Justice40 & the Energy Efficiency & Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) Program

EECBG Justice40 Training Presentation
May 11, 2023
**Agenda**

- **Part 1:** Opening Remarks
- **Part 2:** Introduction to EECBG Program
- **Part 3:** Introduction to Energy Justice and the Justice40 Initiative
- **Part 4:** Achieving Justice40 with EECBG
- **Part 4:** Case Studies
  - Alabama Brownfield
  - San Diego low-income solar program
- **Part 5:** Q&A
• **Part 1: Opening Remarks**

• Part 2: Introduction to EECBG

• Part 3: Introduction to Energy Justice and the Justice40 Initiative

• Part 4: Achieving Justice40 with EECBG

• Part 4: Case Studies
  • SDG&E low-income solar program
  • Alabama Brownfield

• Part 5: Q&A
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EECBG Program Overview

Program Purpose: support state, local, and tribal governments to

- Reduce fossil fuel emissions in a manner that is environmentally sustainable and maximizes benefits to communities
- Reduce their total energy use
- Improve energy efficiency in the transportation, building, and other sectors

Total IIJA Appropriation: $550 Million for states, local governments, & tribes
EECBG Program Eligibility & Funding Distribution

Total IIJA Appropriation: $550M

Formula Grants:
$431.2M
2,708 eligible entities

- 1,878 Local Govts. $299.2M
- 50 States, 5 Territories & Wash, DC $123.2M
  States must pass through at least 60% to ineligible local governments
- 774 Indian Tribes $8.8M

Competitive Grants:
$8.8M
Formula ineligible entities

Local Governments, Tribes & Consortia NOT eligible for formula grants

*Distribution does not reflect $110M set aside for DOE to deliver an effective and efficient program and to provide technical assistance to eligible entities before distributing remaining funds to eligible entities.
## EECBG Program Timelines

### Formula Program Deadlines

1. **Pre-Award Information Sheet Due:** July 31st
2. **State Applications:** July 31st
3. **Local / Tribal Applications:**
   - Application Period #1: April 28th
   - Application Period #2: July 31st
   - Application Period #3: October 31st
   - Application Period #4: January 31st, 2024
4. **DOE will take 30-60 days to review complete applications***

### Competitive Program Deadlines

1. **Concept Paper:** June 5th
2. **Concept Paper Notifications:** Mid-June
3. **Full Application due:** August 7
4. **DOE Selection Date:** Late September
5. **Award Notification:** October - November

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*Award processing times are estimates. Grants not following blueprints will take a minimum of 90 days to review. Timelines do not include the time required for applicants to prepare and submit an application to DOE.
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What is Energy Justice?

Seeks **equity** in the **social** and **economic** participation in the energy system

While **remediating** social, economic, and health **burdens** on “frontline communities” explicitly centering their concerns

Aims to make energy more **accessible**, **affordable**, **clean**, and **democratically** managed for all communities.

Image Credit: Initiative for Energy Justice Section 1 - Defining Energy Justice: Connections to Environmental Justice, Climate Justice, and the Just Transition - Initiative for Energy Justice (iejusa.org)
Why Energy Justice

Why is Energy Justice so important?

The outputs of our energy and transportation systems have had disproportionate impacts on certain individuals and communities....
Our energy system infrastructure has disparate impacts on certain communities...

Communities near power plants and energy infrastructure are subjected to toxic pollutants that contribute to high rates of asthma, cancer, heart disease.
Disproportionate Impacts | Employment

More Dependence On Coal and Fossil Fuel for Employment
“Health disparities exist in coal mining regions of Appalachia compared with other areas of the region or the nation, including elevated mortality rates for total causes, lung cancer, and some chronic illnesses.” Mortality in Appalachian Coal Mining Regions: The Value of Statistical Life Lost
“Low-income households spend three times more of their income on energy costs compared to the median spending of non-low-income households”

- How do we begin to address these disparities?
- What can we do moving forward to ensure these communities gain access to resources that reduce energy burden, provide clean energy, and generate opportunity?

