**Disadvantaged Communities (DACs) Template**

**SEP Annual Formula Applications Fiscal Year (FY) 2023:**

**Questions to ask SEOs surrounding DACs**

Issued on January 27, 2021, Executive Order 14008, *Tackling the Climate Crisis at Home and Abroad*, created the government wide Justice40 Initiative with the goal of delivering 40 percent of the overall benefits of relevant federal investments to disadvantaged communities and tracking performance toward that goal through the establishment of an Environmental Justice Scorecard. As part of this initiative, SEP seeks information from states on how they define Disadvantaged Communities (DACs) and whether SEP formula funds provide benefits to DACs. To that end, we would appreciate your providing responses to the questions in this template. Please return this document to your Project Officer along with your Application.

1. How does your State Energy Office define disadvantaged communities (DACs) or how do you plan to define them with going forward?
2. If you do not have a definition, what indicators will you use for programs and policies that support DACs?
3. How much of your annual SEP funding do you plan to be delivered to DACs and how will you measure delivery to DACs or benefit to DACs (if you do, are you measuring anything beyond funding)? If possible, please provide examples or links to such programs.
4. Do you plan to partner with community-based organization that benefit DACs through your FY23 Formula grant? Please provide examples.
5. What outcomes are you planning to deliver using your SEP-supported policies and programs that address issues within DACs (i.e., air pollution, high energy burden, local workforce unemployment, etc.)?

1. What resources or guidance from DOE would be most useful in supporting state-led priorities related to disadvantaged communities?