

Information Resources and Funding Opportunities for Tribes

May 8, 2012

The Tribal Energy Program is pleased to forward the following information on information resources and tools, funding opportunities, upcoming events, and webinars. Information courtesy of U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD's) Office of Native American Programs (ONAP), the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

Information Resources and Tools

New Energy Resource Library for Tribes

The U.S. Department of Energy Office of Indian Energy (DOE-IE) resource library provides links to helpful resources for Tribes on energy project development and financing in Indian Country. The library includes links to more than 85 topically relevant publications, websites, videos, and more produced by DOE-IE and external organizations. The resources are specifically focused on energy topics that help promote Indian tribal energy development, efficiency, and use.

To access the library, visit the DOE-IE [website](#). For additional resources, see the wealth of information in the Tribal Energy Program's [Guide to Tribal Energy Development](#), [short courses](#), and [publications](#).

EPA, Department of Energy Launch Tools to Determine Solar and Wind Energy Potential on Contaminated Lands

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the U.S. Department of Energy's National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) have developed and launched two new tools designed to test underutilized sites and contaminated land for solar and wind energy potential. State and local governments, site owners, and community members can use the tools to help identify the most desirable sites for solar or wind installations from both a logistical and economic standpoint, without the need for technical expertise.

EPA estimates that there are approximately 490,000 sites and almost 15 million acres of potentially contaminated properties nationwide. Positioning renewable energy on these sites can increase their economic value, provide a sustainable land reuse option, create local green jobs, and provide clean energy for use on-site or for the utility grid. The new tools can be used to evaluate individual or multiple sites, such as brownfields, Superfund and other hazardous waste sites, abandoned parcels, landfills, parking lots, and commercial or industrial roofs, depending on the technology.

The City of Richmond, California, is serving as a pilot community for development of the tools. Direct links to the tools:

- [Screening sites for Solar PV Potential](#) (PDF) (18 pp, 814K)
- [Screening sites for Wind Energy Potential](#) (PDF) (18 pp, 863K)

EPA will host a webinar to discuss these and related tools on May 22, 2012, from 2-3:30 pm EDT. For more information or to register for the webinar, visit the EPA's [webinar page](#). For more information on siting renewable energy on underutilized lands, visit EPA's RE-Powering America's Land [website](#).

Funding Opportunities

USDA Community Forest and Open Space Conservation Program

Deadline: **May 15, 2012**

Eligible entities: Local governments, federally recognized tribes, nonprofit entities

The purpose of the Community Forest program is to establish community forests by protecting forest land from

conversion to non-forest uses and provide community benefits such as sustainable forest management; environmental benefits including clean air, water, and wildlife habitat; benefits from forest-based educational programs; benefits from serving as models of effective forest stewardship; and recreational benefits secured with public access. Eligible entities may apply for grants to establish community forests through fee-simple acquisition of private forest land. Individual grant applications may not exceed \$400,000 and all applicants must demonstrate a 50% match of the total project cost. For more information, visit the [USDA funding notice page](#).

ONAP's Proposed Training and Technical Assistance NOFA

Comments due: **May 21, 2012**

HUD intends to competitively award training and technical assistance contracts to national and regional nonprofit and for-profit entities with demonstrated experience and expertise in the Native American Housing Assistance and Self Determination Act of 1996 (NAHASDA).

HUD is soliciting public comments, under the Paperwork Reduction Act, on the information and data collection requirements for ONAP's proposed Training and Technical Assistance Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA). The data required includes pre-award application materials required to be submitted, and post-award requirements under the cooperative agreement, including technical budgets and reports on financial and task progress.

For details, see the [Federal Register Notice](#) published March 20, 2012.

Energy Department Announces \$2.5 Million to Advance Technologies for Clean-Burning, Efficient Biomass Cookstoves

Deadline: **May 23, 2012**

The Energy Department announced last week that it is making \$2.5 million available this year for applied research to advance clean biomass cookstove technologies for use in developing countries. The funding will support the development of innovative cookstove designs that allow users to burn wood or crop residues more efficiently and with less smoke than open fires and traditional stoves, helping to save lives and improve livelihoods. DOE, along with other federal agencies, is a founding partner of the Global Alliance for Clean Cookstoves, a public-private partnership to advance cookstove technologies that improve indoor air quality, reduce carbon emissions, and deliver important benefits for people's health and the economies of developing nations around the world. [Learn more](#).

