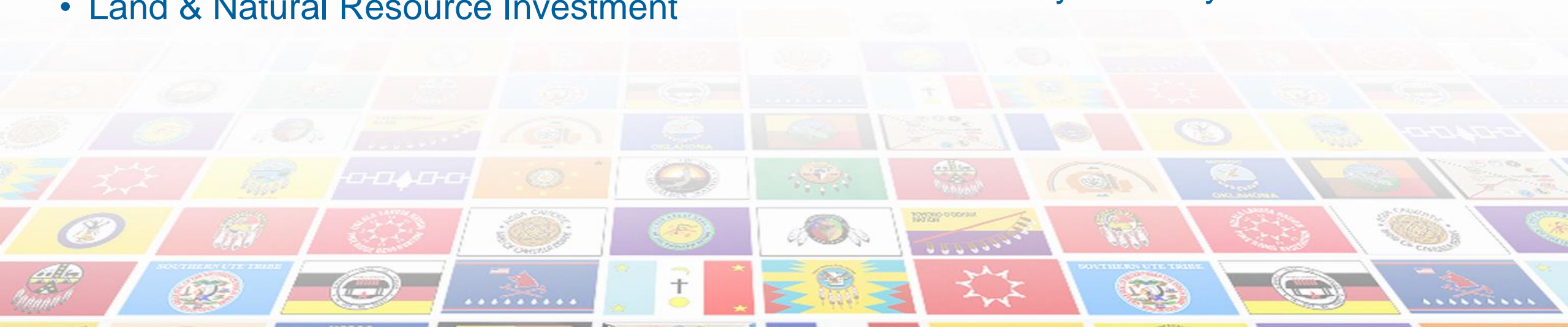


- **The Loan Programs Office (LPO) is like a public policy bank within the U.S. Department of Energy.**
- **LPO finances innovative clean energy, advanced transportation, and Tribal Energy Investments, serving as a bridge to bankability for underserved borrowers, breakthrough projects and technologies.**

# WHY INVEST IN ENERGY?

## An energy project can strengthen Tribal Sovereignty and revitalize a Tribe's Economy.

- Tribal Infrastructure Investment project costs can be reduced through newly available tax credits
- Land & Natural Resource Investment
- Strategic Energy Partner Investment
- Sovereign Private Equity Investment
- Tribal Utility Authority Investment



# THE UNIQUE VALUE OF DOE TRIBAL ENERGY FINANCING



## Access to Patient Capital

that private lenders cannot or will not provide.



## Flexible Financing

customized for borrowers' needs.



## Committed DOE Partnership

offering borrowers specialized expertise for the lifetime of the loan.

# TRIBAL ENERGY FINANCE TEAM WILL WORK WITH YOU TO HELP YOUR ENERGY PROJECT SUCCEED

- **Loans based on U.S. Treasury rates from U.S. Federal Financing Bank (FFB)**
  - \$20 billion in loan authority exclusively for Tribes
- **Team understands and respects Tribal and Program objectives**
- **Team will help navigate resources across government to promote success**

**JIGAR SHAH**  
LPO Director

**MONIQUE LA CHAPPA**  
Senior Consultant

**DAVID SICKEY**  
Senior Consultant

**PAUL DEARHOUSE**  
Senior Consultant

**LISA GARCIA**  
Senior Consultant



THE POWER OF  
NATIVE ENERGY

# “TAX CREDITS” FOR TRIBES

- Historically, an important Federal incentive for energy projects – tax credits – was an economic benefit paid only to taxable entities.
- The Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) now allows Tribal Nations to receive tax credits for eligible projects, as well as the option to receive the tax credit in the form of a Direct Payment from the IRS. While not a grant, it functions similar to a grant.
- These Direct Payments functionally reduce the overall cost of the energy project for the Tribal Nation owner of the project.



