



Wisconsin Office of Energy Innovation 2025 Rural Energy Start Up Program (EECBG)

Grant Application Instructions **[9714-FG-2024](#)**

RESP Round 2 Webinar Part 1: Overview of the OEI and RESP



Wisconsin Office of Energy Innovation

Agenda

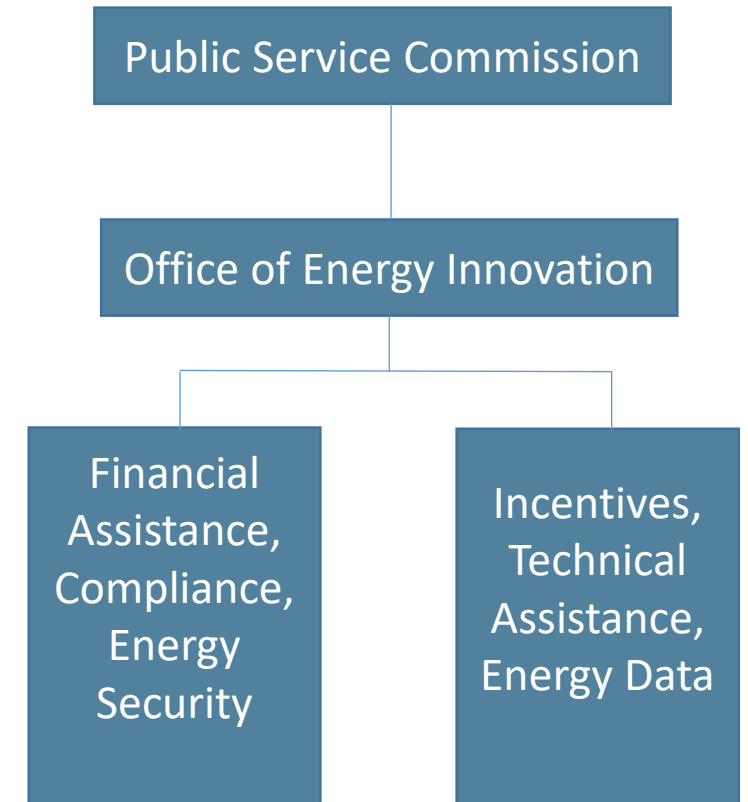
- OEI and Program Overview
- Eligibility and Program Activities
- Accounts and the Application
- OEI Map and Map Demonstration
- Review Criteria and Application Content
- U.S. DOE Requirements

OEI Mission:

Developing Wisconsin's energy landscape to be secure, reliable, environmentally responsible, and growing the state's economy for all.

OEI Programs: [PSC Wisconsin Office of Energy Innovation](#)

Contact OEI: OEI@Wisconsin.gov



Background

- Federally Funded through U.S. Department of Energy by the [Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act](#) (IIJA), section 40552, to support communities taking initial steps to reduce energy use, reduce fossil fuel emissions, and improve energy efficiency. IIJA also known as the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL).
- Commission order dated February 19, 2025 ([PSC REF#: 533860](#)) established the program design and budget.

Program Objectives

Objective One: Investing in the adoption of innovative energy technologies and processes

Objective Two: Expanding access to clean energy, efficiency, and preparedness to Wisconsin communities that are otherwise unable to adopt these and for whom these are innovative approaches

Quick Facts

- Docket 9714-FG-2024
- \$1 million in grant funds available
- Application Instructions, Program Metrics workbook on: [PSC Rural Energy Startup Program \(wi.gov\)](https://www.wisconsin.gov/psc/rural-energy-startup-program)
 - Issued May 30, 2025
- Submit application through online [PSC Grants System](https://www.wisconsin.gov/psc/grants-system)
 - The application period for the **initial batch 1** applications is **1:30 PM CT on July 16, 2025**.
 - If all available funds are not awarded after the processing of an initial batch, the Commission may authorize the awarding of additional grants accepted in the PSC Grants System after the initial due date, as time and funds allow.
- 12-month project performance period/single grant round

Timeline

DATE	EVENT
May 30, 2025	Applications available, Program Application Instructions posted
July 16, 2025	Batch 1 Applications due by <u>1:30 pm CT on July 16, 2025.</u>
Summer 2025	Review Panel evaluation of Batch 1 & Acceptance of additional applications if determined by the Commission based on available funds and other priorities
Late Summer/Fall 2025	PSC determination of RESP awards, onboarding, grant agreement/contract negotiations and fiscal forms required
November/December 2025 – December 2026	Project performance period

Program Questions?

- Submit questions to OEI@wisconsin.gov
 - Subject line: Rural Energy Start Up Program Application Question
- [FAQ document](#) on PSC Rural Energy Startup Program (wi.gov)
 - Check back for updates
- Significant errors or deficiencies will result in reissuing the Program Application Instructions on ERF
 - Subscribe to Docket 9714-FG-2024 for automatic ERF updates

Rural Energy Startup Program Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)



This FAQ provides answers to common questions regarding the Rural Energy Startup Program (RESP). This document is intended to complement the application instructions and application issued on November 30, 2023.

