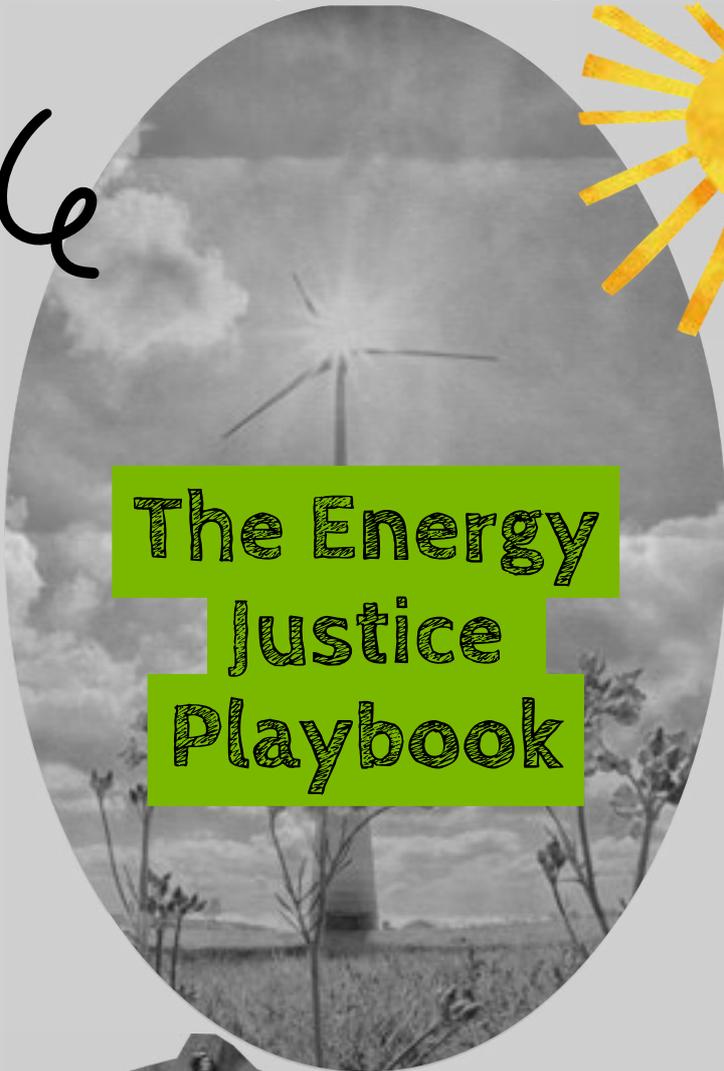


The People's JUSTICE40+
Community Benefit Playbook



**The Energy
Justice
Playbook**



THE ENERGY JUSTICE PLAYBOOK



The Playbook: The Energy Justice Playbook is a community guide to deepening community knowledge of energy injustices, identifying potential community strategies to address these injustices, and leveraging the the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) and the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) to meet community needs. It is one section of a comprehensive Playbook that provides an overview of the Justice40 Initiative, answers a range of questions about the different federal spending bills, and provides a step-by-step guide to building a Community Benefit Plan. The complete Justice40+ Community Benefit Playbook can be found [here](#).

The Goal: This Playbook, and each of the sector playbooks, are designed to help communities:

1. deepen community knowledge of federal investment opportunities;
2. build a multi-stakeholder community coalition to access federal investment opportunities; and
3. develop a Community Benefit Plan that centers community priorities and identifies community-driven strategies for investing in community needs.



THE PROBLEM

If you live in a low income, rural, Black, Indigenous, and people of color (BIPOC), frontline, and/or fenceline community (communities and neighborhoods that border industrial sites), then you should consider including energy justice in your Community Benefit Plan. Below are the reasons why.

You and/or your community are:

- More likely to live in close proximity to land uses with high levels of air pollution, such as freeways¹, hazardous waste facilities², chemical plants³, and oil and gas facilities and refineries⁴.
- At greater risk of higher rates of morbidity (disease) and mortality (death) from cancers⁵, respiratory diseases⁶, and heat related health impacts⁷ from environmental hazards.
- More likely to experience a disproportionately high energy burden. Your energy burden consists of the percentage of household income you use to pay your energy bills⁸. A high energy burden means you're using more than 6% of your household income to cover your energy costs⁹. The more you spend on your energy bills, the more difficult it is to meet your other household expenses.
- More likely to live in a community experiencing the "urban heat island effect"—an increase in air temperature due to the built environment absorbing heat and causing the surface temperatures to rise. This results in your neighborhood experiencing hotter days, which are exacerbated by increasing extreme heat events from climate change, without the benefit of tree canopies, air conditioning, or cooling centers¹⁰.
- The last to benefit from the emerging clean energy economy. Energy efficiency and renewable energy technologies remain out of reach for disadvantaged communities for a variety of reasons, such as cost and policies, that do not encourage investments in low-income buildings and communities¹¹.
- The last to recover from grid failure (including blackouts and brownouts) prompted by extreme weather events, which are occurring more frequently¹².



