

# Revitalizing Western Pennsylvania Energy Communities – we will begin shortly!



*In the meantime, please note:*

1:1 sessions available with federal agencies this afternoon

- **Link in Chat box**

Slides, webinar recording, and resources will be posted to [EnergyCommunities.netl.doe.gov](https://EnergyCommunities.netl.doe.gov) and sent by email

Enter questions into the **Chat box** to “**All Panelists.**”



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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF  
**ENERGY**



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# Revitalizing Western Pennsylvania Energy Communities



**Interagency Working Group on Coal and Power Plant  
Communities and Economic Revitalization**

**Briggs M. White, Ph.D.**

*Deputy Executive Director*



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LABORATORY

August 2021

# Agenda



 **Welcome** **9:00 – 9:05 a.m.**  
*Briggs White, Deputy Executive Director, Energy Communities IWG*

 **Opening Remarks** **9:05 – 9:30 a.m.**  
*Brian Anderson, Executive Director, Energy Communities IWG & Director, NETL*

## **Distinguished Guests**

*Gayle Manchin, Federal Co-Chair, Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC)*  
*Sheri Collins, Pennsylvania ARC State Alternate and Deputy Secretary,*  
*Pennsylvania Department of Community & Economic Development*






 **EDA Coal Communities Commitment** **9:30 – 10:15 a.m.**  
*Linda Cruz-Carnall, Regional Director, Economic Development Administration*  
*Christopher Casper, Economic Development Representative, Pennsylvania Economic Development Administration*

## **EDA Q&A**

 **15-minute Break** **10:15 – 10:30 a.m.**

# Agenda



- |  |   |                                |
|--|---|--------------------------------|
|    | <b>Federal Funding to Support Energy Communities</b><br><i>Briggs White, Deputy Executive Director, Energy Communities IWG</i><br><br><i>Jennifer Simon, <a href="#">Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC)</a></i><br><i>Kate Gordon, <a href="#">Department of Energy (DOE)</a></i><br><i>Yolande Norman-Moore &amp; Sterling Rideout, <a href="#">Department of Interior (DOI)</a></i><br><i>Matthew Dalbey, <a href="#">Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)</a></i><br><i>Gary Reed, <a href="#">U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)</a></i> | <b>10:30 – 11:30 a.m.</b>      |
|    | <b>Federal Funding Q&amp;A</b>  | <b>11:30 – 11:50 a.m.</b>      |
|    | <b>Closing Remarks</b>  | <b>11:50 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.</b> |
|   | <b>Formal Program Concludes</b>   | <b>12:00 p.m.</b>              |
|  | <b>One-on-One Sessions with Federal Agencies</b><br><i>(separate advance sign-up required)</i>  | <b>1:00 – 4:00 p.m.</b>        |



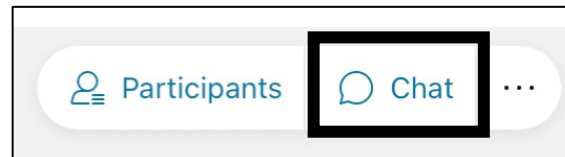
# Submit Questions in Chat



All attendees muted.



Send topic questions in **Chat** to **all Panelists** on right side of your screen.



Send **technical assistance** questions in Chat to **Host**.

# Final Reminders



1:1 sessions available this afternoon (***link in chat box***).

Slides, webinar recording, and resources will be posted to **EnergyCommunities.netl.doe.gov** and sent by email.

Enter questions into the **Chat box** to “**All Panelists.**”

# Empowering Workers Through Revitalizing Energy Communities

*The Workforce of the Future*



## Interagency Working Group on Coal and Power Plant Communities and Economic Revitalization

**Brian J. Anderson, Ph.D.**

*Executive Director, Interagency Working Group on  
Coal and Power Plant Communities and Economic Revitalization*

*Director, National Energy Technology Laboratory*



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF  
**ENERGY**



August 2021



# Coal and Power Plant Communities and Economic Revitalization



- The Interagency Working Group (IWG) was established by [Executive Order 14008](#), Sec. 218, on Jan. 27
- The IWG released an [Initial Report](#) with recommendations to catalyze robust economic activity and support workers in America's energy sector



*Initial Report to the President on Empowering Workers Through Revitalizing Energy Communities, Released April 23, 2021*



# Initial Report to the President on Empowering Workers Through Revitalizing Energy Communities



- Identified **25** priority Energy Communities
- Coal communities identified as immediately challenged
- Additional analyses forthcoming

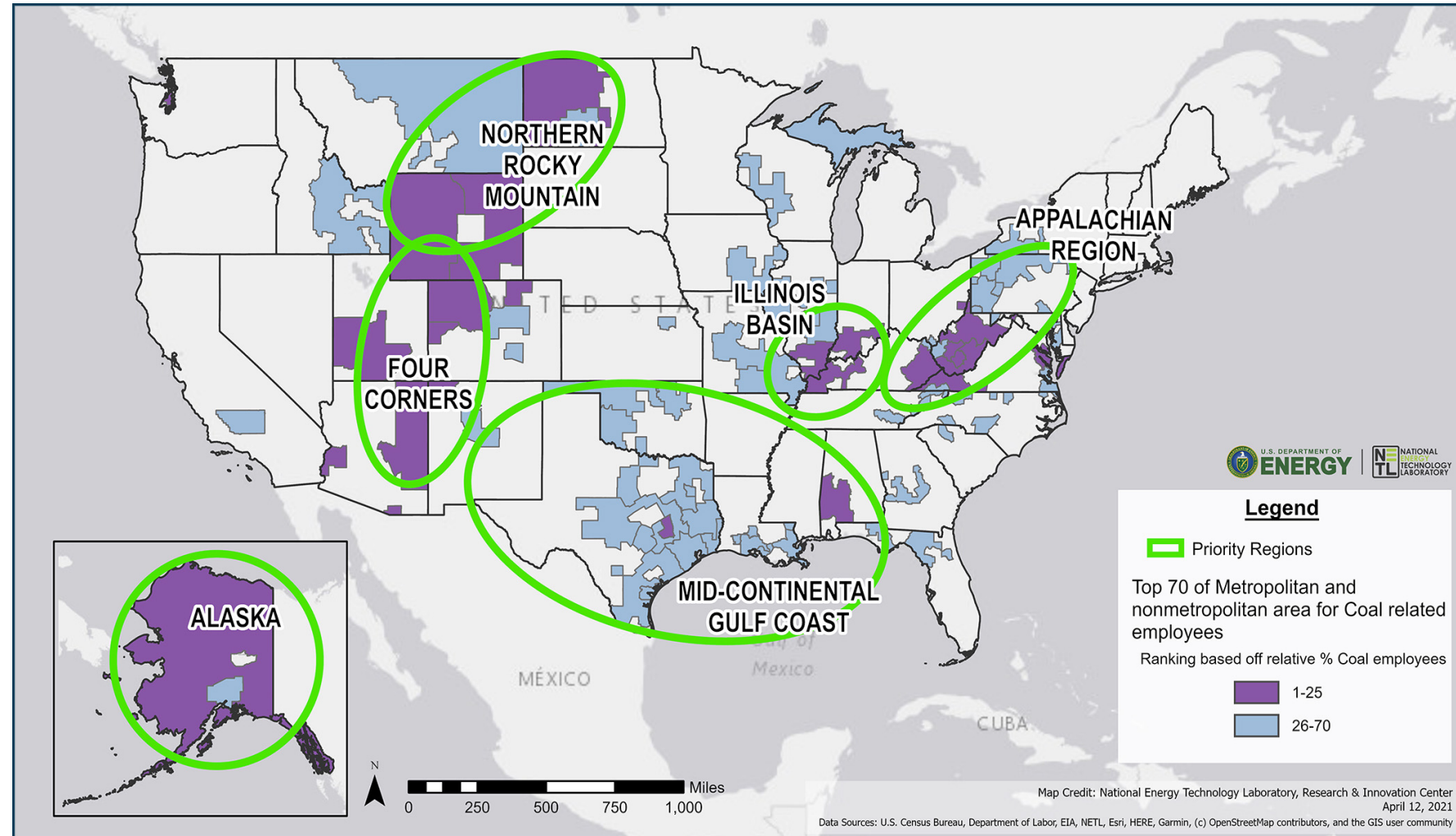


Figure 2 in the report. The IWG recommends focusing initial federal investments in areas with high concentrations of coal-dependent jobs.



