

---

# Energy Innovation Grant Program Webinar

November 19, 2020

9:30am - 11:00am



Wisconsin Office of Energy Innovation

# Agenda

- ▶ Introduction to the Wisconsin Office of Energy Innovation
- ▶ Background on the Energy Innovation Grant Program
- ▶ Program Timeline
- ▶ Eligible Applicants
- ▶ Eligible Project Activities
- ▶ Application and Merit Review Criteria
- ▶ American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA Federal Funds)
- ▶ Reporting Requirements
- ▶ Questions?

# Office of Energy Innovation

## Vision

Securing Wisconsin's energy future and improving its economy and environment.

## Mission

The Wisconsin Office of Energy Innovation promotes innovative and effective energy policies and programs that benefit Wisconsin's citizens and businesses.

## Programs

- ▶ Focus on Energy
- ▶ State Energy Office Programs: EIGP (Energy Innovation Grant Program), EIC (Energy Independent Communities), SHOPP (State Heating Oil and Propane Program), Wisconsin Energy Statistics, MEETAP (Municipal Energy Efficiency Technical Assistance Program), SAFER2 (Statewide Assistance for Energy Resilience and Reliability)

# Office of Energy Innovation

## VALUES:

- ▶ Open Communication and Transparency
- ▶ Collaboration and Teamwork
- ▶ Being Forward Looking and Solutions Oriented
- ▶ Building and Maintaining Expert-Level Knowledge
- ▶ Economic Viability

## WHO WE SERVE:

- ▶ Hospitals
- ▶ Political Subdivisions
- ▶ Non-profit Organizations
- ▶ Public and Private Universities
- ▶ Public or Privately-owned Businesses
- ▶ Residential Customers
- ▶ State Agencies
- ▶ Tribes

# Energy Innovation Grant Program Background

- ▶ **The Energy Innovation Grant Program (EIGP) 2020** design and budget were established by the Public Service Commission in an open meeting on September 10, 2020
- ▶ **EIGP 2018** inaugural round of funding—100 applicants, 31 projects selected, \$5 million in grant funding
- ▶ **Federally Funded** through U.S. Department of Energy by the 2009 ARRA Stimulus

# EIGP 2020 Strategic Program Objectives

- ▶ **Support innovative energy technologies** that have the potential to serve as a model or better inform decision-makers on emerging trends in the energy sector
- ▶ **Help to provide equitable access** to the benefits of clean energy, efficiency, and preparedness by reaching broad applicant types. This includes applicants who may traditionally face barriers to adopting clean energy solutions and the benefits they provide, or whose communities may be disproportionately impacted by the negative effects of traditional fossil fuel and inefficient energy systems

# Key Considerations for EIGP 2020

- ▶ **Economic Stimulus**-funding for this grant round has increased from \$5 million (2018) to \$7 million (2020)
- ▶ **Equitable Distribution of Projects and Benefits** -Expanded list of eligible applicants, revised merit review criteria
- ▶ **Carbon Reductions**-Project Activities support meeting Governor's goal of 100% carbon-free electricity by 2050

# Changes from EIGP 2018 to 2020

- ▶ **Redefined Eligible Project Activities**
- ▶ **Maximum Grant Requests for each project based on activity type**
- ▶ **Funding assigned to each eligible activity**
- ▶ **Single Activity Projects**
- ▶ **Streamlined Application**



# EIGP Program Timeline

DATE	EVENT
October 23, 2020	Date of issue of the 2020 Application Instructions
November 23, 2020	Last day for submitting questions and requests for clarification
January 22, 2021	Applications due by <b><u>12:00 pm CDT on Friday January 22, 2021</u></b>
February 2021 (TBD)	Screening committee evaluation
March 2021 (TBD)	PSC determination of 2020 Energy Innovation Grant Program Awards
Spring 2021	Contract negotiations and applicable next steps related to NEPA review, etc.
Spring 2021 – Spring 2022	Project performance period

# Eligible Applicants

- ▶ Municipalities, Universities, Schools, Hospitals, and Like Entities (MUSH Market): cities, villages, towns, counties, K-12 school districts, tribes, municipal water and wastewater utilities, municipal electric utilities, municipal natural gas utilities, University of Wisconsin System campuses and facilities, Wisconsin Technical College System, public or nonprofit hospitals.
- ▶ Manufacturers as defined by Wis. Stat. § 77.51(7h)1
- ▶ 501(c)(3) nonprofits

# Eligible Project Activities and Funds Available

- ▶ Activity 1: Renewable Energy and Energy Storage - \$2.5 million
- ▶ Activity 2: Energy Efficiency and Demand Response - \$3 million
- ▶ Activity 3: Electric and Renewable Natural Gas (RNG) Vehicles and Infrastructure – \$1 million
- ▶ Activity 4: Comprehensive Energy Planning - \$500,000

# Activity 1: Renewable Energy and Energy Storage

Includes host-owned projects to install a solar photovoltaic (PV) system, a renewable energy system other than solar PV, a standalone battery storage system, or a project that will combine a battery storage system with solar PV or another renewable energy system.

