

Opportunities for Tribal Nations under the Inflation Reduction Act

USET SPF Annual Meeting
October 24, 2023



**USET Tribal Infrastructure
Development Program**



USET National Outreach, Education, and Advocacy Project

- New hires: Two fully remote policy analysts
- National outreach and education
 - In-person trainings at various org partner meetings and conferences
 - NCAI Breakout 11/13
 - 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

- 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



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.



IRA Funding ~ Department of Interior

- Climate Resilience - \$235 million
 - \$220 million for Climate Resilience and Adaptation activities
 - \$10 million for Fish Hatcheries
 - \$5 million for Administration
- Tribal Electrification - \$150 million (includes \$4.5 million for administration)
- Emergency Drought Relief



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



Climate Resilience Funding

\$225 million total - \$220 million for programs and \$5 million for administration

Planning & Implementation: \$128 million: \$64 million per year in FY 23, FY24
Adaptation funds can support a broad range of funding proposals from Tribes, examples may include:

- Adaptation planning and implementation of projects
- Travel support
- Engagement of youth
- Integration of Indigenous Knowledge
- Habitat and ecosystem restoration planning and implementation of projects

Community Driven Relocation: \$92 million total: \$46 million per year in FY23, FY24

- Combined with BIL funding, three communities to be funded at \$25 million per site, and eight communities to be funded at \$5 million per site.
- Remaining funds may be used to increase award level through the Annual Awards Program.

NOFO expected before the end of 2023.



Fish Hatchery Funding

Fish Hatcheries - \$10 million

- Support expansion of the existing hatchery maintenance program to include new construction and retrofits that are not funded through annual appropriations.
- Address outdated, undersized, inefficient hatchery systems that require new construction.
- Execute required upgrades due to changing environmental restrictions related to water quality or quantity or concerns regarding fish disease or genetics.

NOFO expected before the end of 2023.



Infrastructure Panelists

Fatima Abbas, Treasury



David Conrad, Dept. of Energy