# Investments



**\$38B**  
in potential funding

**COORDINATE**

**CATALYZE**

**TARGET**

The Looney Ridge mine in Wise County, VA

# IWG Website & Social Media



[energycommunities.netl.doe.gov](https://energycommunities.netl.doe.gov)



@EnergyComm\_US



@EnergyCommunitiesUS



@energycommunitiesus



- ✓ **Stakeholder engagement opportunities**
  - ✓ Sign up at new website/follow social media
  - ✓ Attend webinars and workshops
- ✓ **Support coalitions and matching funds**
- ✓ **Provide input on priority IWG workstreams**
  - ✓ Stakeholder Engagement
  - ✓ Targeting Federal Investments
  - ✓ Capacity-Building/"One-Stop Shop"





# **An Introduction to the Economic Development Administration (EDA)**

# EDA's Mission

*To lead the federal economic development agenda by promoting innovation and competitiveness, preparing American regions for growth and success in the worldwide economy.*

- Increase America's global ECONOMIC COMPETITIVENESS
- Support COMMUNITY-LED ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
- Help communities develop RESILIENT AND AGILE local economies



# EDA Supports Local and Regional Economies

## REGIONAL & LOCAL ECONOMIC PLANNING

- Incubators
- Accelerators
- Access to capital

- Transportation
- Utilities

RESILIENT  
REGION

INNOVATION ENGINES

BUSINESS SUPPORT

TECHNOLOGY INFRASTRUCTURE AND BUSINESS  
MODERNIZATION

BASIC INFRASTRUCTURE

- Universities and community colleges
- Workforce development
- R&D
- Access to capital

- Broadband
- Cellular
- Wireless



# EDA's Investment Priorities



**Equity**



**Recovery & Resilience**



**Workforce Development**



**Manufacturing**



**Technology-Based Economic Development**



**Environmentally-Sustainable Development**



**Exports & Foreign Direct Investment**

To learn more about  
EDA's Investment  
Priorities, visit:  
[https://eda.gov/about/  
investment-priorities/](https://eda.gov/about/investment-priorities/)





# EDA's Program Portfolio

*American  
Rescue Plan  
funds are EAA  
funds*



**Economic  
Adjustment  
Assistance (EAA)**



**Public Works**



**Planning**



**Technical  
Assistance**



**Research and  
Evaluation**



**Trade  
Adjustment  
Assistance for  
Firms (TAAF)**



**Innovation and  
Entrepreneurship**



**Revolving Loan  
Funds (RLF)  
*Part of EAA***



## NOFOs

## Description

**Total American Rescue Plan funding: \$3B**

- |   |   |               |  |               |
|---|---|---------------|--|---------------|
| 1 | <b>Statewide Planning, Research, &amp; Networks</b> | <b>\$90M</b>  | Invest in economic plans, research to assess the effectiveness of EDA's programs, and support for stakeholder communities around key EDA initiatives   |               |
| 2 | <b>Build Back Better Regional Challenge</b>         | <b>\$1B</b>   | Transform 20-30 economically distressed regions through substantial investment through groups of 3-8 projects, totaling ~\$25-75M per region; open to proposals up to \$100M                         | <b>\$100M</b> |
| 3 | <b>Travel, Tourism, &amp; Outdoor Recreation</b>    | <b>\$750M</b> | Accelerate communities impacted by COVID-related travel and tourism decline through state grants (\$510M) and competitive grants (\$240M)  |               |
| 4 | <b>Economic Adjustment Assistance</b>               | <b>\$500M</b> | Invest in infrastructure, technical assistance, planning, and revolving loan programs through competitive grants available to every community  | <b>\$200M</b> |
| 5 | <b>Indigenous Communities</b>                       | <b>\$100M</b> | Additional Economic Adjustment Assistance funds to specifically support Indigenous communities   |               |
| 6 | <b>Good Jobs Challenge</b>                          | <b>\$500M</b> | Establish or strengthen regional systems to train workers with in-demand skills through employer-driven training, supporting participants with wrap-around services and employer commitments to hire |               |

**\$300M Coal Communities Commitment**

[Visit our website](#) for more information





# EDA's American Rescue Plan Grant Programs

# \$3 billion in American Rescue Plan funding to invest in:

## Jobs for Today



Good Jobs Challenge  
Travel, Tourism, &  
Outdoor Recreation

## Communities Built for All



Economic Adjustment Assistance  
Indigenous Communities  
***Coal Communities Commitment***

## Regions for the Future



**Build Back Better Regional Challenge**  
  
Statewide Planning, Research, & Networks





# Coal Communities Commitment

**EDA's *Coal Communities Commitment*** will ensure support for coal communities as they recover from the pandemic, create new jobs and opportunities, and create or expand new industries.

EDA will:

- **Encourage coal communities** to apply to all American Rescue Plan programs, offering them the opportunity to successfully compete for large, transformational grants
- Provide **planning and technical assistance grants** to help support states in their effort to develop plans to revitalize coal communities
- Offer opportunities to **develop national communities of practice** to support coal communities in building resilient economies
- Specifically support coal communities through **two Notices of Funding Opportunities (NOFOs)**



# Funding Commitments



EDA's \$300 million ***Coal Communities Commitment*** will ensure support for coal communities as they recover from the pandemic and create new jobs and opportunities.

Specifically, EDA will dedicate \$100 million of its **Build Back Better Regional Challenge** funds and **\$200 million of its Economic Adjustment Assistance** funds to directly support coal communities.



# Examples of EDA Projects that have Supported Coal Communities

- **Mandan, North Dakota:** \$4M grant to the North Dakota Association of Rural Electric Cooperatives to construct a new lineworker training facility.
- **Southeast Ohio:** \$1.6M to Ohio University to support the Building Opportunities Beyond Coal Accelerating Transition (BOBCAT) Network which assists communities that have been impacted by the decline of the coal industry. This project utilizes development resources and regional collaboration to accelerate the region's economic diversification through entrepreneurial growth, workforce development, and identification of infrastructure investment needs.
- **Sheridan, Wyoming:** \$2.26M to the Sheridan Economic and Educational Development Authority to fund the construction of a new manufacturing facility at the Sheridan High Tech Park. The investment will expand operations for the local manufacturing company including an insulated metal building structure, the purchase of equipment and materials, plumbing, electrical and data lines, and a fire suppression system.
- **Johnstown, Pennsylvania:** \$1.95M grant to the Johnstown Regional Development Authority to build a new entrepreneurial center to house growing small businesses. The center also helps persons recovering from opioid addiction reenter the local workforce.
- **Hazard, Kentucky:** \$3.88M to construct the Hazard Community College Center of Manufacturing Excellence facility in the Kentucky Community and Technical College System.

*EDA's American Rescue Plan programs can support projects like this and more, and will provide unprecedented funding to coal communities across the country.*



# Assistance to Coal Communities (ACC), EDA Investments in Western Pennsylvania

- **Catalyst Connection, Pittsburgh, PA**

Project Location: Armstrong, Beaver, Butler, Cambria, Fayette, Greene, Indiana, Lawrence, Somerset, Washington, and Westmoreland Counties, Pennsylvania

EDA Funding: \$ 532,497 Total Project 1,065,396

General Description: This investment will address The Maker-to-Manufacturing (M2M) project is focused on the SW Pennsylvania region. Catalyst Connection, with partners Johnstown Area Regional Industries and Pitt, propose to leverage the EDA grant to build a virtual M2M Commercialization Center, which will integrate and expand entrepreneurial services and resources.



# EDA Programs



## Build Back Better Regional Challenge

A transformational investment in 20-30 regions across the country that want to revitalize their economies. These regions will have the opportunity to grow new regional industry clusters or scale existing ones through planning, infrastructure, innovation and entrepreneurship, workforce development, access to capital, and more.

Phase 1: 50-60 regional coalitions of partnering entities will be awarded ~\$500,000 in technical assistance funds to develop and support three to eight projects to grow a regional growth cluster.  
(Match: EDA expects to fund 100% of Phase 1)

Phase 2: EDA will award 20-30 regional coalitions \$25 million to \$75 million, and up to \$100 million, to implement those projects.  
(Match: EDA expects to fund 80% of Phase 2)



# Build Back Better Regional Challenge

## *Two-Phased Approach*

**Phase 1: 50-60 regions** awarded technical assistance grants to help regions prepare for Phase II and mature their clusters  
*Total: ~\$500,000 per region*

**Phase 2: 20-30 regions** from Phase I regions awarded implementation grants from full project cluster applications

*Total: ~\$25-\$75M, up to \$100M per region*

Phase 1 proposal deadline:  
**October 19, 2021**

Phase 2 application deadline:  
**March 15, 2022**





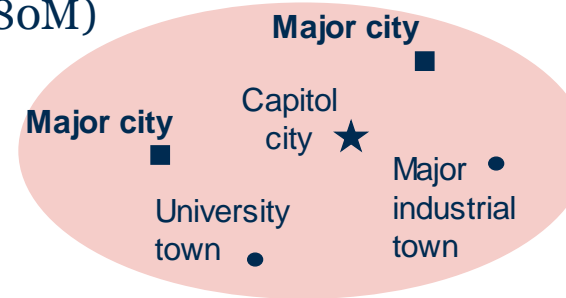
# Build Back Better Regional Challenge

## \$1 Billion

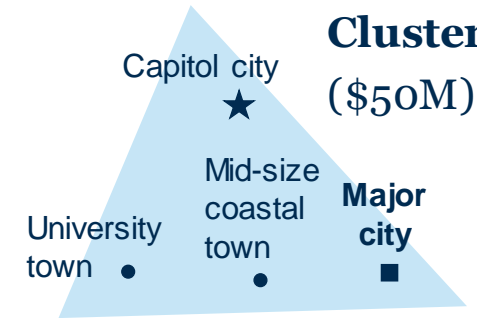
*Transform economically distressed communities through substantial investment in regional growth clusters*

- Proposals should include regional coalitions, industry support, and high-impact projects with a shared vision for a regional growth cluster
- One key coordinating entity per region
- 3-8 projects per regional cluster
- **\$100M to the *Coal Communities Commitment***

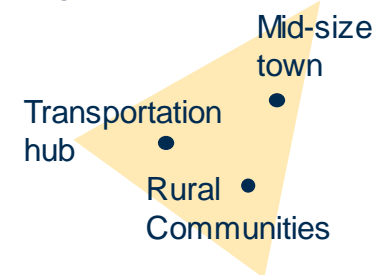
### Manufacturing Cluster (\$80M)



### Services Cluster (\$50M)



### Ag-tech Cluster (\$25M)



### Projects can include:

Planning | Infrastructure | Workforce | Entrepreneurship



# EDA Programs



## Economic Adjustment Assistance Program

*Invest in infrastructure, technical assistance, planning, and revolving loan programs through competitive grants available to every community*

- Most flexible American Rescue Plan program; intended to fund non-construction and construction activities not already part of another Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO).
- A wide range of technical, planning, workforce development, entrepreneurship, and public works and infrastructure projects are eligible for funding under this program.
- EDA encourages application submissions based on long-term, regionally oriented, coordinated, and collaborative economic development or redevelopment strategies that foster economic growth and resilience. This includes plans aimed at building stronger regional economic links between urban centers and rural areas.