- ▶ **Renewable Energy Systems [other than PV Systems] - \$500,000 max. grant request**
  - ▶ Installation or upgrade of a biogas, biomass, geothermal, solar thermal, wind, or other renewable resource system.
- ▶ **Solar PV Systems – 22% of project cost up to \$250,000 max. grant request**
  - ▶ Installation or upgrade of a solar PV system.
- ▶ **Energy Storage System - \$250,000 max. grant request**
  - ▶ Installation or upgrade of a battery storage system.
- ▶ **Renewable Energy Systems with Energy Storage System- \$500,000 (Solar PV) \$750,000 (all other Renewable Energy) max. grant request**
  - ▶ Installation of a battery storage system combined with installation or upgrade of a solar PV or other renewable energy system.

# Activity 2: Energy Efficiency and Demand Response

## Maximum Grant Request - \$1,000,000

Includes projects to conduct building energy efficiency, process efficiency, demand response improvements, or any combination thereof.

- ▶ Building Energy Efficiency
- ▶ Process Efficiency
- ▶ Demand Response

# Activity 3: Electric and Renewable Natural Gas (RNG) Vehicles and Infrastructure

## Maximum grant request – any combination up to \$100,000

Includes projects to procure battery, fuel cell, or compressed natural gas (CNG) off-road, light-medium-, and heavy-duty electric vehicles and host-owned level-2, fuel cell, or CNG charging infrastructure. Applicants seeking to procure CNG vehicles must demonstrate their RNG fuel source in order to qualify.

- ▶ Light-Duty and Off-Road - \$5,000 per vehicle
- ▶ Medium-Duty and Heavy-Duty - \$10,000 per vehicle
- ▶ Infrastructure: Host-owned level 2 electric vehicle charger, fuel cell charger, or RNG infrastructure - \$50% of cost of infrastructure unit up to \$2,000

# Activity 4: Comprehensive Energy Planning

## Maximum Grant Request - \$100,000

This category will fund projects undertaking a number of planning efforts including comprehensive energy planning, electric vehicle planning, or a comprehensive energy audit.

- ▶ **Comprehensive Energy Planning.** Plan that includes, at a minimum, evaluation of current energy use and sources for facilities and fleets,
- ▶ **Investment Grade Audit.** A comprehensive energy audit that seeks to identify all cost-effective investment opportunities through a combination of engineering analysis of energy-using systems and economic analysis of possible energy saving measures.
- ▶ **Electric Vehicle Planning.** A comprehensive plan that addresses fleet conversions and charging infrastructure to precede or complement an applicant's existing electric vehicle fleet.



# Required Accounts – START TODAY!

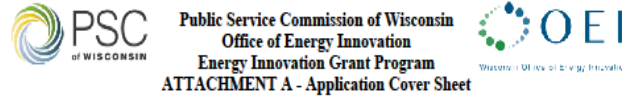
- ❑ Applications will be submitted using the Commission’s Electronic Records Filing System (ERF)
  - ❑ You must register for an account before you apply
    - ❑ “Individual” account type is preferred and fastest). **Create an ERF Account Today!**
  - ❑ You must file by **NOON** on the due date (January 22, 2021). **File early** if possible!
  - ❑ Avoid Confidential Filing unless absolutely necessary! See Section 2.3 of the Application Instructions **in advance** for Notary Public Requirements.
  
- ❑ DUNS Number is a unique identifier for recipients of Federal funds
- ❑ SAM.gov Registration provides us with data on your organization and its ability to receive Federal funds



# Application Content

- ▶ **Application Cover Sheet (Attachment A)**
- ▶ **Application Budget Sheet (Attachment B)**
- ▶ **Application Executive Summary**
- ▶ **Application Narrative and Merit Review Criteria (15 page limit, excluding reference materials)**