SOLUTIONS

Consider these strategies in your Energy Justice Community Benefit Plan:

Human Rights Declaration: Advocate for clean energy as a human right and ensure states and localities prioritize the needs of energy burdened and climate vulnerable communities.

Affordability: Reduce energy burden for families in your community by advocating for state and local policies that subsidize utility bills in excess of 6% of household income or provide the full cost of home energy efficiency and electrification services for low income families. Home energy efficiency and electrification services should include any necessary home repairs required to complete the energy efficiency and electrification upgrades.

Accessibility:

- Demand access to renewable energy technologies for low-income families and net metering policies that compensate customers for the surplus power generated by their rooftop solar.
- Require distributed energy systems—such as community solar, microgrids, and rooftop solar—as part of any grid modernization plans for your community. Distributed energy systems build resilience in critical facilities and energy dependent communities, as well as provide potential wealth generation opportunities.
- Fund community resilience hubs and cooling centers to provide residents with access to energy during blackouts and brownouts, heat waves, and other extreme weather conditions.

Democracy: Demand procedural equity—authentic community representation and engagement—in regulatory proceedings where decisions are being made on energy sources, policies, pricing, and investments. Major transformation is underway in the utility sector. The decisions that are being made now about our energy and climate future will impact us for the next century. The issues being discussed include where energy is sourced (fossil fuels or renewables), energy costs, the type and location of the energy infrastructure (centralized or distributed), and labor and community standards. Your state’s public service or utility commission debates these issues in intense, frequent, and complicated meetings. Their decisions will affect your community, so your community’s voice needs to be heard. To be adequately represented in these proceedings, your coalition needs attorneys accountable to community, energy specialists, and residents ready to speak. Advocate for consistent state and local funding to facilitate this type of ongoing community participation and engagement in these important government processes.

Labor & Community Standards: Insist on training, workforce, and business opportunities for low-income and other targeted populations on clean energy projects. (See the [Economic Justice Playbook](#) for additional labor and workforce strategies).



WHERE TO START

Start with your community's energy needs—not with federal funding opportunities—and tailor your Community Benefit Plan to prioritize energy justice. You can begin with an assessment of your local energy environment. Identify communities and stakeholders most impacted by your local energy system, as well as those most interested in energy justice and building a clean energy future.

As you begin to develop your Energy Justice Community Benefit Plan, consider the following:

- **What is your Energy Sector Landscape?**

If you have a good understanding of your community's energy needs but are looking for next steps, getting familiar with the energy sector landscape can help you identify the framework for how the energy game is being played within your community. In this process be sure to identify your type of utility—utilities can be investor-owned, cooperatively-owned, or publicly-owned. Knowing your type of utility will also help you identify who's generating, transmitting, and distributing energy to your community. In addition to knowing your utilities, you'll want to [get to know your Public Utilities Commission \(PUC\)](#)—this is the government body that regulates the gas and electric utilities within your community. It will be important to understand how your PUC

is structured (such as who sits on the PUC, how many people sit on the PUC, and whether they're elected or appointed) and how your PUC operates (such as when do they meet, how often do they meet, do they accept complaints, and when do they take public comments). Once you've gotten to know your PUC, you'll want to familiarize yourself with who has the power to influence PUC decisions and other energy related policies. This will most likely be your utility providers and other government officials (such as your governor, state representatives, or local city council), but this could also include advocacy groups, community-based organizations, national nonprofit organizations, and community members. Understanding this framework for how the energy game is played in your community will also help you assess what is working and what is not working for your community.

- **Are Utilities Still Using and Promoting Fossil Fuels?** When you familiarize yourself with who generates, transmits, and distributes energy to your community, find out how they resource your energy. If our energy suppliers (those who generate the energy that is then transmitted and distributed to our homes by our utility providers) are generating electric energy using fossil fuels, this will not only prolong our dependence on the fossil fuel industry, but will also contribute to further greenhouse gas emissions and other air pollutants that create health disparities in our communities and exacerbate the climate crisis.



WHERE TO START (CONT.)