(Match: EDA expects to fund 80%)



# Coal Communities Definition



Communities and regions that can reasonably demonstrate how changes in the coal economy have resulted or are anticipated to result in job losses and layoffs in any coal-reliant commercial sector. This includes, but is not limited to:

- Coal mining
- Coal-fired power plants
- Related transportation, logistics, and/or supply chain manufacturing industries

There is no pre-defined list of impacted coal communities.

To demonstrate eligibility, complete applications must provide appropriate third party economic and demographic statistics that document the extent to which contractions in the coal economy have negatively impacted the community or region.



# Who Should Apply



Eligible applicants for EDA's Economic Adjustment Assistance program include a(n):

- District Organization of an EDA-designated Economic Development District
- Indian Tribe or a consortium of Indian Tribes
- State, county, city, or other political subdivision of a State, including a special purpose unit of a State or local government engaged in economic or infrastructure development activities, or a consortium of political subdivisions
- Institution of higher education or a consortium of institutions of higher education
- Public or private non-profit organization or association acting in cooperation with officials of a political subdivision of a State

**Individuals or for-profit entities are not eligible.**



# EDA in Pennsylvania

- **7 Economic Development Districts**

Northeastern Pennsylvania Alliance

North Central Pennsylvania Planning and Development Commission

Northern Tier Regional Planning and Development Commission

**Northwest Pennsylvania Regional Planning and Development Commission**

Southern Alleghenies Planning and Development Commission

SEDA-Council of Governments

**Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission**

- University Center

Pennsylvania State University Pennsylvania Technical Assistance Program (PennTAP)



# Next Steps to Apply

1. Read the **Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO)** and Eligibility Requirements for each program: <https://eda.gov/funding-opportunities/>
2. Find your **Economic Development District** for planning support and technical assistance: <https://eda.gov/resources/directory/>
3. Contact me at [CCASPER1@EDA.GOV](mailto:CCASPER1@EDA.GOV)



# Resources

Visit our website for resources: [www.eda.gov/arpa](http://www.eda.gov/arpa)

- One-page overviews
- FAQs
- Applicant support tools





# Thank you!

**Christopher Casper**  
**Economic Development Representative**  
**Commonwealth of Pennsylvania**  
**267 634-7575**  
**[ccasper1@eda.gov](mailto:ccasper1@eda.gov)**

## Questions?

Visit [www.eda.gov/arpa](http://www.eda.gov/arpa) to learn more about the American Rescue Plan programs and find contact information for each.



# We will be right back!

We will reconvene at 10:30 a.m. EDT.

**Next up:** Federal Funding to Support Energy Communities

*A panel of senior officials, including:*

- Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC)
- Department of Energy (DOE)
- Department of Interior (DOI)
- Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
- U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)



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An aerial photograph of a town in the Appalachian region. The town is built on a valley floor, surrounded by rolling green hills. A river flows through the town, with a large bridge crossing it. The town is densely packed with buildings, including houses and commercial structures. The sky is blue with scattered white clouds.

## Interagency Working Group on Coal and Power Plant Communities and Economic Revitalization

Appalachian Regional Commission  
Jen Simon

August 12, 2021

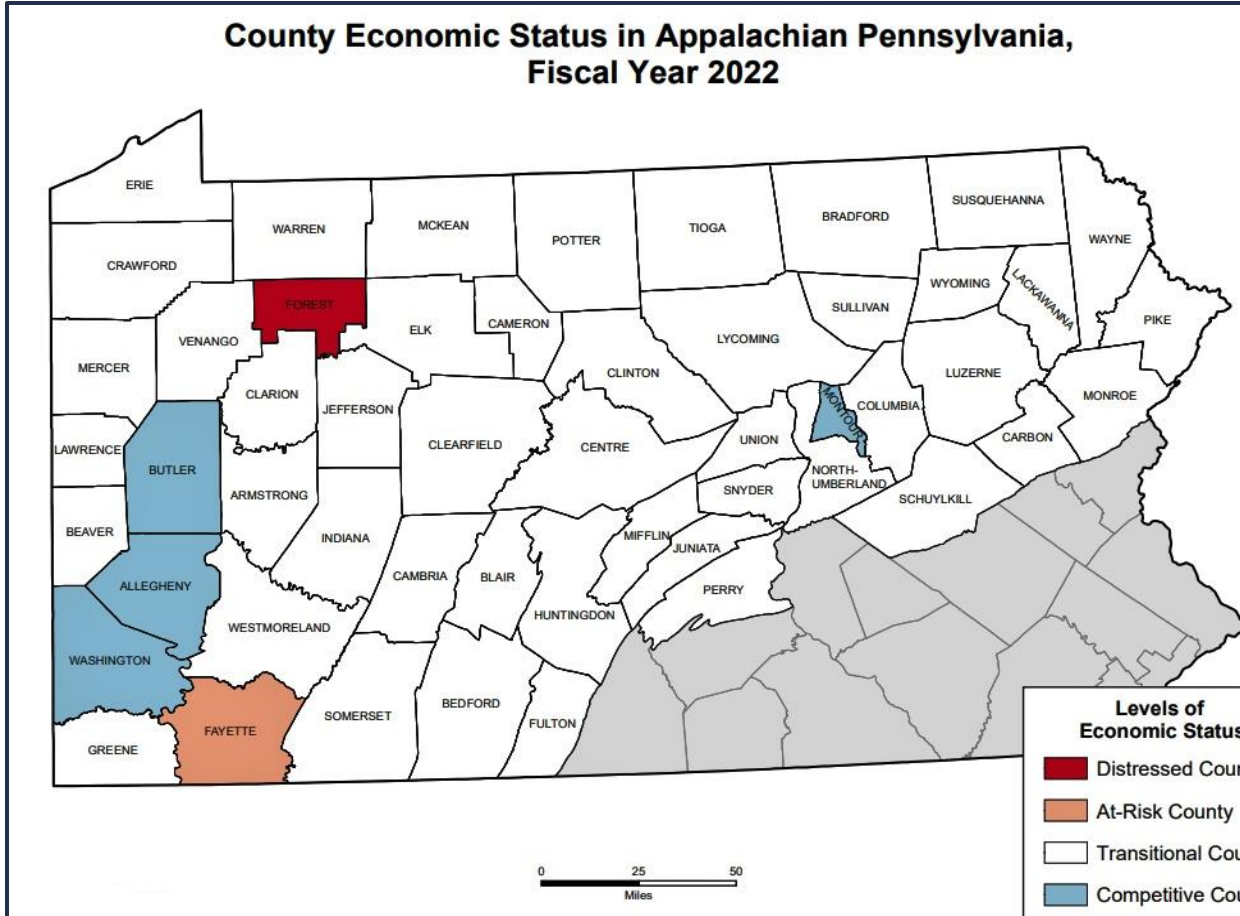


# Appalachian Region

- 13 states
- 420 counties
- 205,000 square miles
- 25.7 million people
- 73 local development districts
- Spine of Appalachian mountains



# County Economic Status FY 2022



**Distressed:** Most economically depressed counties, ranking in the worst 10% of the nation's counties.

**At-risk:** At-risk of becoming distressed.

**Transitional:** Transitioning between at-risk and competitive status.

**Competitive:** Able to compete in the national economy but don't rank in the highest 10% of the nation's counties.

**Attainment:** Economically strongest counties, ranking in the best 10% of the nation's counties.



# ARC Vision and Mission

**Vision:** Appalachia is a region of great opportunity that will achieve socioeconomic parity with the nation.

**Mission:** Innovate, partner, and invest to build community capacity and strengthen economic growth in Appalachia.

# ARC Roles

- Grantmaker and funder
- Research and data provider – [arc.gov/research](https://arc.gov/research)
  - An Overview of Coal and the Economy in Appalachia
- Convener
  - Federal partners
  - Industry experts
- Academies and Institutes

# ARC Strategic Goals



**ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES:** Invest in entrepreneurial and business development strategies that strengthen Appalachia's economy.