# Project Proposal Cover Sheet (Attachment A)



SECTION I - Provide information summarizing the project proposal.			
<b>Project Title:</b>			
<b>PSC Grant Request (\$):</b>		<b>Applicant Cost Share (\$):</b>	<b>Project Total (\$):</b>
<b>Choose one Eligible Activity</b>			
<input type="checkbox"/> Renewable Energy & Energy Storage	<input type="checkbox"/> Energy Efficiency & Demand Response	<input type="checkbox"/> Electric & RNG Vehicles & Infrastructure	<input type="checkbox"/> Comprehensive Energy Planning
<b>Acknowledgement of ARRA Applicability. Check all that apply.</b> (see Section 1.3 of Application Instructions)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Buy American: Project: Alteration, maintenance or repair of a public building or public work.			
<input type="checkbox"/> Davis Bacon and Related Acts: Use of laborers or mechanics employed by contractors and subcontractors.			
<input type="checkbox"/> Historic Preservation: Project involves historical (over 50 years old), archeological or cultural resources.			
<input type="checkbox"/> National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA): Project activity is NOT covered by the list shown in Section 1.3.3.			
SECTION II - Provide information for your organization, signatory, and primary contact for the project.			
<b>Applicant Type:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> City	<input type="checkbox"/> Village	<input type="checkbox"/> Town
<input type="checkbox"/> County	<input type="checkbox"/> Tribal Nation	<input type="checkbox"/> Manufacturer	<input type="checkbox"/> K-12 School District
<input type="checkbox"/> University of Wisconsin System	<input type="checkbox"/> Wisconsin Technical College System	<input type="checkbox"/> 501(c)(3) nonprofit	
<input type="checkbox"/> Municipal Utility (water, wastewater, electric, natural gas)		<input type="checkbox"/> Hospital (public or nonprofit)	
<b>Name (on W-9):</b>			
<b>Address (on W-9):</b>			
<b>County or Counties Served by Project:</b>			
<b>DUNS Number or CAGE Code:</b>			
<b>NAICS Code:</b>			
<b>Authorized Representative/Signatory</b> (Person authorized to submit applications and sign contracts)		<b>Primary Contact</b> (if different from Authorized Representative)	
<b>Name:</b>	<b>Name:</b>	<b>Name:</b>	<b>Name:</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Title:</b>	<b>Title:</b>	<b>Title:</b>
<b>Phone:</b>	<b>Phone:</b>	<b>Phone:</b>	<b>Phone:</b>
<b>E-mail:</b>	<b>E-mail:</b>	<b>E-mail:</b>	<b>E-mail:</b>
<b>Signature of the Authorized Representative</b>			

# Application Executive Summary

- ▶ **Application Executive Summary (3 page limit)**
  - ▶ **Project Description**
  - ▶ **Key Partners and Stakeholders**
  - ▶ **Project Objectives and Metrics**
  - ▶ **Reference Materials List**

# Application Narrative and Merit Review Criteria

- ▶ **Application Narrative and Merit Review Criteria (15 page limit)**
- ▶ Eligibility and ability to achieve the objectives
- ▶ Budget Justification and Cost Share (“Match”)
- ▶ Savings and Payback
- ▶ Energy Savings and Environmental Impact
- ▶ Equity and Energy Justice
- ▶ Financial Leverage and Economic Impact
- ▶ Existing Energy Planning Efforts
- ▶ Energy Resiliency
- ▶ Education and Awareness
- ▶ Innovation

# Cost Share (“Match”)

- ▶ **Budget Justification and Cost Share (“Match”)** Provide a cost basis for each line item on which costs were entered on Attachment B - Budget Sheet. Identify what costs or portions thereof are anticipated to be grant-funded or funded by the applicant’s share of the project cost (“cost share” or “match”).
- ▶ **Match** is encouraged, but optional, and **cannot** include other federal funding.
- ▶ Matching fund sources should be identified, e.g. Focus on Energy funding, state, local, or private funds, tax incentives, etc.

# Project Budget (Attachment B)

Enter the Applicant Name				
Enter the Project Title				
<b>Summary of Project Budget</b>				
Line	Description	PSC Grant Request	Applicant Cost Share	Total Project Cost
1	Personnel			\$0
2	Fringe			\$0
3	Equipment			\$0
4	Supplies			\$0
5	Travel			\$0
6	Contractual			\$0
7	Other			\$0
8	Indirect			\$0
<b>Totals</b>		\$0	\$0	\$0
% of Total		#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!	
Page 1				
<b>Applicant Comments:</b> Enter budget information into the gray fields of the Summary Project Budget. Fields are formatted to display whole numbers. This document is formatted to print on 8.5"x11" paper. Include it as directed in your PDF application. Definitions of each line item are provided on the Definitions Tab. (Use this space to add additional budget information.)				

# Reporting Requirements

- ▶ **State and Federal reporting requirements.** Applicants will be expected to submit quarterly, final, and on request, reports to the PSC on the activities, progress of the project, and grant costs to satisfy state and federal reporting requirements. Certain reporting requirements shall continue to be required post-disbursement.
- ▶ **American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA).** Applicants will be expected to comply with the reporting requirements of the ARRA that impact wage rates, equipment sourcing, environmental impact reporting, and historic preservation

# ARRA Requirements

- ▶ Buy American Provisions
- ▶ Davis Bacon Wage Rate Requirements
- ▶ National Environmental Policy Act Review
- ▶ State Historic Preservation



