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## Clean Energy Projects to Leverage Federal Financing Programs Request for Information Extended to August 30, 2024

### Introduction

The purpose of this RFI is to gather information and proposals that can help identify and support projects with the potential to leverage state and federal resources effectively. The Arizona Office of Resiliency (OOR) and Arizona Finance Authority (AFA) are seeking input and proposals for eligible projects that can be enhanced by state coordination and/or financial support and through federal programs that drive clean energy investments. Municipalities, school districts, counties, Tribal governments, manufacturers, private developers, utilities, rural electric cooperatives, and nonprofits are welcome to submit. We aim to use the information to help bring eligible projects the state and federal resources needed to develop and complete them.

### Background

In support of public and private clean energy projects, the Federal Government has announced significant investments through a variety of programs. These include:

- Providing low-cost financing through a [State Energy Financing Institution \(SEFI\)](#) program under the [Title 17 Clean Energy Financing Program](#) through The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Loan Programs Office (LPO).
- Funding of or low-cost lending to clean energy projects through the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) [Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund \(GGRF\)](#) and the [Climate Pollution Reduction Grant program](#).
- Using [Tax Credits](#) and ["Direct Pay"](#) available through the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) to fund various clean energy projects.

The federal government's investments through DOE-LPO, the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) and the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) align with Governor Hobbs and the Office of Resiliency's (OOR) commitment to increasing the number of clean energy projects in Arizona.

### Primary areas of interest include

- High-quality, net zero or passive affordable housing;
- Demand-side management technologies that demonstrate significant benefits to grid efficiency, reliability, and resilience;
- Clean transportation, including affordable public transportation solutions;

- Innovative approaches to rapidly and proactively expand a clean, resilient grid benefitting ratepayers;
- Pilot programs that explore ways to deploy and accelerate hydrogen fuel cell electric vehicles, particularly for heavy-duty vehicles as a transportation fuel.
- Industrial-scale solar, electric vehicle, battery, or other clean energy manufacturing and recycling facilities and/or supporting infrastructure, especially in coal-impacted communities;
- Cool/Smart rooftops / Heat-management / Cooling centers related projects
- Energy-efficiency and clean energy projects related to water-treatment and other water-energy infrastructure

The list of possible projects above is informational only and is not exhaustive of the potential projects that may be funded.

This request for information (RFI) does not constitute an award from any state agency.

## **Project Eligibility**

The federal clean energy programs referenced work to fill gaps in commercial energy deployment by serving as a financial bridge to otherwise or soon-to-be viable products and technologies. Projects should have minimum costs of \$1 million. The RFI aims to identify financing needs for clean energy projects.

Successful proposals are encouraged to include robust community benefits and workforce development strategies.

## **Submission Process**

Submissions are due by **5:00 pm MST on August 30, 2024**, via the [Clean Energy Project RFI - Submission Form](#). Submissions deemed responsive to this RFI will be inclusive of the following documentation:

- A summary of each potentially eligible project, including, if you have it, a summary of community benefits and workforce development strategy, not to exceed 750 words;
- Identify the phase the proposed project is in idea phase, feasibility study phase, development phase, or construction phase;
- Estimates of financing needs and
- Identification of current financing (if any).

Due to the volume of responses anticipated, it may not be feasible for the Arizona Finance Authority and the Office of Resiliency to incorporate or respond to all input received.

AFA and OOR do not discriminate on the basis of race, sex, religion, age, national origin, color, marital status, disability, political beliefs, height, weight, genetic information, or sexual orientation in the administration of any of their programs or activities, and prohibits intimidation and retaliation, as required by applicable laws and regulations.

## **About the Solicitation Partners**

### ***Office of Resiliency***

The Governor's Office of Resiliency was established to ensure Arizona is a leader in providing a habitable environment for all Arizonans, today and in the future. In addition to policy analysis and recommendations for Governor Hobbs, OOR conducts cross-sector planning with government, private, and community-based partners, and administers clean energy programs to expand job and economic opportunities, ensure quality of life, and pave a path for long-term prosperity for all Arizonans.

For more information, visit The Office of Resilience [here](#).

### ***Arizona Finance Authority***

The Arizona Finance Authority, housed in the Arizona Office of Economic Opportunity, strengthens Arizona communities by offering innovative, responsible, and sustainable financing solutions for public and private borrowers.

For more information, visit the Arizona Finance Authority.