**READY WORKFORCE:** Increase the education, knowledge, skills, and health of residents to work and succeed in Appalachia.



**CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE:** Invest in critical infrastructure—especially broadband; transportation, including the Appalachian Development Highway System; and water/wastewater systems.



**NATURAL AND CULTURAL ASSETS:** Strengthen Appalachia's community and economic development potential by leveraging the Region's natural and cultural heritage assets.



**LEADERSHIP AND COMMUNITY CAPACITY:** Build the capacity and skills of current and next-generation leaders and organizations to innovate, collaborate, and advance community and economic development.

# Investing in Communities

## State Area Development Funds

- Projected FY 2022 - Approx. \$6 million
- Local Development Districts – <https://www.paldd.org/>
  - Help state find the best projects
  - Drive initiatives
  - Provide support to applicants
- Pre-apps due in August, but will look throughout the year
- Flexibility

# The Partnerships for Opportunity and Workforce and Economic Revitalization (POWER) Initiative

- Started in 2015 - \$238 million in 293 projects
- FY 2021 - \$55 Million
- PA - highly competitive applications with approx. 20 per year
- Two funding opportunities: planning (\$50k/grant) and implementation (\$1.5 million/grant)



# Other Funding Initiatives

## The Investments Supporting Partnerships In Recovery Ecosystems Initiative (INSPIRE)

- \$10 million initiative
- Two rounds
- Goal: Recovery ecosystem for workforce re-entry

## Workforce Opportunity for Rural Communities (WORC)

- Delta Regional Authority and Dept of Labor
- \$29 million in demonstration grants
- Support workforce development initiatives

# Investing in People

- Leadership Institute
- Oak Ridge STEM
- Appalachian Teaching Program - College Program
- Entrepreneurship Camp
- Appalachian Non-Profit Resource Center

# State Contact

Neil Fowler  
ARC Program Manager

Pennsylvania Department of Community  
and Economic Development

Email: [nfowler@pa.gov](mailto:nfowler@pa.gov)  
Phone: 717.214.5395

# ARC Federal Contacts

## POWER

Karen Fabiano

Email:

[power@arc.gov](mailto:power@arc.gov)

## Non-Construction Projects

Jennifer Simon

Email:

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## Construction Projects

Chris Brazell

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# **Revitalizing Western PA's Energy Communities**





By scaling up the development and deployment of the clean energy technologies of the future, DOE will help put Americans in construction, skilled trades, and engineering to work building a new clean energy infrastructure and economy, while making sure that every American worker and community can benefit from—and see their future in—clean energy solutions.

# Key Offices

---

**Energy Efficiency and  
Renewable Energy**

**Loan Programs Office**

**Office of Fossil Energy  
and Carbon  
Management**

# Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE) Focus Areas

## Bioenergy Technologies Office

- Define key economic and environmental sustainability indicators and priorities
- Estimate regional feedstock availability and transport costs
- Identify key potential markets and transitions

## Hydrogen Fuels Cells Technology Office

- Regional clean hydrogen production and end use opportunities
- Collaboration on H2EDGE and Center for Hydrogen Safety on training and workforce development
- Hydrogen Shot “111” - \$1 for 1 kg clean hydrogen in 1 decade
- Hydrogen Shot Summit Aug 31- Sept 1

## Geothermal Technologies Office

- Investigating deep direct use of geothermal resources to heat and cool the 2000-acre WVU Morgantown campus.
- Open funding opportunity for Wells of Opportunity
- Topic aimed at transition oil and gas fields to geothermal

## Advanced Manufacturing Office

- Industrial Assessment Centers WVU, NC State, Lehigh, Georgia Tech, Syracuse, University of Alabama, University of Dayton, University of Kentucky, and Case Western Reserve
- Combine Heat and Power Technical Assistance Program
- Better Buildings Program – provides energy and water assessment tools and case studies

## Water Power Technologies Office

- TVA testing a floating pumped storage hydropower (PSH) membrane in Melton Hill Reservoir, TN
- Performing a PSH innovation study that includes using abandoned mines
- Evaluating options for nonpowered dams to support Appalachia in partnership with USACE

## Weatherization and Intergovernmental Program

- State Energy Program
- Weatherization Assistance Program

# Office of Fossil Energy and Carbon Management (FECM)

*The mission of the Office of Fossil Energy and Carbon Management (FECM) is to minimize the environmental impacts of fossil fuels while working towards net-zero emissions.*

The Office's programs use research, development, demonstration, and deployment approaches to advance technologies to reduce carbon emissions and other environmental impacts of fossil fuel production and use, particularly the hardest-to-decarbonize applications in the electricity and industrial sectors.

- Priority areas of technology work include point-source **carbon capture, hydrogen, methane emissions reduction, critical mineral production, and carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) removal** to address the accumulated CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in the atmosphere.
- The Office recognizes that global decarbonization is essential to meeting climate goals and works to engage with international colleagues to leverage expertise in these areas.
- The Office is also committed to improving the conditions of communities impacted by the legacy of fossil fuel use and to supporting a healthy economic transition that accelerates the growth of good-paying jobs.

# FECM Programmatic Priorities



## Environmental Impacts of Fossil Fuels

Deploy regional initiatives to advance net-zero goals and minimize the environmental impact of fossil fuels, limiting leakage from natural gas infrastructure, and progressing remediation efforts that promote clean energy jobs & energy justice.



## Advancing Carbon Management

Make significant contributions to achieving the Nation's net-zero goals by mid-century, while creating good paying jobs and advancing an equitable transition to net-zero.



## NETL Capabilities

Strengthen NETL's technical capabilities through investments in talent and infrastructure that advance safe, affordable, and environmentally sound technology innovations to increase efficiency, reduce emissions, and drive down energy costs.



# Loan Programs Office Financing Opportunities for Repurposing Coal-Fired Generation

## Over \$40 billion in available DOE loan and loan guarantees

- Access to debt capital for projects deploying innovative technologies
- DOE can work with a number of different financial structures and work cooperatively with borrowers
- DOE brings specialized technical, environmental, financial, and legal expertise to projects

## Coal-plant Repurpose economies are especially hard-hit by retirements

- Built-in infrastructure and components can readily be repurposed for new industry

## Water access rights are essential for cooling requirements of the repurposed/reconfigured system, as well as for hydrogen production

- Future-Proofing
- Converting to natural gas-fired generation (gas turbines) leverages the existing infrastructure
- Gas Turbines can run on a blend of NG and Hydrogen...up to 100% H2 with modifications
- Future-proofs the asset against future carbon limitations

# Loan Programs Office: Opportunities to Repurpose

## Conversion to Clean Energy Assets

- Redevelopment of abandoned sites can mitigate the economic impact of plant and mine closures
- Redevelopment can leverage significant portions of the existing asset to accelerate clean energy deployment at a lower cost
- Transmission access point can be particularly valuable...especially in MISO

## Options that Could Potentially Be Eligible for DOE Loans & Loan Guarantees

- Nuclear (SMRs and Microreactors)
- Numerous technologies are expected to have NRC licenses by 2025
- Hydrogen
- Battery Energy Storage System (BESS)
- Solar and Wind
- Can help utilities meet state RE mandates
- Require larger tracts of land that may not be available on the existing footprint
- Thermal Energy Storage (TES)
- Great match with labor skillsets from previous coal-fired generation facility

# DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR

## Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement

### *AML Economic Revitalization (AMLER) Program*

*Formerly the AML Pilot Program*

***Sterling Rideout***

***Assistant Director, Program Support Directorate***

***Yolande Norman-Moore***

***Chief, Division of Reclamation Support***



# AMLER Purpose

- Economic/Community development with a nexus to Abandoned Mine Land (AML) problems
- Allows funds to be spent on reclamation and economic/community development
- Encourages leveraging public and private funding sources
- Projects must develop a site or create favorable conditions to attract future development
- Measures success of program that invests in development of historic coal communities
- Congress has allocated annual funding for the AMLER program since FY 2016 totaling \$655 million through FY 2021.



