



Small Business FORUM & EXPO

July 11-12, 2023 | New Orleans Marriott | New Orleans, Louisiana

AMERICAN CLEAN ENERGY POWERED BY SMALL BUSINESSES



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DOE New Offices Breakout Session

Richard Ezike
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July 12, 2023

Joint Office Establishment

11/15/21 Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) signed into law

12/13/21 Biden-Harris Electric Vehicle Charging Action Plan released

12/14/21 Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the U.S. Departments of Energy and Transportation to establish a Joint Office of Energy and Transportation (Joint Office)

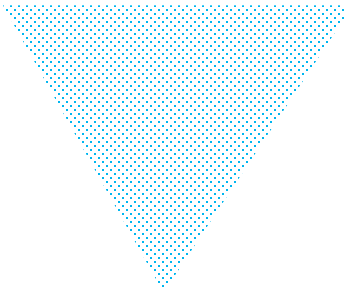


Secretary Jennifer Granholm
U.S. Department of Energy (DOE)



Secretary Pete Buttigieg
U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT)

Mission and Vision



JOINT OFFICE OF
**Energy and
Transportation**

Mission

To accelerate an electrified transportation system that is affordable, convenient, equitable, reliable, and safe.

Vision

A future where everyone can ride and drive electric.

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Vision for the Joint Office of Energy and Transportation

Support **deployment of zero-emission, convenient, accessible, equitable transportation infrastructure**—coordinating and leveraging activities between the U.S. Department of Energy and the U.S. Department of Transportation.

Serve as the **front door to the Federal Government for expertise and technical assistance**.

Serve as a **convener of federal agencies, private sector companies, NGO and academia** to bring an all of government and stimulate an all of society approach to zero emissions transportation and mobility services.

Focus on **social return on investment and providing pilot funding to test outcomes** vs. simply hardware.

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Areas of Emphasis

1) **technical assistance of vehicle charging**

- 2) data sharing
- 3) performance of a national and regionalized study vehicle charging
- 4) training and certification programs
- 5) a program to promote renewable energy generation, storage, and grid integration
- 6) transmission pilots in the rights-of-way
- 7) research, strategies, and actions to mitigate the effects of climate change
- 8) development of a streamlined utility accommodations policy for transmission in the transportation right-of-way
- 9) any other issues that the Secretary of Transportation and the Secretary of Energy identify as issues of joint interest

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BIL Programs Supported

The Joint Office provides unifying **guidance, technical assistance,** and **analysis** to support the following programs:



National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (NEVI) Formula Program (U.S. DOT)

\$5 billion for states to build a national electric vehicle (EV) charging network along corridors



Charging & Fueling Infrastructure Discretionary Grant Program (U.S. DOT)

\$2.5 billion in community and corridor grants for EV charging, as well as hydrogen, natural gas, and propane fueling infrastructure



Low-No Emissions Grants Program for Transit (U.S. DOT)

\$5.6 billion in support of low- and no-emission transit bus deployments



Clean School Bus Program (U.S. EPA)

\$5 billion in support of electric school bus deployments

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NEVI Formula Program— Guidance

- **EV charging infrastructure:**
 - Installed **every 50 miles** along the state's portions of the interstate highway system **within 1 travel mile of the interstate**, unless a discretionary exception has been granted
 - Includes **at least four 150kW DC fast chargers with Combined Charging System (CCS) ports** capable of simultaneously charging four EVs
 - Has minimum station power capability **at or above 600kW and supports at least 150kW per port simultaneously across four ports for charging**
- **Requires approved state EV deployment plan**

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Critical Activities Covered by NEVI Funding

- **Community outreach and participation**
- **Data sharing** about EV charging infrastructure to ensure the long-term success of investments
- **Mapping and analysis activities**, including **identifying disadvantaged communities**
- **Workforce development activities** that are directly related to the charging of an electric vehicle.
- Updating existing EV charging stations to meet **Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)** requirements