Note: The responses below to FAQs are intended to provide useful information to individuals applying for the RESP. The responses below do not and cannot limit the discretion of the Commission when it meets to decide which RESP applications should receive funds. To the extent that the responses below suggest policy choices different from the course of action the Commission ultimately adopts, the Commission's grant decision is controlling in all circumstances. The Commission has the discretion to prioritize certain applications over others in order to best distribute the available funds among the eligible grant applicants.

Most recent update	Content updated
12.2023	v. 1 published



RESP Round 2 Webinar Part 2: Eligible Applicants and Activities



Wisconsin Office of Energy Innovation

Overall Requirements

- In-State Project: projects must be located exclusively within the state of Wisconsin
- Cost Match: Not required
- Compliance with other IIJA and applicable Federal Requirements, including
 - Benefit Rural Communities
 - National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)
 - Buy American Requirements for Infrastructure Projects
 - Davis-Bacon Act and Related Acts

Eligible Applicants

- A unit of local government (city, village, town, county) that was not eligible to receive a direct allocation from the DOE
- Considered rural for the purposes of this program
 - Rural municipal zip codes are identified as those within “any area of a State not in a city or town that has a population of more than 50,000 inhabitants, not in the urbanized area contiguous and adjacent to a city or town that has a population of more than 50,000 inhabitants and excluding certain populations pursuant to 7 U.S.C. 1991(a)(13)(H) and (I).” OEI has aligned its definition of rural with that use in USDA’s Rural Energy for America Program and [the Focus on Energy program’s rural bonus incentives](#).
 - Rural counties: U.S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB) uses census data to establish a range of rural and urban classifications known as Rural-Urban Continuum (RUC) codes, with RUC of 4 to 9 considered rural. [USDA’s Economic Research Service](#) presents this information visually for Wisconsin by county.
- To be given priority, applicants may:
 - Be within a Disadvantaged Community, or have DAC located within project area as defined by the [OEI Map](#).
- While it is not necessary for an applicant to be located within a DAC or have a DAC located within the planned project area, priority will be given to applicants meeting those qualifiers.

RESP Eligible Activities and Funds

Activity	Maximum Grant Request: Single Applicant	Maximum Grant Request: Consortium Applicant of 2 or more Eligible Applicants
1. Comprehensive Energy Planning	\$75,000	\$150,000
2. Renewable Resource Planning	\$75,000	\$150,000
3. Energy Audits and Building Implementations	\$125,000	\$250,000
		Total: \$1 million available

Activity 1: Comprehensive Energy Planning

Funds technical consultant services to assist the eligible applicant in the development of Comprehensive Energy Planning to include:

- ▶ Evaluation of current energy use and sources
- ▶ Determination of the entity's potential for generating energy locally
- ▶ Creation of goals for energy savings and generation

Max request: \$75,000 for single applicant; \$150,000 for consortium applicant

[Blueprint 1: Energy Planning | Department of Energy](#)

Activity 2: Renewable Resource Planning

Funds technical consultant services to assist the eligible applicant in the development of Renewable Resource Planning to include:

- ▶ Assessing renewable resource potential with a focus on the greatest value and job opportunities for the area
- ▶ Setting a collective vision with stakeholders for optimal renewable energy deployment, and creating an action plan for formal adoption and implementation

Max request: \$75,000 for single applicant; \$150,000 for consortium applicant

[Blueprint 3D: Renewable Resource Planning for Rural and Tribal Communities | Department of Energy](#)

Activity 3: Energy Audits and Building Upgrades

- ▶ Identifying potential energy saving opportunities in building and provide the technical and financial information (such as upfront costs, ongoing costs, projected energy savings, return on investment) needed to evaluate and approve energy efficiency, electrification, and grid interactivity retrofits.
- ▶ Explore energy audit results including retrofitting existing buildings, presenting an opportunity to improve the energy performance and operational costs of building assets including heating, cooling, and ventilation systems and equipment, lighting and control systems, and the building envelope while improving occupant control (such as grid-interactive technologies)
- ▶ Retrofits and upgrades cannot be ground-breaking and should fit into the allowable and approved NEPA activities, as outlined in Appendix B of the Application Instructions.

Max request: \$125,000 for single applicant; \$250,000 for consortium applicant

[Blueprint 2A: Energy Efficiency: Energy Audits, Building Upgrades | Department of Energy](#)



RESP Round 2 Webinar Part 3: Accounts and Application Content



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Accounts – Set up now

PSC Grants System and Electronic Records Filing (ERF) System Accounts

- Applicants must create an account with the **PSC Grants System**, where the electronic application is completed. (PSC Grants System Login page: [Online Grant System Login PSC Grants \(wi.gov\)](https://wi.gov/OnlineGrantSystemLogin))
- The PSC Grants System is connected to the **ERF system**; an account is required for both.
 - If you have an ERF account, from the PSC Grants System Login page, follow the link to validate your ERF Account.
 - If you do not have an ERF account, from the PSC Grants Login page, follow the link to create an ERF Account, then return to the login page and follow the link to validate your ERF Account.