This is why it's important to know where your energy suppliers and utility providers are resourcing your energy. Most state PUCs require utilities to complete Integrated Resource Plans or Integrated Resource Planning (IRP)¹³. These IRPs often identify where our utility providers resource our energy. You can use these IRPs, or check out your state PUC website, to identify whether fossil fuels are used to generate your energy.

- **What, If Any, Renewable Energy Policies Exist?** To encourage the transition away from fossil fuels, local, state and federal agencies (supported by legislation passed by Congress or State General Assemblies) are developing policies that create the necessary structure (such as net metering, virtual net metering, and community solar initiatives) and incentives to switch to renewable energy resources. Some of the available incentives may include tax credits, rebates, or direct assistance to install distributed energy infrastructure for renewable energy sources, like solar energy, in our homes and communities. For this reason, getting familiar with your local and state renewable energy policies may help contribute to meeting your community energy needs.

- **Is Your Community Able to Access Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Services and Incentives?** Local, state, and federal agencies are implementing energy efficiency programs to reduce carbon emissions from residential and commercial buildings and homes, as well as expanding access to renewable energy opportunities like community and residential solar.

Some of the programs (like those established within the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act and the Inflation Reduction Act) target disadvantaged communities for rebates and direct assistance to perform energy efficiency improvements to their homes and provide grant funding that support residential and community solar investments. See the Energy Justice Federal funding Table to find more information about federal energy efficiency and renewable energy initiatives and reach out to your [state energy office](#) to learn about any energy efficiency programs available to your community.

Once you've identified your community energy needs and goals, work with relevant stakeholders (see the Who Can Help section below) to seek state and federal funding opportunities to meet the needs of your community.

When reviewing federal funding opportunities, they may not explicitly address all of your community energy concerns so you may need to think creatively about how you can pick and mix among the different energy related federal investments to address the varying community needs and projects that will alleviate energy injustices within your community. Check out the Energy Justice Federal Funding Table below to find potential federal investment opportunities within the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act and the Inflation Reduction Act.

You can also review the Resource section to help jump-start your planning.



Tools to Identify, Connect, and Operationalize the Data around Energy Infrastructure

Energy Democracy Scorecard—Emerald Cities, along with frontline, community-based, and intermediary partners, have developed the Energy Democracy Scorecard—an assessment tool designed to enable community-driven analysis to define and capture the current reality of energy infrastructure, help identify barriers, and name the changes and benefits communities want to realize. The Scorecard can help you assess where your energy system falls on a scale that ranges from extremely extractive to democratic. This assessment tool provides questions and framing around the intersection of equity, environment, and economy to drive home the need for an intersectional and holistic Community Benefit Plan or an Energy Justice Community Benefit Plan.

Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool—The Council on Environmental Quality created the Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool (CEJST) to help federal agencies define and identify disadvantaged communities for the purpose of complying with the Justice40 Initiative.

Using CEJST, federal agencies will consider a community disadvantaged if:

- the community is at or above the threshold for one or more of the eight categories of burden AND the community is at or above the threshold for an associated socioeconomic burden (income level); OR
- the community falls within the boundaries of a Federally recognized Tribe (including Alaska Native Villages).

The eight categories of burden include: climate change, energy, health, housing, legacy pollution, transportation, water and wastewater, and workforce development.

Communities will meet the threshold for the category of energy burden if they are in a census tract (identified using the 2010 U.S. Census) that:

- is at or above the 90th percentile for energy cost OR PM2.5 in the air
- AND is at or above the 65th percentile for low income.

Energy cost: The average household annual energy cost in dollars divided by the average household income.

PM2.5 in the air: Fine inhalable particles with 2.5 or smaller micrometer diameters. The percentile is the weight of the particles per cubic meter.

Low income: Percent of a census tract's population in households where household income is at or below 200% of the Federal poverty level, not including students enrolled in higher education.

You can use CEJST to see if your community will be targeted for Justice40 investments.

Grid modernization, clean energy research and development, and building decarbonization are the big winners in the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) and the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA). This funding is largely allocated for specific programs; however, many of the programs fall within the Justice40 Initiative.

The Justice40 Initiative created a goal for federal agencies to ensure that at least 40% of the overall benefits of certain federal investments benefit disadvantaged communities. To clarify which federal investments must benefit disadvantaged communities, the Administration defined a Justice40 Program as one that makes federal investments in one or more of the following categories: climate change, clean energy and energy efficiency, clean transit, affordable and sustainable housing, workforce development, remediation and reduction of legacy pollution, and critical clean water infrastructure. Because of the IIJA and IRA investments in clean energy and energy efficiency, and the associated investments in workforce development, federal agencies will need to ensure disadvantaged communities are benefiting from IIJA and IRA implementation.