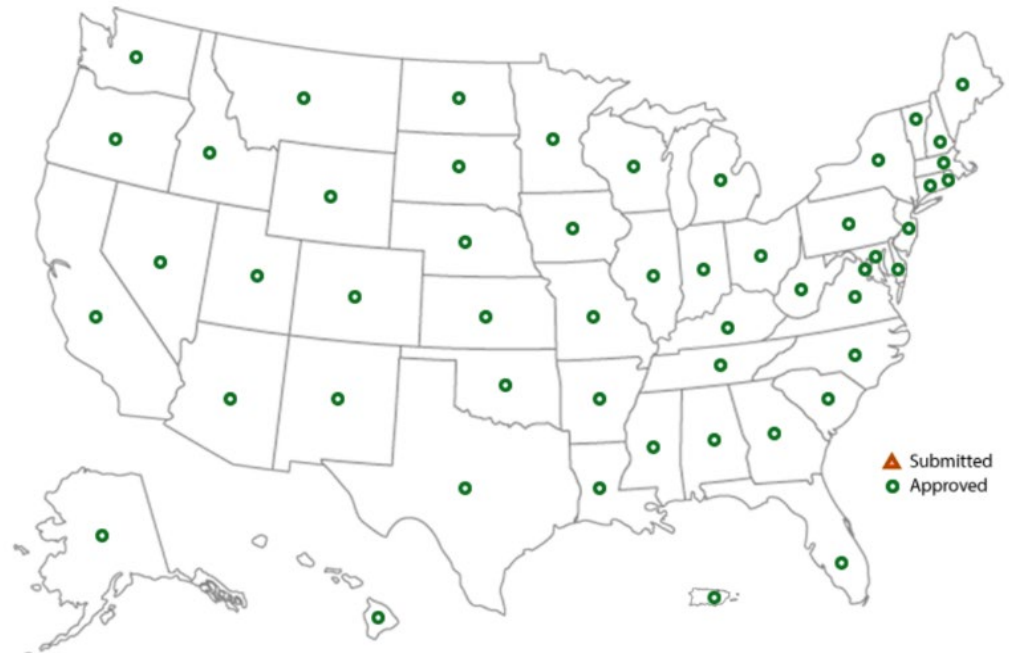
Status of NEVI Plans

Initial Plan Approvals

- 52 plans approved
- \$1.5B in FY22 + FY23 funding released
- Over 75,000 miles of the National Highway System covered
- [State Plans for Electric Vehicle Charging · Joint Office of Energy and Transportation \(driveelectric.gov\)](https://driveelectric.gov)

Joint Office Technical Assistance

- Joint Office continuing engagement with states – focusing on implementation, including equity topics



[EV Deployment Plans - NEVI - Environment - FHWA \(dot.gov\)](https://www.environment.fhwa.dot.gov/ev-deployment-plans-nevi)

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NEVI Minimum Standards for EV Chargers

Provide a predictable and reliable experience

- Consistent plug types, power levels, and a minimum number of chargers

Chargers work when drivers need them

- >97% uptime, minimum hours of operation

Allow drivers to easily find a charger

- Publicly accessible data via API on location, price, availability

Prevent the need for multiple apps and accounts to charge

- Open payment and capability to support roaming across all chargers

Support drivers' needs well into the future

- Forward-looking capabilities like Plug and Charge, Smart Charge Management

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Opportunities for SDBs or DBEs

FHWA NEVI grant:

- Formula grant program to state DOTs; Year 2 plans likely due late summer 2023
- MBEs should apply to state RFPs or partner with firms that might apply
- State DOTs are currently releasing their RFPs
- NEVI was not designated as a DBE program by Congress
- State plans available here: <https://driveelectric.gov/state-plans/>

FHWA CFI grant (FY 2024, \$500 million)

- US DOT will prioritize Highly Recommended & Recommended projects
- Criteria #4 “promote local inclusive economic development and entrepreneurship such as the utilization of Disadvantaged Business Enterprises, Minority-owned Businesses, Women-owned Businesses, or 8(a) firms”
- <https://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/cfi/>

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Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (DBE)

For the NEVI Formula program established in BIL, Congress **did not include the Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Program.**

What does this mean?