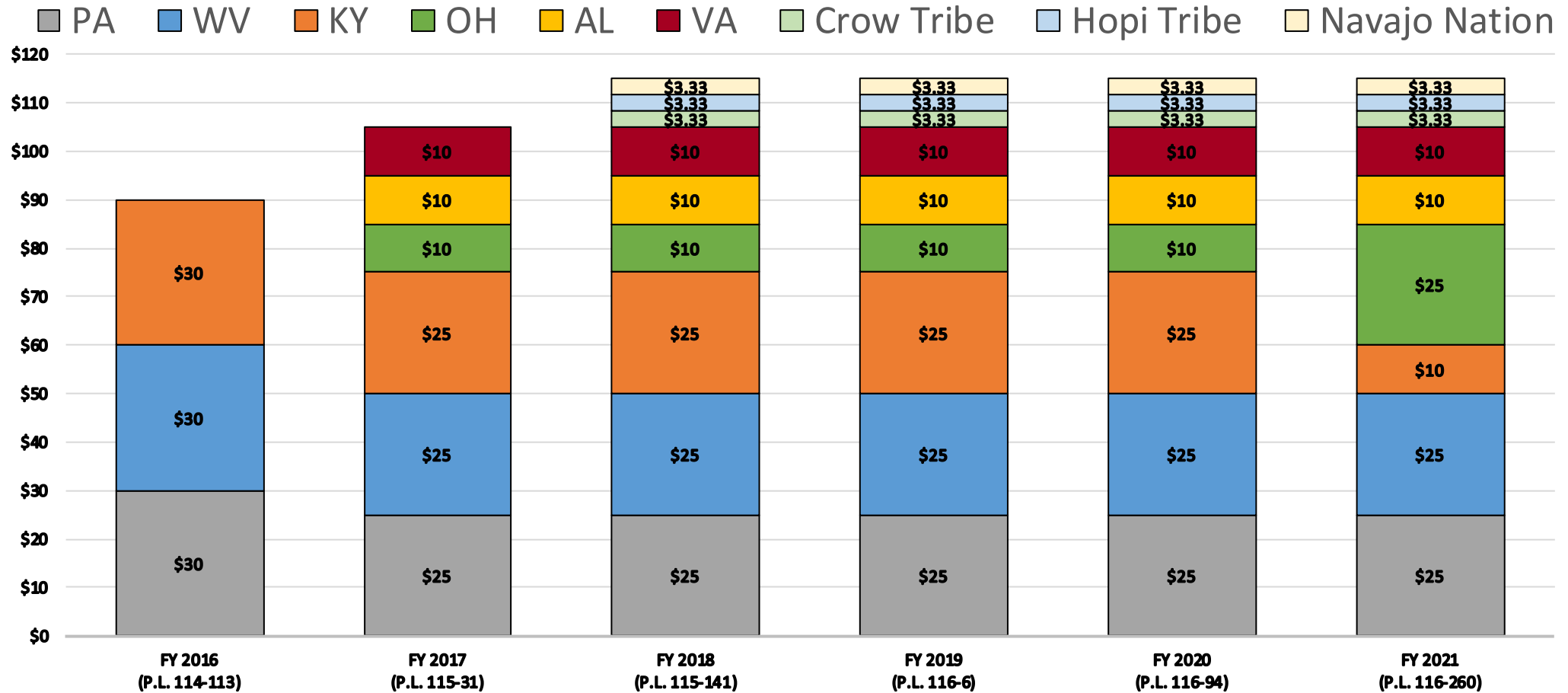
**Progress of Ehrenfeld Coal Refuse Pile Reclamation Project (before left - after right)**

**Photo Credit: Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection**



# AMLER Funding (Millions of Dollars)

Source of Funding: U.S. Treasury (as part of the annual Consolidated Appropriations Act – specific laws noted below)

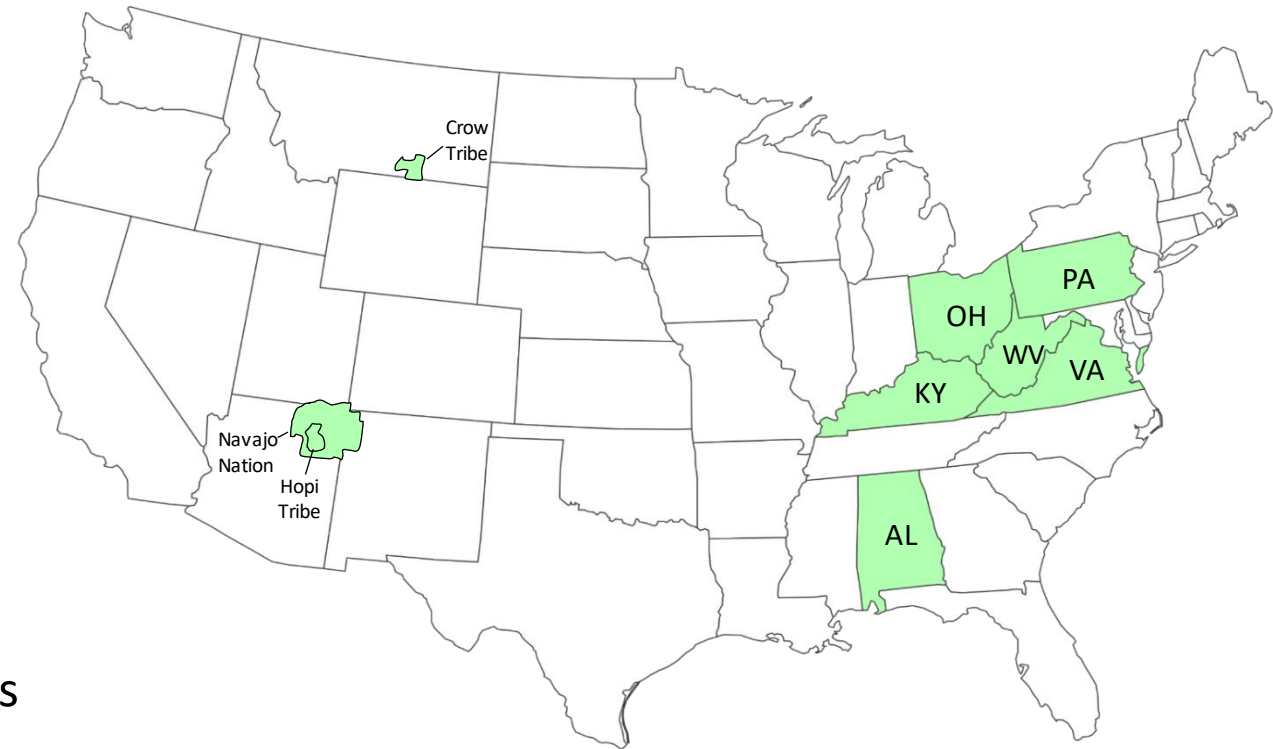




# AMLER Project Eligibility

## Eligibility:

- Identified States and Tribes are eligible to receive funds
- Nexus to AML site (abandoned prior to 1977)
  - ❑ Unreclaimed
  - ❑ Previously reclaimed
- Nexus to Economic or Community Development
  - ❑ Category A - Current Projects
  - ❑ Category B - Creates Conditions for Future Development
- Guidance Document for AMLER project eligibility



# AMLER Benefits

## Examples of Project Benefits:

- Jobs created
- Businesses created, served, or improved
- Communities served or improved
- Households served or improved
- New or existing students served or improved
- Number of visitors
- Infrastructure created, increased, enhanced, or restored

## Summary of Projects Presented in the Annual AMLER Report



Spaces Corners South/Rayburn Township  
Waterline Extension Project in Pennsylvania

[https://www.osmre.gov/programs/AML/2016\\_2019\\_Annual\\_Report\\_AML\\_Economic\\_Development\\_Pilot\\_Program.pdf](https://www.osmre.gov/programs/AML/2016_2019_Annual_Report_AML_Economic_Development_Pilot_Program.pdf)



# AMLER Projects

## Project Status: (includes projects from FY 16 - FY 19)

- As of January 22, 2021:
  - 180 active projects that received preliminary approval
  - 120 of those active projects have received OSMRE's Authorization to Proceed
  - 20 of those projects have been completed



Design Plan of the Hollars Hill South AML –  
Cranberry Creek Gateway Project in PA

## Types of projects that have been approved:

- Industrial Parks
- Food Production
- Outdoor Recreation
  - ❑ Trail Systems
  - ❑ Boat Launches
  - ❑ Public Parks
  - ❑ Campgrounds
- Visitor Attractions
- Training Center
- Infrastructure
  - ❑ Water Supply
  - ❑ Electric/Gas Lines
  - ❑ Broadband
  - ❑ Electricity Generation

# Status of AMLER Projects in Pennsylvania

**Project Status:** (includes projects from FY 16 - FY 19)

- As of January 22, 2021, Pennsylvania has:
  - 52 active projects that received preliminary approval
  - 49 of those active projects have received OSMRE's Authorization to Proceed
  - 11 of those projects have been completed

## Example AMLER Project in Pennsylvania

Summary of the Anthracite Outdoor Adventure Area (AOAA):

- Utilize \$9.7 million (\$2.5 million in AMLER funds) to reclaim 90 acres of AML to expand development of the AOAA
- The AOAA will be expanded to include approximately 15,870 linear feet of roads and trails for Jeeps, ATVs, and dirt bikes plus a parking lot and helicopter pad for medical emergencies
- Currently, AOAA sells 30,000 passes per year and anticipates selling 37,500 passes annually after construction is completed





# Example AMLER Project in Pennsylvania



Construction site for Donaldson Project

Photo Credit: Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection

## Summary of the Donaldson Project:

- Utilizes \$8.3 million (\$2 million in AMLER funds) to restore a natural flow path to Good Spring Creek and reclaim 60 acres of refuse material
- Restores the creek's ability to support a wild trout fishery (estimated to generate \$188,000 per year in economic revenue)
- Corrects stream path to prevent/reduce flooding events that has caused significant repair costs and loss of jobs in the past
- Local residents plan to convert 40 acres of the site into a recreation facility with interpretative walking trails, benches, and fishing access areas





# Tips for AMLER Fund Applicants in Pennsylvania

## How do I submit a project application?

Contact the PA Department of Environmental Protection - Bureau of Abandoned Mine Reclamation

Brian J. Bradley, Director

717-783-2267

Rachel Carson State Office Building P.O. Box 69205

Harrisburg, PA 17106

## What Types of Projects are eligible for funding”

Criteria and examples can be found in OSMRE’s [Guidance Document](#) and [Annual AMLER Report](#).

