



Fact Sheet

Transmission Siting and Economic Development (TSED) Program: What Communities Need to Know

On August 29, 2023, the U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) Grid Deployment Office (GDO) released a [Funding Opportunity Announcement](#) (FOA) for up to \$300 million through the Transmission Siting and Economic Development (TSED) program. This groundbreaking program recognizes that communities are partners in the clean energy transition and ensures that they can receive economic benefits from transmission infrastructure built nearby. This fact sheet is intended to let communities know about the economic development part of the program, because community input is crucial to its success.

Funded by the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA), the TSED program has two parts. One part of the program will provide funds for economic development projects in communities affected by the construction and operation of covered multi-state or offshore transmission lines. DOE may accept applications from non-federal entities, such as municipalities, state energy offices, and Tribal governments who plan to work with a community impacted by a covered transmission project on economic development activities. DOE encourages communities that may be affected by a transmission line to reach out to their state or local government officials to identify activities that DOE can fund in their communities. The other part of the TSED program will provide funds to strengthen siting and permitting activities by siting authorities, including community engagement and technical analysis.

What is a “covered transmission project”?

A covered transmission project is a high voltage interstate or offshore electricity transmission line that is proposed to operate either on land at a minimum of 275 kV of either AC or DC electric energy; or, offshore at a minimum of 200 kV of either AC or DC electric energy.

What economic development activities can be proposed for funding?

Below is a list of a few types of activities that applicants could propose for funding under the TSED program. These are examples only. DOE urges communities to let their government representatives know what types of activities would best suit them:

- ▶ Sub-grant programs enabling communities to directly propose activities with local benefit.
- ▶ Local energy and resilience projects, such as the development of microgrids or solar.
- ▶ Affordable and sustainable housing.
- ▶ Development of community facilities such as public safety facilities or community centers.
- ▶ Creating green spaces, restoring disturbed lands, or expanding endangered species habitat.
- ▶ Job training and apprenticeship programs.
- ▶ Low-income energy funds to reduce costs for qualifying members of the community.

DOE can make an award now and provide the funds when the transmission line is approved or commences construction, depending on the applicant. If the transmission line is cancelled, the funds may be reallocated in a future FOA to other communities.

For more information, visit: <https://www.energy.gov/gdo/transmission-siting-and-economic-development-grants-program>. Please read the [Funding Opportunity Announcement](#) (DE-FOA-0003101) for more important information and to apply.