- State DOTs **cannot set DBE goals** on NEVI-funded contracts

What can State DOTs do?

- State DOTs **can** encourage DBEs to compete for prime and subcontracting opportunities in NEVI-funded projects
- State DOTs **can** also establish DBE contract goals on contracts that are funded with **both NEVI funds as well as another funding source** to which the DBE Program does apply.
 - The contract goal must be set only in proportion to the portion of funds subject to the DBE Program

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Workforce and Economic Opportunity Considerations

- Good-paying jobs with built in training opportunities for a new generation of trade workers., through apprenticeship requirements.
- Broader participation among women, Black, Latino, Asian American Pacific, Indigenous, and other underrepresented groups.
- Geographic, economic, or other hiring preferences to target hiring to economically disadvantaged communities or groups of workers
- Consider how disadvantaged communities will benefit from additional jobs

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Equity and Justice40 Considerations for BIL Funding Recipients

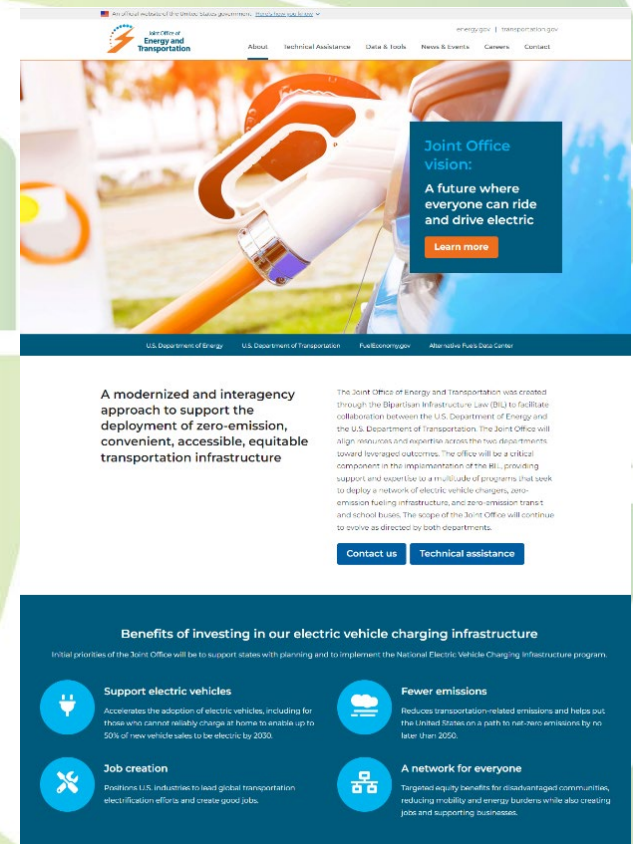
- Identify, prioritize, and measure benefits for disadvantaged communities from EV charging infrastructure investments
- Use the EV Charging Justice40 Map to help identify local disadvantaged communities
- Create and implement a meaningful community engagement processes that informs decision making and program implementation
- Develop a diverse electric vehicle supply equipment workforce and contract with small and disadvantaged community businesses
- Ensure Title VI, Americans with Disabilities Act, and 504 compliance

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DriveElectric.gov

Website connects state DOTs and other stakeholders to resources, including:

- [Webinar: Building Justice40 and Equity Considerations into State Plans](#) (Joint Office)
- [National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure \(NEVI\) Formula Program Q&A](#) (FHWA)
- [Electric Vehicle Charging Justice40 Map](#) (Joint Office, DOE, DOT)
- [NEVI Program Guidance](#)
- Tribal Engagement Resources
- [Job announcements](#)



Questions & Assistance

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