Accounts – Set up now

System for Award Management (SAM.gov) Registration

- Applicants must register with SAM.gov and obtain a Universal Entity Identifier (UEID) prior to receiving a grant award and are encouraged to do so as soon as possible, to provide the UEID number with the application.
- A UEID number is a unique twelve-character alphanumeric ID used to identify your organization.
- SAM is a web-based, government-wide application that collects, validates, stores, and disseminates business information about intended federal grant recipients and other partners. Instructions for registering with SAM and obtaining a UEID are available here:

[SAM.gov](https://sam.gov)

Application Content Overview

- Reference documents: [Application Instructions](#) and [PSC Grants System User's Guide](#)
- All key information and narrative questions go into [PSC Grants System](#)
- Upload documents into PSC Grants System
 - [9714-FG-2024 Applicant Metrics.xlsx Document](#) (required)
 - [OEI Map](#) of project location (required)
 - Other supplemental materials (recommended)
 - Quote or bid from contractor(s) or supplier(s)
 - If applicable, documentation of Partnerships
 - If applicable, additional letters of support, survey data, or additional materials that best support the application

Application Content Uploads

Required documents to upload in PSC Grants System

[9714-FG-2024 Applicant Metrics.xlsx Document](#)

[OEI Map](#): OEI has developed a map tool for applicants to identify DACs and rural eligibility. Applicants should provide a visual, mapped representation of the project location, such as a PDF images, highlighting the rural eligibility of the location, as well as areas that will benefit from the project.

Application Content - Details

Application Details

- Project Name: Identify the name of applicant project with the following: Applicant Legal Name, Activity Type, Project Site or Area (example: example: Jefferson County_ Comprehensive Energy Plan_Jefferson)
- Project Description field: Provide a brief (500 characters) description of the proposed project activities and outcomes.
- Activity Type: Identify the applicant's activity
- Grant Amount Requested and Total Project Costs

Applicant Details

- Primary Contact Information will go here.
- Fields with * are required. If you are not able to obtain a UEID in time, use zeros

Application Content - Contacts

- Internal:
 - **Primary:** main point of contact, day-to-day management of grant, will need access to the Grants System
 - Secondary: backup to Primary
 - Financial Manager: reimbursement requests and financial reporting (Primary if omitted)
 - Grants Manager: progress reports (Primary if omitted)
 - **Authorized Representative:** person legally authorized to sign contract
- External:
 - Contractor: prospective installation contractor or consultant
 - Partner: stakeholder or other outside organization providing project input

Application Content - Budget

Order as shown in PSC Grants System

- Equipment: project component or item (DOE guidance: with an acquisition cost greater than \$5,000 per unit and a useful life expectancy of more than one year).
- Labor (Salary): internal project labor
- Labor (Fringe): internal fringe benefits
- Other: Any direct cost items required for the project which do not fit clearly into other categories (e.g., printing costs); must not be duplicated in 'Indirect Charges' row.
- Supplies: internal consumables (DOE guidance: Generally defined as an item with an acquisition cost of \$5,000 or less and a useful life expectancy of less than one year; generally consumed during the project performance).
- Travel: internal travel costs necessary for meeting performance objectives (e.g., recipient/subrecipient site visits, DOE meetings, project management meetings).
- Indirect: costs that cannot be charged directly to the award (e.g., overhead costs).
- Contractual: external contracted labor, can include any travel, supplies, and materials

Application Content - Communities

- Provide the site location in which project will be placed. (See [User's Guide page 7](#))
 - If county-wide, select the county option in both the “County” and “Municipality” dropdown menus
- This tab will not be reviewed for merit
- Applicants are also required to provide a complete list of all **zip codes and census tracts** benefitting from the project in the Excel document *9714-FG-2024 Applicant Metrics.xlsx*

Project Example:

Grant Application Communities Served

County	Municipality
La Crosse	La Crosse (City)

Application Content - Narrative

- Grants System Note:
 - Responses are limited to 3000 characters (about 1 page)
 - All questions require a response in order to move forward in system
 - Save your work before advancing to the next page of the Narrative
- Executive Summary
 - These appear in questions 1-3 of the Grants Narrative questions and provide an additional overview of the proposed project.
- Merit Review Criteria:
 - These appear in questions 4-17 of the Grants Narrative section and provide the basis for the merit review evaluation.

Application Review

- Supplemental information may be provided during application window to OEI@wisconsin.gov and may be requested by the commission during review panel for additional details.
- All applications are public unless otherwise specified.
- Application may be withdrawn at anytime.
- Merit criteria incorporated into the Narrative Questions will be used to guide the review panel in evaluating applications