# APPLICATION PROCESS



- **Part I - Eligibility**
  - Borrower
  - Project
- **Part II - Viability**

- Tribe
- NEPA Compliance
- Legal/Regulatory
- Market
- Technical

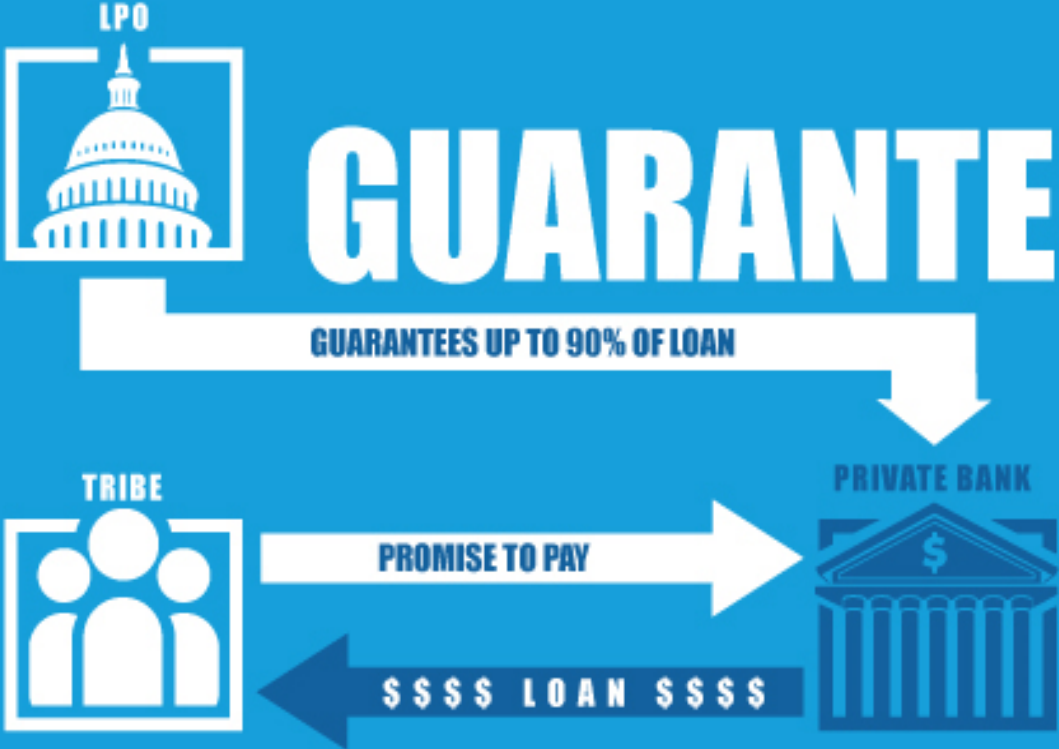


# LOAN VS GUARANTEE

## LOAN



## GUARANTEE



THE POWER OF  
NATIVE ENERGY



# LET'S DISCUSS YOUR PROJECT

**Request a Pre-Application Consultation:**  
[Energy.gov/LPO/Pre-app](https://www.energy.gov/LPO/Pre-app)

**Learn more about Tribal Energy Financing:**  
[Energy.gov/LPO/Tribal-Energy](https://www.energy.gov/LPO/Tribal-Energy)

**Phone:** 202-287-5900

**Email:** [LPO@hq.doe.gov](mailto:LPO@hq.doe.gov)

**Meet the Tribal Energy Team**

**Eastern, Eastern OK, Southern  
Plains, Southwest Regions**

**DAVID SICKEY**  
[David.Sickey@hq.doe.gov](mailto:David.Sickey@hq.doe.gov)

**Midwest, Great Plains, Rocky Mtn,  
Northwest Regions**

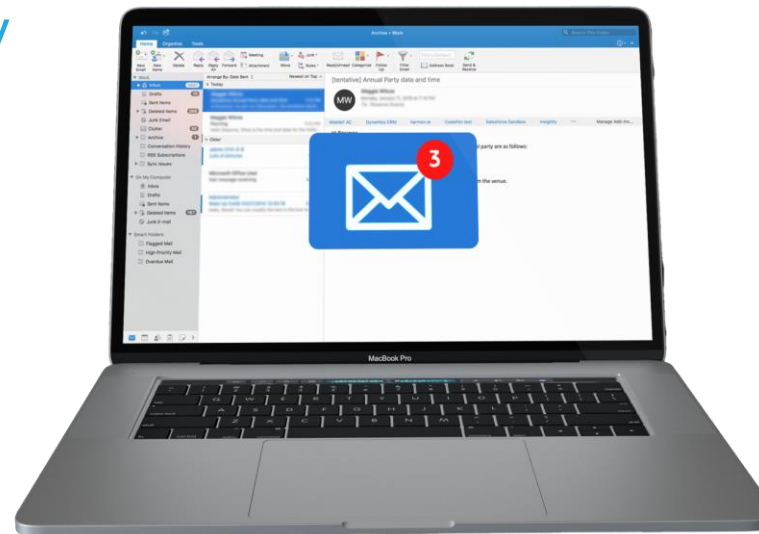
**PAUL DEARHOUSE**  
[Paul.Dearhouse@hq.doe.gov](mailto:Paul.Dearhouse@hq.doe.gov)

**Western and Pacific  
Regions**

**MONIQUE LA CHAPPA**  
[Monique.LaChappa@hq.doe.gov](mailto:Monique.LaChappa@hq.doe.gov)

**LISA GARCIA**  
[Lisa.Garcia@hq.doe.gov](mailto:Lisa.Garcia@hq.doe.gov)

*Alaska and Navajo Regions  
are shared across the team*





THE POWER OF  
NATIVE ENERGY

# Additional Resources and Information

## Federal Resources

- [WH IRA Tribal Guidebook](#)
- [WH Infrastructure Technical Assistance Guide](#)
- [EnergyCommunities.gov](#)

## USET Tribal Infrastructure Development Program Webpage



# Thank You



**USET Tribal Infrastructure  
Development Program**