Distributed Energy Resource Opportunities—Both IIJA and IRA offer opportunities for solar development and microgrid installation; however, most of the IIJA funding supporting distributed energy infrastructure is limited to demonstration grants and grid modernization grants for states, utilities, and the clean energy sector. While communities are not directly eligible for this funding, you can still engage your [State Energy Officials](#) and your state Public Utilities Commission to advocate that your community is targeted for these investment benefits. However, some of these clean energy investments may include funding [false solutions](#), so it's important to be mindful of potential long term environmental impacts when advocating for these community investments.

Economic Inclusion Opportunities within Energy Funding—IIJA and IRA also include contractor and workforce development opportunities to support energy upgrades for commercial and residential buildings. Both spending bills include a number of smaller, competitive grant programs that establish workforce and contractor training programs. Workforce development requirements are also incorporated into some of the building decarbonization programs. Communities can use these IIJA and IRA program opportunities to address the energy and economic needs of the community. Check out the Energy Justice Federal Funding Table for more information, as well as the Economic Justice Playbook.

GENERAL FEDERAL FUNDING GUIDANCE (CONT.)



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Programs that Target Low Income and Disadvantaged Communities–

Several programs within IIJA and IRA are designed to target program benefits to low-income and disadvantaged communities. These programs include:

- **The Weatherization Assistance Program** directs funding to long-standing nonprofit weatherization service providers to help low income households reduce their energy costs, while improving their health and safety, by performing [weatherization improvements and upgrades](#) to their homes. By contacting your [state weatherization administrator](#) you can get more information on the weatherization providers in your community. Work with your weatherization providers to maximize community weatherization priorities, including job training opportunities.
- **The Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund**
 - **Solar For All** is designed to help low income and disadvantaged communities access affordable, resilient, and clean solar energy. State, local, and Tribal governments, as well as nonprofit organizations, are eligible for this funding to implement this program. Connect with your local government officials and local solar organizations to get more information about how Solar For All will show up in your community.
 - **National Clean Investment Fund** provides accessible and affordable financing for clean technology projects, such as zero emissions building development. At least 40% of these funds must be used to provide financial assistance to low income and disadvantaged communities. Engage your local financing institutions (such as credit unions, green banks, and community development financial institutions) to see how this program could benefit your community.
 - **Clean Communities Investment Accelerator** provides funding and technical assistance to local community lenders (such as credit unions, green banks, and community development financial institutions) to build their capacity to finance clean technology projects in low income and disadvantaged communities. While this funding is technically going to local financing institutions, 100% of the funding must be used to support low income and disadvantaged communities. Work with your local financing institutions to see how your community could benefit from this program.

GENERAL FEDERAL FUNDING GUIDANCE (CONT.)



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- **[The Environmental and Climate Justice Community Change Grants Program](#)** is designed to fund community-led projects in disadvantaged communities to address air pollution, increase community climate resilience, and build community capacity to engage in government processes that create environmental and climate policy. Community-based nonprofit organizations can use this funding to support home energy efficiency upgrades that reduce energy burden and increase the health and safety of homes. Work with your local community-based organizations to see how this program can benefit your community.
- **[The Home Efficiency Rebates Program and the Home Electrification and Appliance Rebates Program](#)** provides formula funding to states and Tribal governments to establish home energy rebates programs based on whole home energy savings and energy efficiency upgrades. Both rebate programs are required to reserve a certain percentage of rebate funding for low income households, who will also be eligible for increased rebate amounts that could cover up to 100% of the project costs. Contact your [State Energy Office](#) to learn more about your state's home energy rebates programs.
- **[The Environmental Justice Thriving Communities Grantmaking Program](#)** selected [11 national and regional grantmakers](#) to provide subgrants to community-based nonprofit organizations and other eligible entities (U.S. Territories, and Tribal and local governments) for assessment, planning, and project development activities. The Environmental Protection Agency anticipates applications will be available in Summer 2024. Until then, you can learn more about the program and your national or regional grantmaker [here](#).

Programs that Require Government Partnership to Meet Community Needs—The remaining formula and competitive grants require strong advocacy to direct them toward community needs. State and local governments have a good deal of discretionary money—revolving loan funds, block grants, unspent American Rescue Plan Act funds—for creative programming. The IJA and IRA programs that are the most accessible, flexible, and primed for Justice40 campaigns are:

- [Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grants](#)
- [State Energy Program](#)
- [Energy Efficiency Revolving Loan Fund Capitalization Grant Program](#)
- [Climate Pollution Reduction Grants](#)

You can find more information about these programs and potential community strategies to access these programs in the Energy Justice Federal Funding Table below.