## Can I leverage AMLER funds with other Federal funds?

Yes. Applicants are encouraged to leverage other private and public funding sources (e.g. the Appalachian Regional Commission [ARC] or the Economic Development Administration [EDA]).



# INTER-AGENCY WORKING GROUP ON COAL AND POWERPLANT COMMUNITIES



## Revitalizing Western Pennsylvania's Energy Communities

August 12, 2021

Matthew Dalbey

Samantha Beers

Betty Barnes

US EPA



Technical assistance on community revitalization available through EPA HQ and Regions.



Federal partnerships to support investment in healthy, vibrant, thriving communities



Brownfields and Superfund programs result in cleaned up sites for redevelopment.



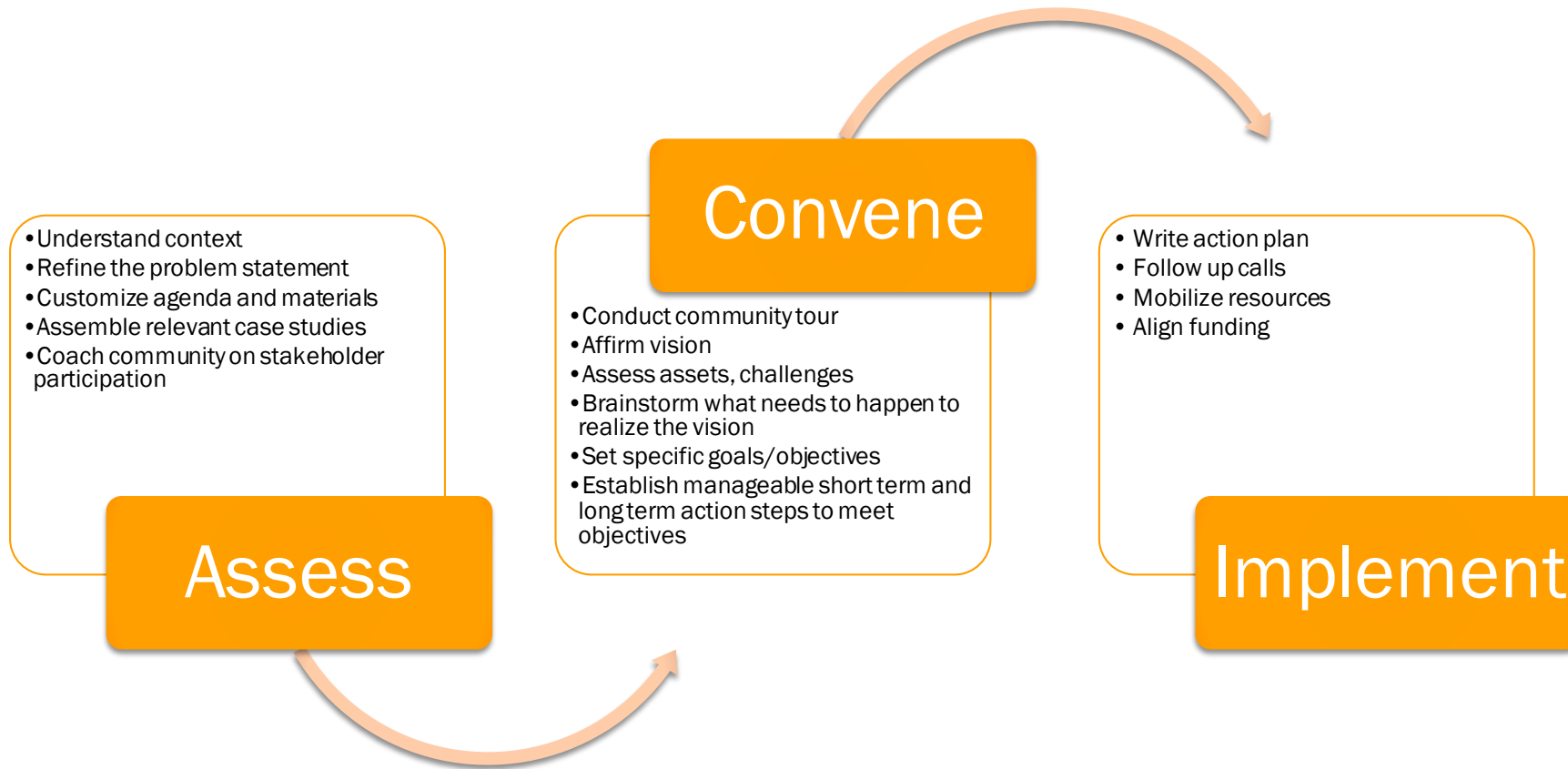
Energy efficiency, stormwater, air attainment, etc. support healthy places.



How-to guides and best practices available on EPA websites

# Energy Community Revitalization Resources

# Technical Assistance Approach



# Community Revitalization



## Vision

Define shared community goals and strategies for specific area



## Priorities

Identify priorities, define specific action steps, designate leads, develop phasing plan and research funding sources.



## Feasibility

Resolve technical, environmental, political and financial implementation issues



## Funding

Develop a funding and financing plan.



## Design

Design the project or program.



## Implement

Construct the project/implement the program.

# EPA's Role in Community Revitalization: Region 3 Resources

- Help ensure revitalization efforts support community visions and goals
- Remove liability obstacles to redevelopment in an expeditious manner
- Provide economic support including grants and technical assistance. Examples include:
  - Brownfield grants, Local Foods Local Places technical assistance
  - Grants and targeted technical assistance focused on developing financial strategies for redevelopment
- Identifying and mitigating environmental and human health challenges with data, assessments, and contacts with other federal agencies:
  - EJ Screen
  - Brownfield grants identification
  - Opportunity Zones incentives
  - Convenings



# Tools and resources for energy communities

- Community Revitalization Assistance:

[www.epa.gov/community-revitalization](http://www.epa.gov/community-revitalization)

[www.epa.gov/smargrowth](http://www.epa.gov/smargrowth)

- Land Revitalization Toolkits:

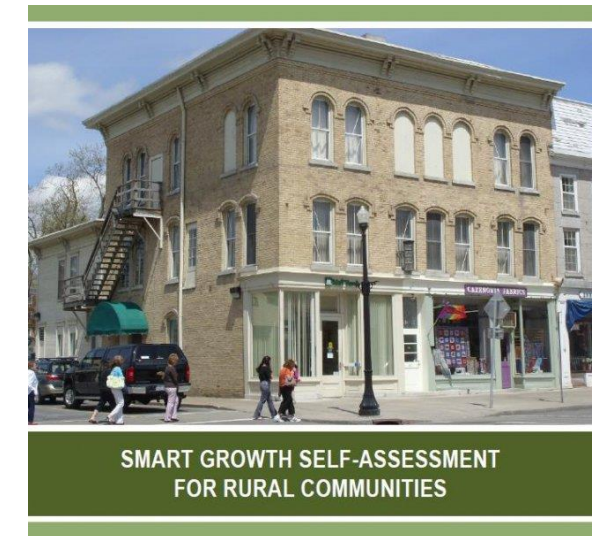
[www.epa.gov/land-revitalization/land-revitalization-toolkit](http://www.epa.gov/land-revitalization/land-revitalization-toolkit)

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Rural Development  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE



# USDA Rural Development Summary of Major Programs

Together, America Prospers





# USDA Rural Development at a Glance

## Rural America's Partner in Prosperity

USDA Rural Development is the lead Federal agency helping rural communities grow and prosper. We increase economic development and improve the quality of life in rural places and small towns.

We provide loans, grants and technical assistance to build critical infrastructure like broadband, water systems, and hospitals. Our programs expand access to e-connectivity, electric, and transportation infrastructure, and support business growth, healthcare, education, housing, and other community essentials.

We stand ready to be your partner in prosperity for rural America. Contact us today to learn more and connect with the local USDA Rural Development team that serves your area:



[www.rd.usda.gov](http://www.rd.usda.gov)



1 (800) 670-6553



@usdaRD

**Contact the USDA Rural Development Office in your community to learn more**

WE HAVE MORE THAN  
40 PROGRAMS TO SUPPORT  
RURAL AMERICA.