Energy Department Announces \$5 Million to Assess Upgrade Opportunities at Hydropower Facilities

Letter of intent submission deadline: **May 3, 2012**

Full application submission deadline: **June 14, 2012**

In support of President Obama's all-of-the-above energy strategy, the Energy Department announced this week up to \$5 million available this year to assess opportunities to increase power production at up to 40 existing hydropower facilities around the nation. Through this competitive funding opportunity, DOE will work with hydropower professionals to conduct standardized assessments to identify opportunities to increase generation and value at hydropower plants, which are already the nation's largest source of renewable energy. As much of America's aging hydropower infrastructure is more than 50 years old, this effort could help accelerate the deployment of upgrades at existing hydropower facilities, creating clean energy jobs, supporting our nation's economic competitiveness, and increasing the supply of renewable energy to tribal families and businesses. [Learn more](#).

Economic Development Administration Economic Development Programs

Applications due: Varies by program year; next due date is **June 8, 2012**

Eligible entities: State and local governments, federally recognized tribes, nonprofits, institutions of higher education Under the Economic Development Assistance Programs (EDAP) Federal Funding Opportunity (FFO) announcement, EDA will make construction, nonconstruction, and revolving loan fund investments under the Public Works and Economic Adjustment Assistance Programs. Grants made under these programs will leverage regional assets to support the implementation of regional economic development strategies designed to create jobs, leverage private capital, encourage economic development, and strengthen America's ability to compete in the global marketplace. Through the EDAP FFO, EDA solicits applications from rural and urban communities to develop initiatives that advance new ideas and creative approaches to address rapidly evolving economic conditions. In fiscal year 2012, a total of \$50,060,000 is available. For more information, visit the [EDA grant opportunity synopsis](#).

USDA Invites Applications for Grants to Provide Broadband Service to Remote Rural Communities

Deadline: June 18, 2012

Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack today announced that USDA is accepting applications through the Community Connect Broadband program for grants to provide broadband service to residents of remote, rural communities.

Community Connect grants are made available to the most rural, unserved and economically challenged areas. The funds are used to build broadband infrastructure. Awardees are also required to establish community centers that offer free public access to broadband.

Information on available funding and application requirements are published on page 26241 of the May 3, 2012 [Federal Register](#). More information on Community Connect Grants, including the application guide, can be viewed from the USDA Rural Development [website](#).

Finding Grant Opportunities Online

For a simple, straightforward, funding opportunity matrix on sustainability grants, visit the Reconnecting America [website](#).

Renewable Energy RFPs

Information on solicitations for renewable energy generation, renewable energy certificates, and green power courtesy of Green Power Network. Unless otherwise noted, these requests for proposals and solicitations are neither supported nor endorsed by the U.S. Department of Energy, Green Power Network.

Deadline: May 29, 2012

[Tucson Airport Authority RFP](#) (#10112269) seeking qualified parties to design and build a 1 megawatt (MW) solar photovoltaic array on a canopy structure in the Daily Parking Lot at the Tucson International Airport, which will export all generated electricity to the utility grid. The project will require canopy structures, solar photovoltaic panels, electrical equipment including combiners, inverters, metering and utility interconnect, and control and communications equipment including an energy production monitoring system.

Contact: [Sylvia Granillo](#), [520-573-4821](#)

Deadline: June 28, 2012

[King County \(WA\) RFP](#) seeking proposals from groups organized under the Washington State Renewable Energy System Cost Recovery Program (WAC, 458-20-273) to install qualifying solar energy systems on King County, Washington property. King County has pre-selected several sites on which it would like to invite community solar groups to consider for installing solar projects, and is prepared to enter into lease agreements with groups where the value of power produced and fed to the facility is credited against lease fees for the sites.

Contact: [Roy Dodman](#), [206-263-9293](#)

A complete list of active RFPs can found on the DOE Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy's Green Power Network [website](#).

Regards,

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