ENERGY JUSTICE FEDERAL FUNDING TABLE

The Energy Justice Federal Funding Table identifies energy justice goals and related federal programs that may be able to help support those goals. You'll also find more information about each program, some potential strategies for accessing each program, and different entities you should consider engaging and/or collaborating with to ensure the funding opportunity benefits your community. While the list of potential collaborators is not an exhaustive list, it provides a starting point for building a coalition around achieving your desired community benefits.



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ENERGY JUSTICE FEDERAL FUNDING TABLE

ENERGY JUSTICE GOALS	FEDERAL SPENDING BILL	FORMULA GRANTS	COMPETITIVE GRANTS	OTHER FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES	STRATEGY FOR ENGAGEMENT	POTENTIAL COMMUNITY BENEFIT STAKEHOLDERS (IN ADDITION TO COMMUNITY MEMBERS) TO CONSIDER
Distributed Energy Infrastructure to Build Grid Resiliency	Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA)	\$2.3B: Grid Resilience State/ Tribal Formula Grant Program	\$2.5B: Grid Resilience Utility and Industry Grants		This funding is available to States, Territories, Federally Recognized Tribes, and electric grid and storage operators and can be used to support distributed energy resources. Engage these entities to advocate for funding community distributed energy infrastructure projects, such as community microgrids.	State Energy Offices and Organizations , Territory Energy Offices, Tribal Energy Offices, and Community Solar organizations.
				\$1B: Energy Improvement in Rural and Remote Areas	These cooperative agreement opportunities are available to institutions of higher education, community-based organizations, for profit organizations, state and local government entities, and Tribes. Engage these entities to advocate for community microgrid projects in your rural community.	Institutions of Higher Education, Community Solar Organizations, State Energy Offices and Organizations , Tribal Energy Offices, and Local Public Utility Commission.
	Inflation Reduction Act (IRA)		\$7B: Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund Solar For All		This funding is available to states and territories, Tribal governments, municipalities, and nonprofit organizations to expand residential solar opportunities in low income communities. Engage these entities to see if there are residential solar opportunities available for your community.	State Energy Offices and Organizations , Municipal Energy Officials, Community Solar Nonprofit Organizations and Community-Based Nonprofit Organizations, and Tribal Government Energy Officials.
			\$14B: Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund National Clean Investment Fund		This funding is to national nonprofit clean financing institutions to provide accessible and affordable financing for clean technology projects, including distributed energy generation and storage. Engage your local community development financial institution (CDFI), credit union, and/or greenbank to learn more about the clean technology projects and financing options available to your community.	African American Alliance of CDFI Chief Executive Officers , Local CDFI, Local Credit Unions, Local Greenbanks, Minority and Women Owned Depository Institutions , and Local Housing Finance Agency.

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ENERGY JUSTICE FEDERAL FUNDING TABLE

ENERGY JUSTICE GOALS	FEDERAL SPENDING BILL	FORMULA GRANTS	COMPETITIVE GRANTS	OTHER FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES	STRATEGY FOR ENGAGEMENT	POTENTIAL COMMUNITY BENEFIT STAKEHOLDERS (IN ADDITION TO COMMUNITY MEMBERS) TO CONSIDER
Distributed Energy Infrastructure to Build Grid Resiliency	Inflation Reduction Act (IRA)		<p>\$2.8B: Environmental and Climate Justice Community Change Grants</p>		<p>This funding opportunity is available to community-based nonprofit organizations, and local government entities, institutions of higher education, and Federally recognized Tribes in collaboration with community-based nonprofit organizations, to fund microgrid installation for community energy resilience. Engage these entities to see if there are projects being developed in your community.</p>	<p>Community-Based Organizations, Local Government Officials, Institutions of Higher Education, and Tribal Leaders.</p>
				<p>Residential Clean Energy Tax Credit</p>	<p>Tax credits are available to individual taxpayers for up to 30% of the cost of equipment for residential clean energy equipment purchases, such as solar energy panels and solar water heaters.</p>	<p>Nonprofit Organizations and Community-Based Organizations that assist with tax preparation and Community Solar Nonprofit Organizations.</p>
Building Decarbonization and Air Pollution Reduction	Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA)	<p>\$3.5B: Weatherization Assistance Program</p>			<p>This funding program helps low income households increase the health and safety of their homes ,while lowering their energy burden, by implementing energy efficiency upgrades to their homes. Engage your State Weatherization Administrator to see if you or your community members are eligible for assistance.</p>	<p>State Weatherization Administrator</p>
		<p>\$550M: Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program</p>			<p>These formula and competitive grants will be available to state and local governments and Tribes for energy efficiency projects, such as building energy audits, incentivizing energy efficiency improvements, and performing energy efficiency retrofits. Engage these entities to determine whether projects exist to benefit your community.</p>	<p>State Energy Offices and Organizations, Local Government Officials, Tribal Entities, and Nonprofit Organizations and Community-Based Organizations that perform energy audits or assist with home energy efficiency retrofits.</p>