RESP Round 2 Webinar Part 4: OEI Map Overview and Demo



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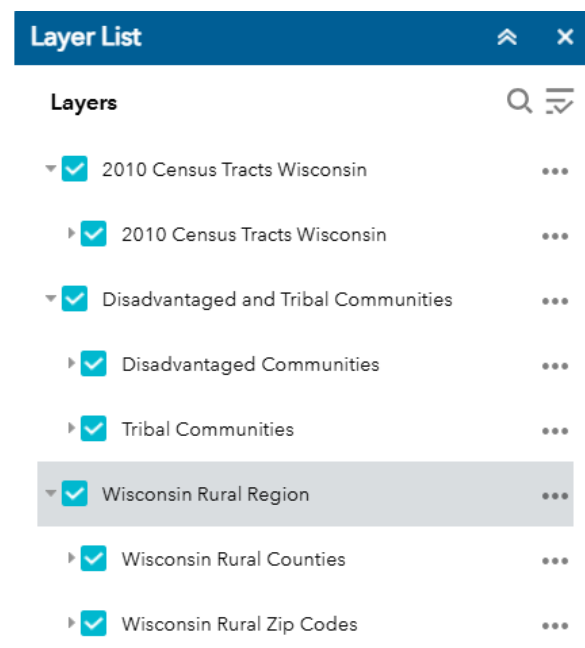
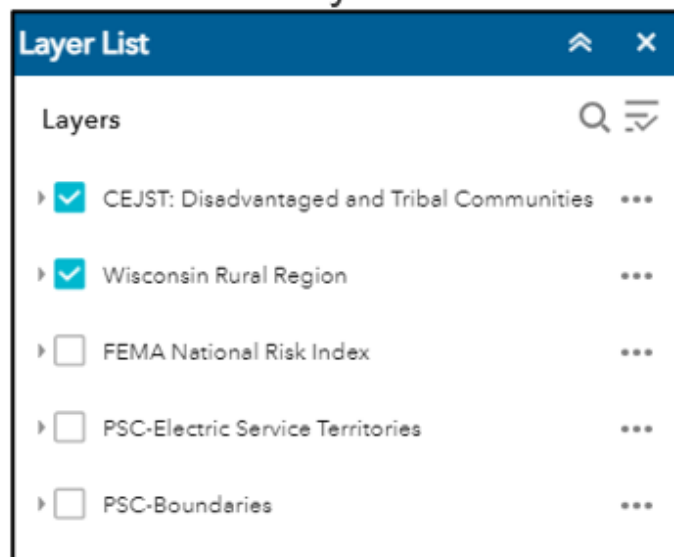
OEI Map Layer Sources

- **Census Bureau 2010 Shapefiles:** This layer is based on the U.S. Census Bureau's shapefiles from the 2010 Census. It provides census tract boundaries for Wisconsin, where 55 is the FIPS code for the state. The shapefiles can be accessed through the Census Bureau's [2010 TIGER/Line Shapefiles](#) download page.
- **Disadvantaged Communities, including Tribal communities,** are identified from the Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool (CEJST) datasets.
- **Wisconsin Rural Regions**
 - Rural zip codes are identified as those within "any area of a State not in a city or town that has a population of more than 50,000 inhabitants, not in the urbanized area contiguous and adjacent to a city or town that has a population of more than 50,000 inhabitants, and excluding certain populations pursuant to 7 U.S.C. 1991(a)(13)(H) and (I)." OEI has aligned its definition of rural with that use in USDA's Rural Energy for America Program and the [Focus on Energy program's rural bonus incentives](#).
 - Rural counties: U.S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB) uses census data to establish a range of rural and urban classifications known as Rural-Urban Continuum (RUC) codes, with RUC of 4 to 9 considered rural. [USDA's Economic Research Service](#) presents this information visually for Wisconsin by county.
- **FEMA National Risk Index:** this layer is based on FEMA's All Natural Hazards dataset. See the [FEMA National Risk Index](#) mapping tool for hazard-specific data such as extreme cold (Cold Wave), Ice Storm, or Riverine Flooding. See the [Wisconsin Risk Profile](#) developed by the U.S. DOE's Office of Cybersecurity, Energy Security, and Emergency Response, which assessed the state's energy use and infrastructure risk landscape and identified flooding and other severe weather incidents to have the highest frequency and property damage costs for the state.
- **[PSC- Electric Service Territories](#):** Service territory boundaries are approximate and based on information supplied by the utilities and companies. For utilities/companies without defined service territories, a rough boundary was drawn around their facilities and the properties they serve. Portions of the map in white represent areas where no electric service or service territory may have been extended. This map should be viewed as approximate and contains no guarantee of accuracy.
- **PS-Boundaries:** The boundaries should be viewed as approximate and are no guarantee of accuracy.

- [OEI Map](#)
- ***Applicants***, please use the OEI Map tool to determine your eligibility, DAC status, and respond to the required questions in the grant application.

Turning Layers On/Off

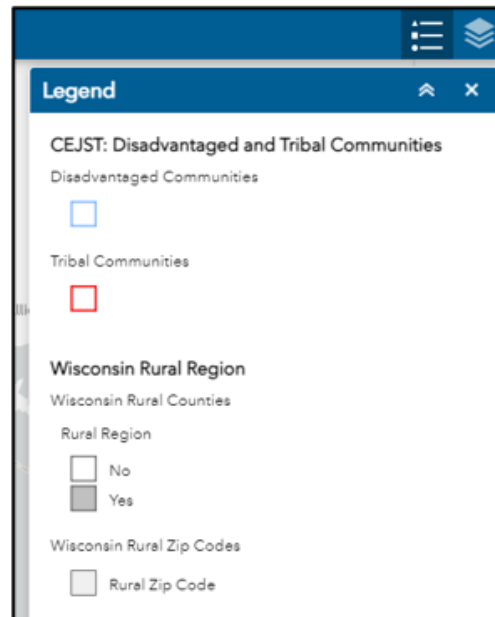
- Click on the Layer List icon  in the upper right corner of the screen.
- On: Click check box on the left of the layer name so that the box is checked.
- Off: Click check box on the left of the layer name so that the box is unchecked.