# Buy American Provisions

- ▶ Buy American Provisions [APPLICABLE ONLY TO PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND PUBLIC WORKS<sub>4</sub>]:
- ▶ The Buy American provisions of the Recovery Act require that all iron, steel and manufactured goods used in projects funded by the Recovery Act for the construction, alteration, maintenance or repair of a public building or public work be produced in the United States, with some limited exceptions.
- ▶ A Desk Guide to the Buy American Provisions of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009:  
[https://www.energy.gov/sites/prod/files/2016/07/f33/buy\\_american\\_desk\\_guide.pdf](https://www.energy.gov/sites/prod/files/2016/07/f33/buy_american_desk_guide.pdf)
- ▶ U.S. Department of Energy Buy American website: <https://www.energy.gov/gc/action-centeroffice-general-counsel/faqs-related-recovery-act/buy-american>

# Davis Bacon and Related Acts

- ▶ A Davis-Bacon “Related Act” will often include language further defining work that must be covered by the Davis Bacon Act prevailing wage requirements. The Recovery Act is an example of a DBRA statute. **It requires that all laborers and mechanics employed by contractors and subcontractors on projects** funded directly by or assisted in whole or in part by and through the Federal Government pursuant to the Recovery Act shall be paid wages at rates not less than those prevailing on projects of a character similar in the locality as determined by the Secretary of Labor.
- ▶ Wages for specific locations by county and construction type can be found on <https://beta.sam.gov/search?index=wd>
- ▶ A Desk Guide to The Davis-Bacon Act (including DBRA): <https://www.energy.gov/sites/prod/files/2017/04/f34/DOE%20DBA%20Desk%20Guide%20Rev.%202.%200April%2010%202017.pdf>
- ▶ U.S. Department of Energy Davis Bacon website: <https://www.energy.gov/gc/action-center-officegeneral-counsel/faqs-related-recovery-act/davis-bacon>

# NEPA (Application Attachment C)

## NEPA BOUNDED CATEGORIES APPLICABLE TO THE ACTIVITIES OF THE OFFICE OF ENERGY INNOVATION ("STATE ENERGY OFFICE") IN 2020

DOE has determined Bounded Categories of activities that are funded by SEP-ALRD-2020, or ARRA Financing Programs and/or funds repurposed from ARRA Financing Programs, are categorically excluded from further NEPA review, absent extraordinary circumstances, cumulative impacts, or connected actions that may lead to significant impacts on the environment, or any inconsistency with "integral elements" (as contained in 10 C.F.R. Part 1021) as they relate to a particular project

# State Historic Preservation Programmatic Agreement

For project activities that involve historical, archeological or cultural resources (includes listed and eligible resources over 50 years old or of cultural significance), a review of the undertaking may be required. However, a number of energy related activities have been previously identified that do not have the potential to cause effects on historic properties, even when historic properties may be present. They are covered by an existing programmatic agreement between the U.S. Department of Energy, the Wisconsin State Historic Preservation Office and certain State agencies.

[https://www.energy.gov/sites/prod/files/2014/01/f7/state\\_historic\\_preservation\\_programmatic\\_agreement\\_wi.pdf](https://www.energy.gov/sites/prod/files/2014/01/f7/state_historic_preservation_programmatic_agreement_wi.pdf)

# Resources to Prepare your Application

▶ Focus on Energy: <https://focusonenergy.com/>

**Focus on Energy empowers the people and businesses of Wisconsin to make smart energy decisions with enduring economic benefits.**



## Business Offerings

- Schools & Government
- Business & Industry
- New construction modeling
- Emerging technologies
- Renewable Energy Competitive Incentive Program (RECIP)
- Small Business
- Strategic Energy Management



Wisconsin Office of Energy Innovation

# Resources to Prepare your Application

- ▶ Energy Independent Communities (EIC) more information here: <https://psc.wi.gov/Pages/Programs/OEI/EnergyIndependentCommunities.aspx> and here: <https://energyonwi.extension.wisc.edu/>
- ▶ EIC Plans are available via links above
- ▶ Watch this short YouTube video: "Power Through Partnerships: Brown County and the Oneida Nation" <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UpVsz4LWURk>
- ▶ Other resources for Local Governments: [ICLEI \(International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives\) Local Governments for Sustainability](#)
- ▶ US DOE hub for State, Local, Tribal Governments <https://www.energy.gov/energy-economy/state-local-government>
- ▶ EPA Portfolio Manager free software for benchmarking: <https://portfoliomanager.energystar.gov/pm/login.html> and free calculator for measuring Green House gas equivalencies <https://www.epa.gov/energy/greenhouse-gas-equivalencies-calculator>



# Questions?

▶ Questions can be submitted to [oei@wisconsin.gov](mailto:oei@wisconsin.gov) prior to December 11, 2020

▶ Answers to those questions will be posted at our website:

<https://psc.wi.gov/Pages/Programs/OEI/EnergyInnovationGrantProgram.aspx>