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ENERGY JUSTICE FEDERAL FUNDING TABLE

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Building Decarbonization and Air Pollution Reduction	Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA)		\$500M: Renew America's Schools		A collaboration of local education agencies, schools, nonprofits, for-profits, and community partners are eligible for this funding to make energy efficiency and renewable energy upgrades to schools. Engage these entities to participate in planning and developing energy efficiency projects to improve the health of schools within your community.	Local School Board, School District Administrators, Teachers Unions, Nonprofit Organizations and Community-Based Organizations focused on K-12 advocacy, and Parent and/or Student-led Organizations.
		\$500M: State Energy Program			This funding is for states to support programs that reduce carbon emissions in all sectors of the economy. Engage your state energy officials to see what programs are available to benefit your community.	State Energy Offices and Organizations , and Nonprofits and Community-Based Organizations that perform energy audits or assist with home energy efficiency retrofits.
		\$250M: Energy Efficiency Revolving Loan Fund Capitalization Grant Program			This Funding is for states to provide loans and grants for energy efficiency audits, upgrades, and retrofits for residential and commercial properties. Engage your state energy officials for more information on how your community can access these opportunities.	State Energy Offices and Organizations , and Nonprofit Organizations and Community-Based Organizations that perform energy audits or assist with home energy efficiency retrofits.
	Inflation Reduction Act (IRA)			\$2.8B: Environmental and Climate Justice Community Change Grants	This funding opportunity is available to community-based nonprofit organizations and local government entities, institutions of higher education, and Federally recognized Tribes in collaboration with community-based nonprofit organizations to fund community-led projects that reduce air pollution, including projects that perform energy efficiency retrofits for homes and residential buildings. Engage these entities to see what projects are available to benefit your community.	Local Community-Based Organizations, Local Government Officials, Local Institutions of Higher Education, and Tribal Officials.

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ENERGY JUSTICE FEDERAL FUNDING TABLE

ENERGY JUSTICE GOALS	FEDERAL SPENDING BILL	FORMULA GRANTS	COMPETITIVE GRANTS	OTHER FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES	STRATEGY FOR ENGAGEMENT	POTENTIAL COMMUNITY BENEFIT STAKEHOLDERS (IN ADDITION TO COMMUNITY MEMBERS) TO CONSIDER
Building Decarbonization and Air Pollution Reduction	Inflation Reduction Act (IRA)		<p>\$14B: Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund National Clean Investment Fund</p>		<p>This funding is for national nonprofit clean financing institutions to provide accessible and affordable financing for clean technology projects, including net-zero emissions building projects. Engage your local community development financial institution (CDFI), credit union, and/or greenbank to learn more about the clean technology projects and financing options available to your community.</p>	<p>African American Alliance of CDFI Chief Executive Officers, Local CDFI, Local Credit Unions, Local Greenbanks, Minority and Women Owned Depository Institutions, and Local Housing Finance Agency.</p>
			<p>\$6B: Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund Clean Communities Investment Accelerator</p>		<p>This program provides funding and technical assistance to local community lenders (such as credit unions, green banks, and community development financial institutions) to build their capacity to finance clean technology projects in low income and disadvantaged communities. Engage your local community lenders to determine how your community can benefit from this program.</p>	<p>African American Alliance of CDFI Chief Executive Officers, Local CDFI, Local Credit Unions, Local Greenbanks, Minority and Women Owned Depository Institutions, and Local Housing Finance Agency.</p>
		<p>\$250M: Climate Pollution Reduction Planning Grants</p>	<p>\$4.6B: Climate Pollution Reduction Implementation Grants</p>		<p>States, municipalities, Tribes, and territories are eligible to use this funding to develop and implement climate action plans-which can include projects that provide building electrification and energy efficiency upgrades. Engage your local and state government officials to discuss your community air pollution concerns and identify potential air pollution reduction projects in your community.</p>	<p>Lead Organizations for Planning Grants, State Air Pollution Control Agencies, Local Air Pollution Control Agencies, Municipal offices, Tribes or Tribal consortiums, and Territory Officials.</p>
				<p>\$150M: Tribal Electrification Program</p>		<p>This financial and technical assistance is available to Federally Recognized Tribes to support increasing the number of homes with zero-emission electricity. Engage your Tribal energy officials to see if this opportunity is available to your Tribal community.</p>