Mapping it out—Tips

Legend

A legend displays the meaning of the symbols, colors and styles used to represent geographic data on the map. You can find it on the legend tab next to the layers tab on the top right corner of the application.

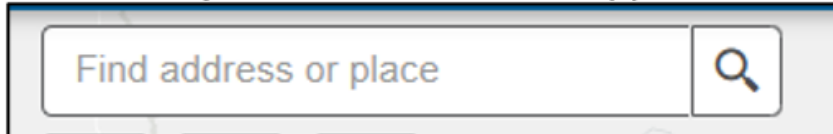


Note: Only legends of the selected layers will be visible.

Mapping it out—Tips

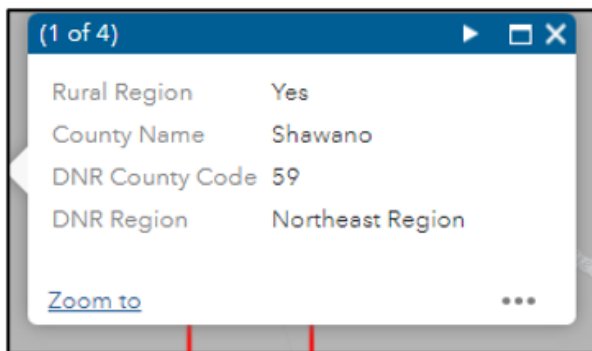
Finding Location:

- Enter your address in the search bar.
- Click Search button .
- Or
- Click My Location icon  in upper left corner.



Find address or place 

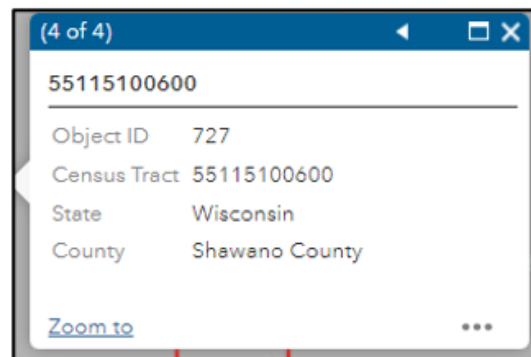
The pop-up icon provides the county name, rural region: yes/no and other essential information depending on the layers selected.



(1 of 4)  

Rural Region	Yes
County Name	Shawano
DNR County Code	59
DNR Region	Northeast Region

[Zoom to](#) 



(4 of 4)  

55115100600

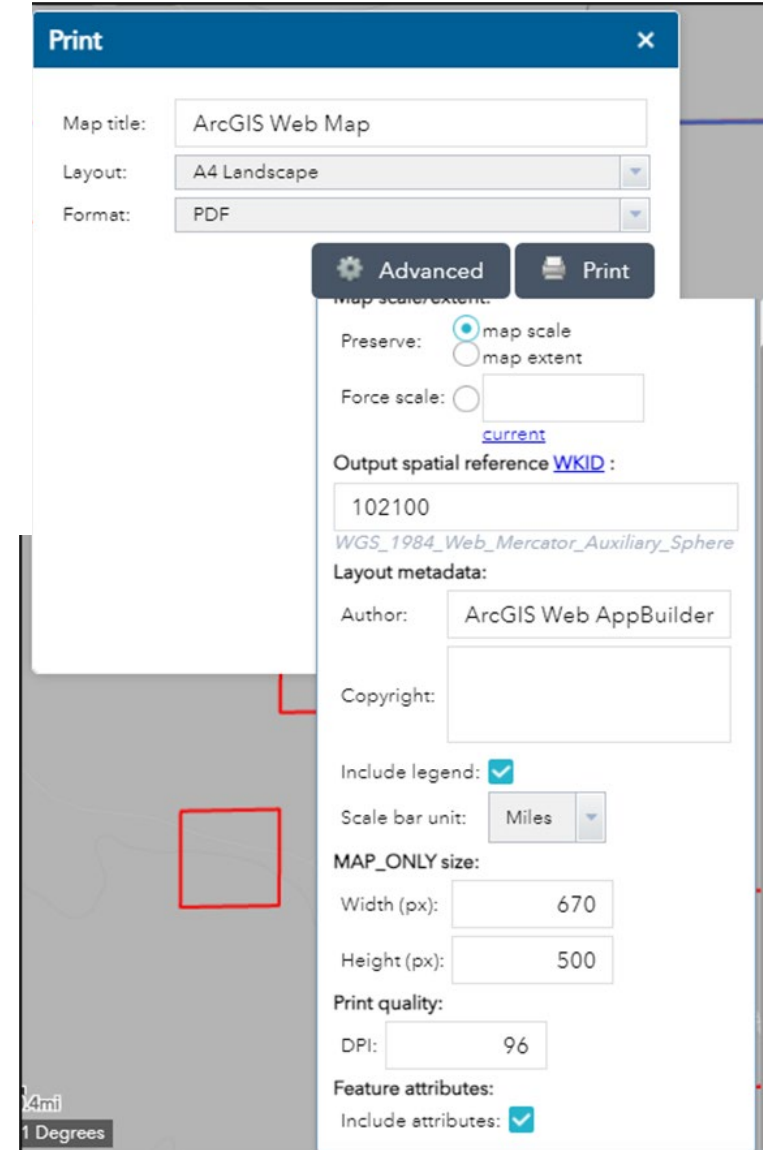
Object ID	727
Census Tract	55115100600
State	Wisconsin
County	Shawano County