Telecommunications Programs



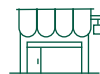
Electric Programs



Community Facilities Programs



Water and Environmental Programs



Business and Cooperative Programs



Single-Family Housing Programs



Multi-Family Housing Programs







# USDA Rural Development Summary of Major Programs

## Rural Housing and Community Facilities Programs

Program	Objective	Applicant	Uses	Population	Loan/Grant	Terms/Conditions
<b><u>Single-Family Housing Direct Loans (including Self-Help Loans)</u></b>	Safe, well-built, affordable homes for very-low- and low-income rural Americans.	Families and individuals.	Buy, build, improve, repair or rehabilitate a rural home as the applicant's permanent residence.	Rural areas with populations up to 20,000 ( <i>in special circumstances, communities up to 35,000 may be eligible</i> ).	Direct loan.	Up to 100% of market value or cost. Loan term of 33/38 years. Applicant may be eligible for payment assistance (subsidy) on the loan.
<b><u>Single-Family Housing Loan Guarantees</u></b>	To help low- to moderate-income applicants/households buy their homes by guaranteeing loans made by private lenders.	Families and individuals.	Purchase new or existing homes and refinance existing Rural Development guaranteed or direct loans.	Rural areas with populations up to 20,000 ( <i>in special circumstances, communities up to 35,000 may be eligible</i> ).	Loan guarantee.	30-year fixed. The interest rate is negotiated between lender and borrower. Loans up to 100% of market value, plus the amount of the up-front guarantee fee being financed.
<b><u>Single-Family Housing Repair Loans and Grants</u></b>	To help very-low-income applicants remove health and safety hazards or repair their homes.	Families and individuals who currently own their home.	Repair/replace roof, winterize, purchase or repair heating system, structural repair, water/sewage connect fees, etc.	Rural areas with populations up to 20,000 ( <i>in special circumstances, communities up to 35,000 may be eligible</i> ).	Direct loan and grant.	Loans up to \$20,000 for up to 20 years at 1%. Grants available to very-low-income applicants ages 62 years or older unable to pay a 1% loan.
<b><u>Self-Help Housing Technical Assistance Grants</u></b>	Helps lower income families build their own homes.	Nonprofits and public bodies.	Technical assistance to train small groups of families how to build each others' homes.	Rural areas with populations up to 20,000 ( <i>in special circumstances, communities up to 35,000 may be eligible</i> ).	Grant.	Grant agreement.
<b><u>Rural Rental Housing Direct Loans</u></b>	Safe, well-built, affordable rental housing for very-low-income individuals and families.	Individuals, trusts, associations, limited partnerships, for-profit and nonprofit entities, Federally-recognized Indian Tribes, public bodies.	Rental housing; new construction or substantial rehabilitation.	Rural areas with populations up to 20,000 ( <i>in special circumstances, communities up to 35,000 may be eligible</i> ).	Direct loan.	Up to 100% of total development cost (nonprofits); 97% (for-profits); 95% (for-profits with Low-Income Housing Tax Credits). 30-year term with up to 50-year amortization.
<b><u>Rural Rental Housing Loan Guarantees</u></b>	Guarantees on loans to build or preserve affordable housing for very-low to moderate-income tenants.	For-profit and nonprofit lenders.	Build or rehabilitate affordable rental housing.	Rural areas with populations up to 20,000 ( <i>in special circumstances, communities up to 35,000 may be eligible</i> ).	Loan guarantee.	At least a 25-year term with fixed interest rate. Loan guarantees on up to 90% of the principal.
<b><u>Housing Preservation Grants</u></b>	Repair and rehabilitate housing owned or occupied by very-low- and low-income rural families.	Public bodies and nonprofit organizations.	To operate a program that finances repair and rehabilitation activities for single-family and small rental properties.	Rural areas with populations up to 20,000 ( <i>in special circumstances, communities up to 35,000 may be eligible</i> ).	Grant.	Grant agreement.
<b><u>Farm Labor Housing Loans and Grants</u></b>	Safe, well-built affordable rental housing for farmworkers.	Individuals, public and private nonprofit organizations.	Rental housing; new construction or substantial rehabilitation.	Not applicable.	Direct loan and grant.	Up to 102% of total development cost. Up to 33 years to repay at 1% interest.
<b><u>Community Facilities Loans and Grants</u></b>	Improve, develop, or finance essential community facilities for rural communities. Facilities must primarily serve rural residents.	Public bodies, nonprofits, and Federally-recognized Indian Tribes.	Construct, enlarge, or otherwise improve essential community facilities such as public safety, fire and rescue, telecommunications, schools, libraries, hospitals and other healthcare facilities, etc. This may include furnishings, fixtures, and other required equipment.	City, town, or unincorporated area of not more than 20,000 for direct loans. For loan guarantees, not more than 50,000. Loan guarantee funds are prioritized in favor of towns with populations of 20,000 or less for fiscal year 2020.	Direct loan, loan guarantee, or grant.	Up to 100% of market value. Term is for the useful life of the facility or equipment, based on State statute, or 40 years. Maximum grant 75% of project cost. Grant eligibility based on income, population, and need.
<b><u>Rural Community Development Initiative</u></b>	To facilitate housing, community facilities, and community and economic development projects.	Private nonprofit or public organizations, philanthropic foundations, low-income communities.	Technical assistance grants of \$50,000 to \$300,000 to develop the capacity and ability of awardees to carry out needed projects.	City, town, or unincorporated area of not more than 50,000 in population.	Grant.	Matching funds required for grant.

For direct loans and grants, apply to Rural Development. For loan guarantees, apply to participating intermediaries such as approved banks, mortgage companies, etc.







## Rural Business and Cooperative Programs

Program	Objective	Applicant	Uses	Population	Loan/Grant	Terms/Conditions
<b><u>Business and Industry Loan Guarantees</u></b>	Create jobs/stimulate rural economies by providing financial backing for rural businesses.	Lenders/businesses.	Real estate, buildings, equipment, supplies, working capital, and some debt refinancing.	All areas except cities with populations exceeding 50,000 and their contiguous urbanized areas.	Loan guarantee.	Lender and borrower negotiate terms. Up to 30 years for real estate, 15 years for machinery and equipment, and 7 years for working capital.
<b><u>Rural Business Development Grants</u></b>	Help small and emerging private businesses and/or nonprofits in rural communities startup or expand. <b>Note:</b> This program combines the former Rural Business Enterprise Grant and Rural Business Opportunity Grant programs and was created through the 2014 Farm Bill.	Public bodies, government entities, nonprofit entities, and Federally-recognized Indian Tribes.	Acquire or develop land, buildings, plants, and equipment; build or improve access roads, parking areas, utility extensions, and water and waste disposal facilities; provide technical assistance; establish revolving loan funds; and support rural distance learning programs that provide educational or job training.	All areas rural in character except cities with populations exceeding 50,000 and their contiguous urbanized areas.	Grant.	Grants are awarded on a competitive basis.
<b><u>Intermediary Relending Program Loans</u></b>	Establish revolving funds for business facilities and community development projects.	Public bodies, nonprofit corporations, Federally-recognized Indian Tribes, and cooperatives.	Community development projects, establish or expand businesses, create or save rural jobs.	Rural areas and incorporated places with populations of fewer than 50,000.	Direct loan.	The intermediary makes loans to businesses from its revolving loan fund on terms consistent with security offered. Intermediary pays 1% for 30 years.
<b><u>Rural Microentrepreneur Assistance Program</u></b>	Establish revolving funds to target assistance to small rural enterprises.	Microenterprise Development Organizations (MDOs).	Loans, technical, and capacity-building assistance to businesses with 10 or fewer employees, and sole proprietorships.	All areas except cities with populations exceeding 50,000 and their contiguous urbanized areas.	Loans, grants.	Rural microenterprises apply directly to the intermediary.
<b><u>Rural Economic Development Loans and Grants</u></b>	Finance economic development and job creation in rural areas.	Rural Utilities Service-financed electric and telephone utilities.	Business startups or expansion projects that create rural jobs.	Rural areas with populations of 50,000 or less, with priority to places with populations of 2,500 or less.	Direct loan or grant to establish revolving loan fund.	Intermediary makes loans to for-profit or nonprofit businesses and public bodies. Loans are 0% for 10 years.
<b><u>Rural Cooperative Development Grants</u></b>	Establish/operate centers for cooperative development.	Nonprofits and institutions of higher education.	Establish centers to provide technical assistance, training, applied research, and data collection and interpretation for the purpose of cooperative development.	All areas except cities with populations exceeding 50,000 and their contiguous urbanized areas.	Grant.	Minimum 25% fund match (5% for 1994 Institutions). Grants awarded competitively.
<b><u>Socially-Disadvantaged Groups Grants</u></b>	Funds to eligible co-ops, co-op associations, or co-op development centers for technical assistance to small, socially-disadvantaged groups in rural areas. <b>Note:</b> This program was formerly known as the Small, Socially-Disadvantaged Producer Grants Program.	Cooperatives and co-op development centers that serve socially-disadvantaged groups where a majority of the board of directors or governing board is comprised of individuals who are members of socially-disadvantaged groups.	Technical assistance.	All areas except cities with populations exceeding 50,000 and their contiguous urbanized areas.	Grant.	Grants are awarded on a competitive basis. There is no matching requirement.