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Building Decarbonization and Air Pollution Reduction	Inflation Reduction Act (IRA)			Energy Efficiency Home Improvement Tax Credit	These tax credits can be used for up to 30% of the costs (with annual limits) for energy efficiency improvements to residential homes. Improvements include windows, doors, heat pumps, insulation, and air sealing. Home Energy Audits may qualify as well.	Nonprofit Organizations and Community-Based Organizations that assist with tax preparation.
		\$4.3B: Home Efficiency Rebates			This funding is available to states to provide rebates for whole home energy efficiency upgrades. Engage these entities to see if rebates are available to your community.	State Energy Offices and Organizations and Community-Based Organizations.
		\$4.3B: Home Electrification and Appliance Rebates			This funding is available to states and Tribes to provide rebates for high efficiency and electric home appliances. Engage these entities to see if rebates are available to your community.	State Energy Offices and Organizations and Community-Based Organizations.
			\$837.5M: Green and Resilient Retrofit Program		These grants and loans are available to Housing and Urban Development assisted multi-family housing property owners to make building upgrades that reduce carbon emissions, make utility efficiency improvements, incorporate renewable energy resources, and improve climate resilience. Engage your property owner to educate and advocate for participation in this program so your community can benefit from this health building opportunity.	Affordable Housing Nonprofit, Community-Based Organizations, Tenants Associations, and Tenants Rights Organizations.

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ENERGY JUSTICE FEDERAL FUNDING TABLE

ENERGY JUSTICE GOALS	FEDERAL SPENDING BILL	FORMULA GRANTS	COMPETITIVE GRANTS	OTHER FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES	STRATEGY FOR ENGAGEMENT	POTENTIAL COMMUNITY BENEFIT STAKEHOLDERS (IN ADDITION TO COMMUNITY MEMBERS) TO CONSIDER
Building Decarbonization and Air Pollution Reduction	Inflation Reduction Act (IRA)		\$600M: Environmental Justice Thriving Communities Grantmakers Program		This program provided funding to 11 national and regional grantmakers to provide subgrants to nonprofit organizations, community-based organizations, U.S. Territories, Tribal and Local governments, Native American groups, and other eligible entities to support assessment, planning, and project development activities. Applications for funding are anticipated in Summer 2024. Until then, engage your national or regional grantmaker and local community organizations to see how this opportunity could benefit your community.	National and Regional Grantmakers , Local Government Officials, Tribal Leaders, Community-Based Organizations, Nonprofit Organizations, Territory Government Officials, and Advocacy Groups.
Education and Workforce and Contractor Training and Development Opportunities	Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA)		\$40M: Energy Auditor Training Grant Program		This program is available to states to train individuals to conduct energy audits or surveys of commercial and residential buildings. Engage your state energy officials to see if this training program is available to your community members.	State Energy Offices and Organizations
			\$10M: Building Training and Assessment Centers Grants Program		This program provides funding to institutions of higher education and Tribal colleges or universities to educate and train students and building professionals to deploy modern building technologies. Engage these entities to see if training programs are available to your community.	Institutions of Higher Education and Tribal Colleges or Universities.

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ENERGY JUSTICE FEDERAL FUNDING TABLE

ENERGY JUSTICE GOALS	FEDERAL SPENDING BILL	FORMULA GRANTS	COMPETITIVE GRANTS	OTHER FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES	STRATEGY FOR ENGAGEMENT	POTENTIAL COMMUNITY BENEFIT STAKEHOLDERS (IN ADDITION TO COMMUNITY MEMBERS) TO CONSIDER
Education and Workforce and Contractor Training and Development Opportunities	Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA)		<p>\$10M: Career Skills Training</p>		<p>This program provides funding to nonprofit-led partnerships that create training opportunities for students to obtain industry certifications for energy efficiency building technology installations.</p> <p>Engage your local workforce organizations to determine if this program is available to your community.</p>	<p>Workforce Organizations, Labor Organizations, and Teaming Partners List (List of Organizations seeking to form a partnership to apply for program funding).</p>
			<p>\$225M: Resilient and Efficient Code Implementation</p>		<p>States and community partners are eligible for funding to support training for builders and contractors to meet updated building energy codes. Engage your state energy officials to identify programs available to your community.</p>	<p>State Energy Offices and Organizations, Nonprofit Organizations and Community-Based Organizations, and Building Codes and Standards Developers.</p>
				<p>\$40M: Solar Improvement Research & Development</p>	<p>This program provides funding (in the form of cooperative agreements) to various education and research entities to conduct research, development, demonstration, and commercialization activities to improve solar energy technology. This includes conducting education and workforce development activities.</p> <p>Engage your local education and research institutes or solar organizations to identify whether this opportunity is available to your community.</p>	<p>Institutions of Higher Education, National Laboratories, Federal and State Research Agencies, Tribal Energy Development Organizations, Tribal Leadership and Organizations, Native Hawai'an Community-Based Organizations, Nonprofit Research Organizations, Solar Industry, Research Agencies associated with a Territory, and Nonprofit Organizations and Community-Based Organizations that focus on community and residential solar development.</p>