[Zoom to](#) 

Mapping it out—Tips

Save/Print:

- Click Save/Print icon .
- Customize print settings if desired.
 - Under Advanced setting you can check "Include Attributes" to have the legends listed.
- Click Print button  in dropdown menu.
- When export is finished, Click the file name.
- Save and/or Print from the internet browser.

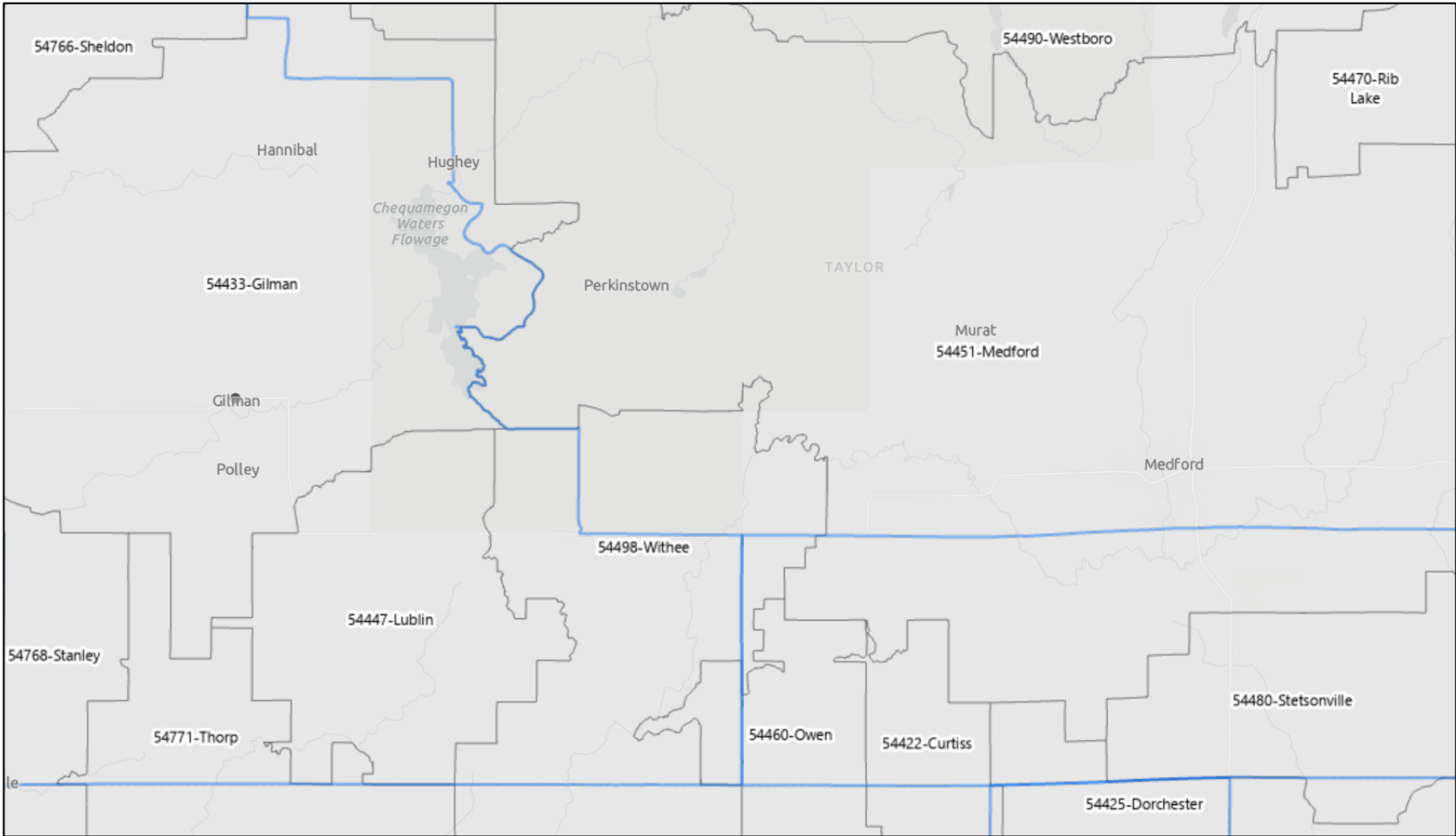


The screenshot shows the ArcGIS Print dialog box with the following settings:

- Map title: ArcGIS Web Map
- Layout: A4 Landscape
- Format: PDF
- Advanced settings:
 - Map scale/extent: Preserve: ☒ map scale, ☐ map extent
 - Force scale: (current)
 - Output spatial reference WKID: 102100 (WGS_1984_Web_Mercator_Auxiliary_Sphere)
 - Layout metadata: Author: ArcGIS Web AppBuilder, Copyright: (empty)
 - Include legend: ☒
 - Scale bar unit: Miles
 - MAP_ONLY size: Width (px): 670, Height (px): 500
 - Print quality: DPI: 96
 - Feature attributes: Include attributes: ☒

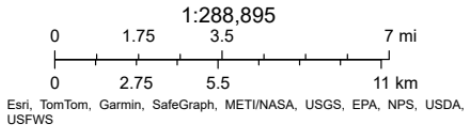
Mapping it out—Tips

ArcGIS Web Map



1/8/2024, 3:24:43 PM

-  Disadvantaged Communities
-  Rural Zip Code



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RESP Round 2 Webinar Part 5: Review Criteria



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RESP Merit Review

<u>Screening Criteria</u>	<u>Determination</u>	<u>Possible Points, If Needed</u>
Rural	Location is rural.	N/A. Required
Equity, Energy Justice – DAC Screening	Project is in a DAC or its' benefits will flow down to a DAC.	20
New or Existing Plans and Opportunities	Proposal type is selected. If updating an existing plan, an explanation is provided.	10
Ability and Preparedness to Achieve Objectives	Acknowledgement of following a blueprint for their proposal. For Activity 3, Audit/assessment guidelines are acknowledged.	10
Budget Justification and Contributions	Questions are answered, and costs are provided in the budget tab.	10
Cost Savings and Payback, Economic Impacts	Savings of the cost are described.	10
Energy savings and Environmental Impact (kilowatt, kilowatt hour, therms, gallons of gasoline, emissions)	Energy saved by the indicated measures are provided.	10
<u>TOTAL POINTS AVAILABLE</u>		70

Rural – Required

- Rural municipal zip codes are identified as those within “any area of a State not in a city or town that has a population of more than 50,000 inhabitants, not in the urbanized area contiguous and adjacent to a city or town that has a population of more than 50,000 inhabitants and excluding certain populations pursuant to 7 U.S.C. 1991(a)(13)(H) and (I).” OEI has aligned its definition of rural with that use in USDA’s Rural Energy for America Program and the [Focus on Energy program’s rural bonus incentives](#).
- Rural counties: U.S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB) uses census data to establish a range of rural and urban classifications known as Rural-Urban Continuum (RUC) codes, with RUC of 4 to 9 considered rural. [USDA’s Economic Research Service](#) presents this information visually for Wisconsin by county.
- [Rural](#)
- [Rural-Urban Continuum \(RUC\) codes 4-9](#)
- [OEI Map](#)

Equity, Energy Justice-DAC Screening– 20 points

- The 9714-FG-2024 Applicant Metrics.xlsx document, which is a required document that is submitted through PSC Grants System Upload tab, requests a complete list of all census tracts that would be benefitting from the project, regardless of whether the tract is identified as a DAC.
- Identify the extent to which the benefits of the proposed project fall within a disadvantaged community or communities.
- Applicants should use the [OEI map](#) in their analysis.
 - Use tool to create narrative and visual representation of the project

New or Existing Plans/Opportunities – 10 points

- Please identify whether the proposed project will result in a new, or an update to an existing, Comprehensive Energy or Renewable Resource Plan, or audit.
- If updating an existing plan, please describe how it is different from the original plan, including previous endeavors (e.g. ISO 50001 Audit, Energy Independent Communities), and identify the reason(s) for the update.
- Upload reference documents or provide excerpts as needed.

Ability and Preparedness to Achieve Objectives – 10 points

- Applicant understands and affirms they will use and implement a DOE blueprint (Blueprint 1: Energy Planning, Blueprint 2A: Energy Efficiency: Energy Audits and Building Upgrades, Blueprint 3D: Renewable Resource Planning for Rural and Tribal Communities).
- Demonstrate how the Applicant's organization, staff, partners or stakeholders, and any known subcontractors' experience will assist in achieving the objectives of the proposed project. Describes the experience and skills these individuals or groups bring to the project.

Budget Justification/ Contributions – 10 Points

- Provide a cost basis for each line item on which costs were entered on the Budget Tab. Applicants should describe the extent to which a cost share may be required if the total project cost exceeds the maximum grant request. If a building upgrade is proposed under Activity 3, provide a distinct cost basis between an audit or assessment and the upgrade.
- Describe how the quote(s) or bid(s) were received and/or how the project determined which contractor(s) or supplier(s) to work with. If no quote or bid was obtained, describe how procurement requirements for the project will be met or if the project work will be done in-house.

Cost Savings and Payback, Economic Impacts— 10 Points

- Describe the project's potential for cost savings to the community based on affected community population, building stock, and energy type usage and costs. Identify the immediate or future potential for stimulating local and/or state economy and workforce as a result of this project.

