



Wisconsin Office of Energy Innovation

## Rural Energy Startup Program

- The Rural Energy Startup Program (RESP) supports rural communities in taking initial steps to reduce energy use, reduce fossil fuel emissions, and improve energy efficiency.
- Applications for the Rural Energy Startup Program (RESP) are due to the PSC Grants System by **1:30pm CT on January 31, 2024**.
- If you missed the webinar that covered the program application instructions, you can find the webinar recording [here](#), and the webinar slides [here](#).
- If you missed the joint webinar with EIGP discussing which grant program fits your project idea best, you can find the webinar recording [here](#), and the webinar slides [here](#).
- Additionally, the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) for RESP can be found [here](#).

RESP  
Webpage

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## Wisconsin's IRA Home Energy Rebate Programs Stakeholder Engagement Sessions and Program Design Survey

- Focus on Energy will be holding a series of Stakeholder Engagement Sessions both in-person and online to discuss an overview of the [Home Energy Rebate Program](#) and provide question-and-answer sessions to allow feedback from participants. The next two stakeholder engagement sessions will be held **January 25, 2024** in Milwaukee, WI, and **January 30, 2024** in Madison, WI. To view the stakeholder engagement sessions and register, click [here](#).
- Focus on Energy has also created and released a survey for Wisconsin's IRA Home Energy Rebate Program Design. The survey contains general questions for all respondents and 14-17 multiple choice questions based on your role (Resident/Potential Participant, Contractor/Trade Ally, or Partner Organization/Supporting Entity (Local Government, Community Based Organization etc.)).
- The survey will be accepting responses until **February 29, 2024**. Click [here](#) if

you are interested in participating in the survey.

## Grid Resilience Program

- The Grid Resilience program is designed to enhance the reliability of the electric grid by supporting activities that reduce the likelihood and consequences of impacts to the electric grid from extreme weather, wildfire, and natural disaster.
- Applications are due to the PSC Grants System by **1:30pm CT on February 16, 2024**.
- If you missed the webinar that covered the program application instructions, you can find the webinar recording [here](#), and the webinar slides [here](#).
- OEI is maintaining a Frequently Asked Questions document for this program: check the program website link below for the most recent version.

Grid Resilience  
Program  
Webpage

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## Energy Innovation Grant Program

- The Energy Innovation Grant Program (EIGP) supports public and private entities in a wide variety of energy projects related to energy efficiency, renewable energy, energy storage, energy planning and more.
- Applications for the 2023 round of the EIGP are due to the PSC Grants System by **1:30pm CT on March 1, 2024**.
- Be sure to review new program requirements, such as the Applicant Metrics spreadsheet that must be included with the application. The Applicant Metrics spreadsheet can be found [here](#).
- If you missed the webinar that covered the program application instructions, you can find the webinar slides [here](#).
- If you missed the joint webinar with RESP discussing which grant program fits your project idea best, you can find the webinar recording [here](#), and the webinar slides [here](#).
- Additionally the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) for EIGP can be found [here](#).

Energy  
Innovation  
Grant Program  
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## Wisconsin Refueling Readiness Program

- The Wisconsin Refueling Readiness (WRR) program is designed to address the concern of fueling emergency vehicles during a power outage. Eligible applicants include private entities and municipal, county, and Tribal

communities with fueling stations or bulk storage facilities.

- Applications for the 2023 round of the Wisconsin Refueling Readiness Program (WIRR) will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis and must be submitted to the PSC Grants System by **1:30pm CT on April 30, 2024**.
- If you missed the webinar that covered the program application instructions, you can find the webinar recording [here](#), and the webinar slides [here](#).

Refueling  
Readiness  
Webpage

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## Focus on Energy

- Start out the year by ordering your free energy-saving pack from Focus on Energy. There are three different packs of easy-to-install products for your home to choose from. Pack contents have been upgraded for 2024.
- Focus on Energy has Energy Advisors to help guide your business through your next energy efficiency project. Energy Advisors can help identify potential projects, assist with equipment eligibility and qualification projects, and answer questions on the application process. Visit the Energy Advisor Map to find your advisor.

Focus Packs

Energy Advisor Map

## Apply Now for Clean Diesel School Bus Funding

- The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) recently announced that at least \$500 million in rebates are available to fund the replacement of existing school buses with clean and zero-emission school buses.
- To review the application and associated information click [here](#). Applications are due to the EPA by **3pm CT on Wednesday, January 31, 2024**.
- Additional information on eligibility, the application process, important dates and funding prioritization is available on the EPA's Clean School Bus Program webpage that can be found by visiting the links below. Questions on eligibility or the program should be sent to EPA at [CleanSchoolBus@epa.gov](mailto:CleanSchoolBus@epa.gov).

Clean Diesel Grant Programs  
WI DNR Webpage

Clean School Bus Program  
Rebates US EPA Webpage

## U.S. Department of Agriculture Expands Eligibility for Tribes under the Rural Business Development Grants Program

- Beginning January 16, 2024, U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) expanded eligibility definitions for the Rural Business Development Grants Program to enable more Tribal government-owned entities to qualify for funding.
- The expanded eligibility will include:
  - Expanding the “Small and Emerging Business” definition to include Tribal governments and Tribal-owned organizations.
  - Clarifying the definition for “Conflict of Interest” to explain how the agency defines the relationship between Tribal nations and their Tribal-owned entities.
  - Codifying the “Indian Tribe” and “Tribal” definitions to include Tribal governments and/or Federally Recognized Tribes.
- To read more about the expanded eligibility, please visit the links below.

Rural Business Development  
Grants USDA Webpage

Federal Register Webpage

## Wisconsin Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Program Request for Proposal

- The Wisconsin Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (WEVI) Program recently released its Round 1 Request for Proposals (RFP). The RFP comment period for Round 1 will be open until **5pm CT on January 29, 2024**. Following January 29th, an additional RFP comment period will open and stay open until 5pm CT on February 29th, 2024.
- Proposals must be submitted by email to [wevirfpsubmission@dot.wi.gov](mailto:wevirfpsubmission@dot.wi.gov) with a subject line designated in the RFP by **5pm CT on April 1, 2024**. Applications received after April 1, 2024 will not be considered.

WI Department of  
Transportation WEVI  
Webpage

WEVI Request for Proposal



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