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ENERGY JUSTICE FEDERAL FUNDING TABLE

ENERGY JUSTICE GOALS	FEDERAL SPENDING BILL	FORMULA GRANTS	COMPETITIVE GRANTS	OTHER FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES	STRATEGY FOR ENGAGEMENT	POTENTIAL COMMUNITY BENEFIT STAKEHOLDERS (IN ADDITION TO COMMUNITY MEMBERS) TO CONSIDER
Education and Workforce and Contractor Training and Development Opportunities	Inflation Reduction Act (IRA)	<p>\$250M: Climate Pollution Reduction Planning Grants</p>	<p>\$4.6B: Climate Pollution Reduction Implementation Grants</p>		<p>States, municipalities, Tribes, and territories are eligible for funding to develop and implement climate action plans that also support equitable workforce development. Engage these entities and advocate for planning and implementation that provide holistic workforce development opportunities (such as those that address childcare, transportation, and housing needs in addition to training) that support your community workforce needs.</p>	<p>Lead Organizations for Planning Grants, State Air Pollution Control Agencies, Local Air Pollution Control Agencies, Municipal offices, Tribes or Tribal consortiums, and Territory offices.</p>
			<p>\$2.8B: Environmental and Climate Justice Community Change Grants</p>		<p>This funding opportunity is available to community-based nonprofit organizations, and local government entities, institutions of higher education, and Federally recognized Tribes in collaboration with community-based nonprofit organizations, to fund workforce development programs for occupations that reduce greenhouse gas emissions and other air pollutants. Engage these entities to see if there are workforce development programs available to your community members.</p>	<p>Community-Based Organizations, Local Workforce Development Boards, Labor Unions, Local Government Officials, and Institutions of Higher Education.</p>
				<p>\$200M: State-Based Home Efficiency Contractor Training Grants</p>	<p>This funding is available to states to train, test, and certify residential energy efficiency and electrification contractors. Engage your state energy officials to see if this training is available to your community members.</p>	<p>State Energy Offices and Organizations</p>

WHO CAN HELP

Several national and state coalitions are working on energy democracy and energy justice and have resources to help you develop your energy agenda. Here are some trusted organizations with resources available:

- [The Energy Democracy Project](#)
- [Emerald Cities Collaborative](#)
- [The Initiative for Energy Justice](#)
- [The Just Solutions Collective](#)
- [Taproot Earth](#)
- [People's Solar Energy Fund](#)
- [Climate Justice Alliance](#)
- [Climate & Community Project](#)
- [The Greenlining Institute](#)

Key Energy Players:

- **The Department of Energy:** Most federal clean energy investments will flow through the Department of Energy (DOE). Use this [link](#) to identify funding and financing opportunities within the DOE.
- **State Energy Offices and Organizations:** Every state has a state energy office and most of the federal clean energy investments will flow from the DOE to this state office. Use this [link](#) to find your state energy office or organization.

RELEVANT RESOURCES

- [The Energy Democracy Scorecard](#)
- [Justice in 100 Scorecard](#)
- [Comprehensive Building Blocks for a Regenerative and Just 100% Policy](#)
- [Climate Justice and Energy Democracy: A Platform Vision](#)
- [Utilities 101: A guide to the basics of the electric utility industry with a focus on justice](#)
- [Gaps and Barriers to Stacking Federal, State, and Local Incentives](#)
- [Decarbonization Without Displacement](#)
- [The Blueprint for Energy Democracy](#)
- [Who Holds the Power: Demystifying and Democratizing Public Utility Commissions](#)
- [Communities Left Behind: How Local Ordinances Can Obstruct Energy Democracy and a Justice Transition](#)

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ENDNOTES

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- 9 Ariel Drehoł, Lauren Ross, and Roxana Ayala, "How High are Household Energy Burdens? An Assessment of National and Metropolitan Energy Burden across the United States," (September 2020). <https://www.aceee.org/sites/default/files/pdfs/u2006.pdf>
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