Environmental Impact – 10 points

- Describe the effectiveness or desired results of the plan, audit, or assessment project in setting baseline information and preparation for, or the effectiveness of the upgrade project in, saving or producing clean energy in terms of kilowatts, kilowatt hours, therms, gallons of gasoline, etc.
- Applicants may access the EPA Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Equivalencies Calculator here: <https://www.epa.gov/energy/greenhouse-gas-equivalencies-calculator> to quantify emissions reductions (carbon, other GHGs, etc.) associated with estimated project energy savings. At minimum, applicants should provide the type of energy currently used in the community (electric, natural gas, propane, other) that the project could affect.



RESP Round 2 Webinar Part 6: Federal Flowdown Requirements



Wisconsin Office of Energy Innovation

Buy American Provisions

None of the funds provided under this award (federal share or recipient cost-share) may be used for a project for infrastructure unless:

- All iron and steel used in the project is produced in the United States—this means all manufacturing processes, from the initial melting stage through the application of coatings, occurred in the United States;
- All manufactured products used in the project are produced in the United States—this means the manufactured product was manufactured in the United States; and the cost of the components of the manufactured product that are mined, produced, or manufactured in the United States is greater than 55 percent of the total cost of all components of the manufactured product, unless another standard unless another standard for determining the minimum amount of domestic content of the manufactured product has been established under applicable law or regulation; and
- All construction materials are manufactured in the United States—this means that all manufacturing processes for the construction material occurred in the United States.

Buy American Waiver

- The U.S. DOE has issued guidance on a Waiver in Support of Operational Efficiency: Small Grants, De Minimis, and Minor Components under Build America, Buy America Provisions as Applied to Recipients of Department of Energy Federal Financial Assistance. The waiver is intended to ease implementation burdens for U.S. DOE financial assistance recipients so they can focus their efforts on their projects. The U.S. DOE's guidance outlines that eligible projects for the waiver will meet the following requirements:
 - Awards/Subawards made from July 28, 2023, through July 28, 2028;
 - Has a total project cost of less than \$250,000;
- Additionally, the OEI will request waiver applicants attest and confirm that implementing organizations are not intentionally splitting projects or taking other actions to keep below the \$250,000 threshold which is specifically prohibited.

Davis-Bacon Act and Related Acts

The Davis-Bacon provisions of IIJA includes language requiring prevailing wage requirements, including:

- All laborers and mechanics employed by the recipient, subrecipients, contractors or subcontractors in the performance of construction, alteration, or repair work in excess of \$2,000 on an award funded directly by or assisted in whole or in part by funds made available under this award shall be paid wages at rates not less than those prevailing on similar projects in the locality, as determined by the Secretary of Labor in accordance with subchapter IV of chapter 31 of title 40, United States Code commonly referred to as the “Davis-Bacon Act” (DBA).
- The Federal government determines and sets the prevailing wage rates on SAM.gov. Wages for specific wage rates by county and construction type can be found on <https://sam.gov/content/wage-determinations>
- Wage reporting will be required through authorized access to LCPtracker by the subrecipient and contractors.

For additional guidance on how to comply with the Davis-Bacon provisions and clauses, see:

- <https://www.dol.gov/agencies/whd/government-contracts/construction>
- <https://www.dol.gov/agencies/whd/government-contracts/protections-for-workers-in-construction>

Davis-Bacon Act Reporting with LCPtracker

The U.S. DOE has contracted with LCPtracker for Davis-Bacon Act reporting. This software is free to use and allows for certified payroll reports and workforce data to be uploaded and electronically signed any day, any time.

Grant recipients, Contractors, and Sub-Contractors will be expected to complete appropriate documentation to obtain access, set up projects, assign wages and complete training to use this software.

Timely electronic submission of weekly certified payrolls through LCPtracker is part of the project compliance with the Davis-Bacon Act.

For additional information on LCPtracker see: [Weekly DBA Payroll Tracking with LCPtracker | Department of Energy](#)

NEPA

- The U.S. DOE issued a categorical exclusion (CX) for all RESP 2025 eligible activities. Sub awardees will complete and submit an Environmental Screening Tool (EST) as part of the subaward process for review by OEI
- According to the Application Instructions, projects shall not involve groundbreaking
- Applicants are encouraged to review the EST in advance
- See Appendix B in the Application Instructions for further details.

Historic Preservation Requirement

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, many 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](#). Applicants are encouraged to review the programmatic agreement.

Resources

- DOE Activity 1 Energy Planning Blueprint: [Blueprint 1: Energy Planning | Department of Energy](#)
- DOE Activity 2 Renewable Planning Blueprint: [Blueprint 3D: Renewable Resource Planning for Rural and Tribal Communities | Department of Energy](#)
- DOE Activity 3 Audits and Building Implementation Blueprint: [Blueprint 2A: Energy Efficiency: Energy Audits, Building Upgrades | Department of Energy](#)
- OEI Map: [OEI Map](#)
- Applicant Metrics Excel Worksheet: [Excel Worksheet](#)
- Application Instructions: [Instructions](#)