The Justice40 Initiative

E.O. 14008, Section 223, January 27, 2021

“...the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, and the National Climate Advisor, in consultation with the Advisory Council, shall jointly publish recommendations on how certain Federal investments might be made toward a goal that 40 percent of the overall benefits flow to disadvantaged communities.”
How do we measure and track the benefits of J40 investments?

40% of the overall benefits...

How do we define J40 investments?

How do we define disadvantaged communities (DACs)?

How do we measure and track the benefits of J40 investments?

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Justice 40 DOE Covered Programs

“Existing and new programs, including those created by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL), that make covered investments in any of [the previous] categories are considered Justice 40 covered programs.” OMB Guidance

Over 140 DOE programs are covered under the Justice 40 Initiative

E.O. 14082, September 12, 2022

“In implementing the Act [IRA], all agencies...shall, as appropriate and to the extent consistent with law, prioritize... the Justice 40 Initiative...to protect and improve the health and well-being of fence-line and frontline communities in the United States;”
Tools | Identifying Disadvantaged Communities (DACs)

DOE DAC Reporter Tool: Energy Justice Dashboard (anl.gov)

CEQ’s CEJST Mapping Tool: Explore the map - Climate & Economic Justice Screening Tool
What are benefits? How do they Flow to DACs?

**DOE Policy Priorities**

1. Decrease in energy burden
2. Decrease in environmental exposure and burdens
3. Increases in jobs/training
4. Increases in enterprise creation
5. Increases in energy democracy
6. Increases in low-cost capital
7. Increases in clean energy access and adoption
8. Increases in energy resilience
How EECBG funds were used in the past...

Successful City Initiatives with Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) Funding, A 204-City Survey, February 2014, Mayors Climate Protection Center, [0227-report-eecbgsurvey.pdf](usmayors.org)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Retrofits</strong></th>
<th><strong>Transport</strong></th>
<th><strong>Govt, Schools</strong></th>
<th><strong>Renewable Energy</strong></th>
<th><strong>Building Codes &amp; Standards</strong></th>
<th><strong>Energy Planning</strong></th>
<th><strong>Energy Audits</strong></th>
<th><strong>Training and Education</strong></th>
<th><strong>Stakeholder Engagement</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td>Number of buildings retrofitted</td>
<td>Number of alternative fuel vehicles purchased</td>
<td>Number of energy efficient: HVAC units purchased, streetlights,</td>
<td>Number of PV, wind, or solar thermal systems installed</td>
<td>Number of new building codes adopted</td>
<td>Number of CAPs updated or completed</td>
<td>Number of audits performed (investment and non-investment)</td>
<td>Number of orgs receiving TA (Tribal, rural, DAC?)</td>
<td>Number of community engagement events</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Estimated retrofit savings</td>
<td>Number of new alternative refueling/stations installed</td>
<td>Number of energy efficient lights purchased</td>
<td>Total capacity of systems installed</td>
<td>Number of policies developed or updated (DACs?)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Community attendance</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reduction in fuel consumption</td>
<td>Length of sidewalks installed</td>
<td># of efficient water heaters purchased</td>
<td>Number of geothermal or hydropower</td>
<td>Number of GHG inventories completed</td>
<td></td>
<td># workshops or training sessions held</td>
<td>Community benefits agreement</td>
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## Metrics | Example – Building Retrofit Program

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**What communities will benefit?**

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<th>Metric</th>
<th>Model</th>
<th>Count</th>
<th>Model</th>
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<td>Energy efficient HVAC units purchased, streetlights,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Energy Audits</td>
<td></td>
<td>Number of audits performed</td>
<td>Energy efficient installations/appliances/lights purchased</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government, Schools</td>
<td></td>
<td>Number of energy efficient water heaters purchased</td>
<td>Value of grants provided</td>
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<tr>
<td>Financial Instruments</td>
<td></td>
<td>Number of loans given</td>
<td>Total capacity of systems installed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Renewable Energy</td>
<td></td>
<td>Number of PV, wind, or solar thermal systems installed</td>
<td>Total value of money raised</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reduction in fuel consumption</td>
<td>Model</td>
<td></td>
<td>Number of geothermal or hydropower</td>
</tr>
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</table>
1. Start with CEJST to identify DACs
   - High School Education
   - Income

2. Follow up with DOE EJ DAC Reporter
   - High Cumulative Burden when compared to other state census tracts

3. Other helpful tools: EPA EJ Screen
   - Red, yellow and grey reflect high rates of asthma,
Final DOE Justice40 General Guidance 072522.pdf (energy.gov)
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Key Initial Questions

1. **WHO** to serve
   - Which communities should we focus on?
   - What problems are most acute in those communities?

2. **WHERE**
   - Which neighborhoods or census tracts?

3. **WHAT** project or program
   - Which activities would best meet the communities’ needs?
   - What opportunities are the communities interested in?
Center the community in your EECBG Program

**Plainville Original:**
We want to do LED lighting upgrades in our City Hall

1. **WHAT:** LEDs because they save energy costs and lower emissions
2. **WHERE:** City Hall
3. **WHO Benefits:** Municipal Govt employees, all taxpayers

**Plainville Revised:**
How can the EECBG program benefit the most vulnerable people in our community?

1. **WHO:** Community members in low-income neighborhood, mostly seniors
2. **WHERE:** Historic community on the East Side with highest energy burdens
3. **WHAT:** Low-income weatherize and solarize campaign
Centering the Community in Your EECBG Projects and Programs

**Scoping & Design for maximum community impact**

1. RESEARCH: Consider data to inform your decision-making.

2. LISTEN: Solicit ideas, feedback, and input from the community and key stakeholders.

3. ADAPT: Narrow focus and refine project plan to center the needs, values and culture of the community.

**Implementation with continuous feedback and improvement**

4. IMPLEMENT the project in a way that allows for ONGOING INPUT and promotes sustained community relationships to ensure that community priorities shape the project or program.
Key elements to help you answer the WHO & WHERE

- **Demographics:** Income, non-English speakers, race, unemployment, housing stock, education levels
- **Pollution:** Superfund sites, vehicle pollution, power plants, industrial pollution, etc.
- **Climate vulnerabilities:** Sea level rise, heat island, HVAC access, grid resiliency, cooling & warming centers
- **Household energy burden:** Percent of monthly income households spend on energy bills
- **Transportation:** Transportation costs and access, traffic volume & proximity

Data and Tools

- **Climate & Energy Justice Screening Tool (CEJST)**
  Discover which neighborhoods are designated as "disadvantaged." CEJST providers census tract-level demographic data, and vulnerabilities

- **Low-Income Energy Affordability Data (LEAD)**
  View more granular income, housing & energy burden data

- **State & Local Planning Tool for Energy (SLOPE)**
  Find out average household energy burdens and transportation burdens by county
Example question 1: Where are the disadvantaged communities in my area?

Example question 2: What factors make those areas disadvantaged?
The Low-Income Energy Affordability Data (LEAD) Tool visualizes energy burden and low-income household characteristics.

Now, check out the LEAD Tool

Go to energy.gov/scep/slsc/lead-tool or google it: DOE LEAD tool.
Example question:

What's the energy burden of the lowest income population in my county? And how many households is it?
### Now, WHAT should we do?

How can your EECBG projects and programs help address the community's concerns, while advancing clean energy goals?

### DOE has evidence-based ideas:

1. **Blueprints:** Evidence based best practices & road maps for implementation

2. **Program Guidance:** Includes example activities and connections to technical assistance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>J40 Goal</th>
<th>EECBG Activity</th>
</tr>
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</table>
| Lower Household Energy Burdens | • Weatherization,  
• Electrification Campaign,  
• Solarize campaign,  
• Community solar |
| Lower Transportation Burdens | • Electric buses,  
• Upgrade public transit,  
• Bike paths,  
• Community e-bikes  
• EV Charging for the Community |
| Increase Job Opportunities | • Workforce development |
| Address pollution | • Energy planning,  
• Renewable energy,  
• Electric transportation |
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It’s not just about the metrics, it’s about the process

Why community engagement matters...

1. Projects, and programs are more likely to be sustained over time.
2. We have greater understanding of their needs without assuming what their needs are.
3. Builds better trusting relationships between government & the community, which is essential for the future.
Case Study: Railroad Park- Birmingham, Alabama

Why Discuss Birmingham?

- Represents legacy urban cities - significant energy burden imposed on low wealth residents, dilapidated, underutilized downtown spaces, polluted land, and poor air quality

How did Birmingham Engage Community?

- Stakeholders engaged in online participation, town halls, charrettes, community-initiated meetings at popular venues such as fast-food chains, schools, worship halls; The City collected, analyzed and braided input to produce a conceptual drawing.

- Project demonstrates creative and unique participatory approaches to solve problems, i.e., mitigate emissions and pollution, improve air quality and leverage net-zero technology such as solar lighting and surveillance cameras

Why choose this park?

- City's redevelopment plan was pivotal to sustainable relationships aligning community needs, values and culture
Railroad Park: Birmingham, Alabama

City government addressed stakeholders’ ideas, needs, and desires, creating sustainable relationships and transforming distressed downtown areas into:

- 19 acres of urban/downtown community greenspace
- Complemented City's Comprehensive Plan (i.e., reduce emissions and pollution, meet green, energy & climate goals, create affordable/mixed income housing, improve quality of life, preserve neighborhoods, walking and bike trails, downtown vibrancy)
- Outdoor public free venue
- Generated jobs
- Spurred development downtown
- Increased City tax revenue
- Motivated downtown investments
- Generated retail, restaurants, entertainment venues
- Stimulated downtown visitors, activities, traffic

Research results: community satisfied, developer & public officials very satisfied with project outcome
San Diego Solar Equity Program

Providing solar, at little or no cost, to income-qualifying, San Diego residents

May 11, 2023
Demetra Tzamaras, P.E. - DER Senior Manager
About CSE

Mission-driven national nonprofit

Center for Sustainable Energy® (CSE) is a national nonprofit that accelerates adoption of clean transportation and distributed energy through effective and equitable program design and administration.

- Administer cutting-edge programs valued at over $4 billion for governments, utilities and the private sector across the U.S.
- Leader in data-driven incentive program design and administration for:
  - Electric vehicle and EV charging incentive programs
  - Renewable energy incentive programs (solar and storage)
- Headquartered in San Diego with more than 250 employees across the nation

Objective and trusted

- Governments, utilities and the private sector trust CSE for its data-driven and software-enabled approach, deep domain expertise and customer-focused team.
- CSE’s fee-for-service business model frees it from the influence of shareholders, members and donors, and ensures its independence.
- CSE’s data and insights have informed policy at the local, state and federal level.
Program Overview

- 10-year, equity-focused residential solar incentive program
- Funded by San Diego Gas & Electric (SDG&E) shareholder funds as part of the franchise agreement with the City of San Diego
- $1 million/year to assist income-qualified customers in installing solar on their homes
- $4/Watt incentive with additional incentives available for electrical panel upgrades ($3500) and job training hours ($1000)
- Flexibility for annual program design updates
Program Development and Deployment

Establish Goals
• Deploy as many solar systems as possible
• Target income-qualified residential customers

Draft Program Design
• Develop program design parameters based on consultation input

Launch Program
• Update the program website and program materials
• Open to applications

Consultation
• Participating solar contractors
• Local community-based organizations (CBOs)
• Local technical organizations
• City Sustainability and Mobility Department
• City Council Offices

Review and Approval
• Initial approval from City Council President
• Updates reviewed and approved by City Sustainability and Mobility Department and SDG&E
Eligibility Requirements

Homeowners
- Must be located within a Community of Concern
- Must have a total household income of 120% Area Median Income (AMI) or less

Solar Contractors
- Must pay prevailing wages to all individuals working on installation
- Must discuss energy efficiency with potential customers
- Must be certified to install solar per the California Contractors State Licensing Board (CSLB)

Equipment
- System size up to 6.5 kW
- Must be on California Energy Commission’s Solar Equipment List
- Must be installed for the duration of its useful life
- Must meet program warranty requirements
Year 1 Statistics (as of 5/8/2023)

57 applications received
- 21 cancelled
- 32 active (28 approved, 4 in progress)
- 4 completed

$22.5k and 5 kW average
$812,630 in incentives total
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