## Rural Business and Cooperative Programs (Continued)

Program	Objective	Applicant	Uses	Population	Loan/Grant	Terms/Conditions
<b><u>Value-Added Producer Grants</u></b>	Help independent agricultural producers enter into activities that add value to their products.	Independent producers, farmer and rancher cooperatives, producer groups, majority-controlled, producer-based business ventures.	Feasibility studies, business plans; working capital.	All areas.	Grant.	Grants are awarded on a competitive basis. Funds may not be used to build facilities or purchase equipment. Funds must be matched on a dollar-for-dollar basis.
<b><u>Rural Energy for America Program (REAP) Loan Guarantees and Grants</u></b>	Provide assistance for energy efficiency improvements or to purchase a renewable energy system for operations.	Rural small businesses and agricultural producers.	Energy efficiency improvements, renewable energy system installations.	Cities, towns, or unincorporated areas with populations of fewer than 50,000. (Population limits do not apply to agricultural producers.)	Loan guarantee and/or grant.	Grants of up to 25% of eligible project costs not to exceed \$250,000 for energy efficiency projects and \$500,000 for renewable energy. Loan guarantees of up to 75% of eligible project costs not to exceed \$25 million.
<b><u>REAP Audit/Development Grants</u></b>	Grants for entities to pass through to small businesses or agricultural producers for 75% of the cost of an energy audit or renewable energy development assistance.	State, Tribal, or local government institutions of higher education; rural electric cooperatives; public power entities.	Up to \$100,000 grant awarded to conduct energy audits and/or provide technical assistance to rural small businesses and agricultural producers for renewable energy development assistance.	Businesses receiving grant assistance must be located in cities, towns, or unincorporated areas with populations of fewer than 50,000.  There are no restrictions for agricultural producers.	Grant.	\$100,000 to entities and up to 75% of the cost of energy audit for renewable energy development assistance.
<b><u>Biorefinery, Renewable Chemical, and Biobased Product Manufacturing Assistance Program Loan Guarantees</u></b>	To develop and construct commercial-scale biorefineries or retrofit facilities using eligible technology for the development of advanced biofuels, renewable chemicals and/or biobased product manufacturing.	Individuals, Federally-recognized Indian Tribes, State or local governments, corporations, farm cooperatives, associations of agricultural producers, national laboratories, higher learning institutions, rural electric co-ops, public power entities, and/or consortiums of any of the entities.	Loan guarantees to develop and construct commercial-scale biorefineries or retrofit facilities to use eligible technology for the development of advanced biofuels, renewable chemicals, and/or biobased product manufacturing.	No restrictions.	Loan guarantee.	80% (maximum) guarantee on loans less than \$150 million; 70% (maximum) guarantee on loans of \$150 million but less than \$200 million; 60% (maximum) guarantee on loans of \$200 million up to \$250 million.
<b><u>Advanced Biofuel Payment Program</u></b>	Payments to producers to support and ensure expanding production of advanced biofuels.	Eligible producers of advanced biofuels.	Payments to producers of advanced biofuels (non-commercial-based).	No restrictions.	Payments.	As funds are available. Complete applications submitted to National Office for review. Payments determined by National Office.

For direct loans and grants, apply to Rural Development. For loan guarantees, apply to participating intermediaries such as eligible banks, etc. For revolving funds (Intermediary Relending Program, Rural Economic Development Loans and Grants, Rural Microentrepreneur Assistance Program), intermediaries apply to Rural Development, others to the intermediaries.







## Rural Utilities Programs

Program	Objective	Applicant	Uses	Population	Loan/Grant	Terms/Conditions
<b><u>Water and Waste Disposal Loans and Grants</u></b>	Provide infrastructure for rural areas.	Public entities, Federally-recognized Indian Tribes, and nonprofit corporations.	Build, repair, and improve public water systems and waste collection and treatment systems.	Rural areas and towns with populations up to 10,000.	Direct loan and grant.	Repayment period is a maximum of 40 years. Grant funds may be available.
<b><u>Water and Waste Disposal Loan Guarantees</u></b>	Provide infrastructure for rural areas.	Public entities, Federally-recognized Indian Tribes, and nonprofit corporations.	Build, repair, and improve water supply and distribution systems and waste collection and treatment systems.	Rural areas and towns with populations up to 50,000. Funds are prioritized in favor of towns with populations of 10,000 or less for fiscal year 2020.	Loan guarantee.	Eligible lenders obtain up to a 90% guarantee on loans they make and service.
<b><u>Solid Waste Management Grants</u></b>	Technical assistance and training to assist with management of water and wastewater systems.	Public bodies, private nonprofit organizations, Federally-recognized Indian Tribes, and academic institutions.	Technical assistance and training to improve landfill conditions and protect against threats to nearby water resources.	Rural areas and towns with populations up to 10,000.	Grant.	Application periods are announced in the Federal Register. Complete applications submitted to National Office for review.
<b><u>Technical Assistance/ Training/Circuit Rider</u></b>	Provide technical assistance and training.	Public, private, and nonprofit organizations.	Technical assistance and training to assist with management of water and waste water projects.	Rural areas and towns with populations up to 10,000.	Grant.	As funds are available. Complete applications submitted to National Office for review.
<b><u>ReConnect Program</u></b>	Expand broadband service to rural areas without sufficient broadband access.	Nonprofits, for-profit corporations, LLCs, co-ops, States, territories, local governments, Federally-recognized Indian Tribes.	Construct, improve, acquire broadband and terrestrial satellite broadband facilities and equipment; pre-application expenses.	Rural areas with populations up to 20,000; urbanized areas with populations up to 50,000.	Direct loans, grants, and loan/grant combinations.	Loan interest rate 2%; loan/grant interest for loan portion is current Treasury rate at the time of fund disbursement.
<b><u>Rural Broadband Direct Loans and Loan Guarantee</u></b>	Deployment of broadband service to eligible rural communities. <b>Note:</b> The 2014 Farm Bill revised program provisions. An interim rule was published in Fiscal Year 2015.	Entities seeking to provide broadband services in rural areas.	Funds to construct, improve, and acquire facilities and equipment to provide broadband service in eligible rural communities.	Refer to the rule for specific definitions and population limits.	Minimum and maximum loan amounts published annually in the Federal Register.	Refer to the rule for loan terms and conditions.

## Rural Utilities Programs (Continued)

Program	Objective	Applicant	Uses	Population	Loan/Grant	Terms/Conditions
<b><u>Electric and Telecommunications Loans</u></b>	Help rural communities obtain affordable, high-quality electric and telecommunications services.	Nonprofit and cooperative associations, public bodies, and other utilities.	Generation, transmission facilities and distribution of electric power, including alternative, renewable, and energy efficiency programs. Enhance 911 emergency services, digital switching equipment, and fiber optic cable, along with traditional main system telecommunications service.	Electric: areas served by an existing rural electric borrower, or rural areas other than a city or town of more than 20,000. Telecommunications: areas with populations fewer than 5,000.	Direct loan or loan guarantee.	Interest rates established in accordance with 7 CFR 1714. Contact the Rural Utilities Service at <a href="http://rd.usda.gov">rd.usda.gov</a> or 1 (800) 670-6553.
<b><u>Energy Efficiency and Conservation Loan Program</u></b>	Finances energy efficiency and conservation projects for commercial, industrial, and residential consumers.	Existing electric loan borrowers (utilities) serving rural areas.	Improve energy efficiency for existing electric facilities; attract new business and create jobs; reduce fossil fuel use; improve energy efficiency measures for consumers; energy audits and more.	Rural areas and towns with populations up to 20,000. Eligible communities can be combined into larger service areas.	Loans.	Repayment period is 15 years unless geothermal ground-loop source investments or technology have a longer lifespan.
<b><u>Rural Energy Savings Program</u></b>	Helps rural families and small businesses achieve cost savings through loans to qualified consumers to implement durable, cost-effective energy efficiency measures.	Current and former RUS borrowers or their subsidiaries, and entities that meet retail electric service needs in rural areas.	Implement energy efficiency measures to decrease energy use or costs for rural families and small business.	Contact RUS to determine whether a project is in an eligible rural area.	Loans.	Up to 20 years at 0% interest; up to 3% interest for relending to qualified end-users/consumers for up to 10 years; up to 4% of the loan total may be used for startup costs.
<b><u>Distance Learning and Telemedicine</u></b>	Develop and deploy advanced telecommunication services throughout rural America to improve education and healthcare.	Incorporated entities including municipalities, for-profit, and nonprofit corporations that operate rural schools, libraries, healthcare clinics, and other educational or healthcare facilities.	To provide end-user equipment and programming that delivers distance learning and telemedicine services to eligible areas.	Rural areas outside incorporated or unincorporated cities with populations up to 20,000.	Grant.	Awards range from \$50,000 to \$500,000. A minimum of 15% in matching funds is required.
<b><u>Community Connect Grants</u></b>	Provide public access to broadband in otherwise unserved communities.	Public bodies, Federally-recognized Tribes, cooperatives, nonprofits, limited dividend or mutual associations, corporations, and other legally organized entities.	To build broadband infrastructure and establish a community center that offers free public access to broadband for 2 years.	A single community outside incorporated or unincorporated areas with populations fewer than 20,000 and without broadband access.	Grant.	Minimum: \$50,000; Maximum: \$1 million. Amounts are published in Notices of Funding Availability and may vary.

Electric and Telecom programs: Contact the Rural Utilities Service Administrator; Water programs: Contact the Rural Development State Office.  
CFR refers to Code of Federal Regulations.





## Rural Area Eligibility Criteria

By law, the definition of “eligible rural area” is different for each USDA Rural Development program. The statutory rural area eligibility criteria for most programs are complex. Additionally, the statute also may include exceptions that provide consideration for specific communities based on regional circumstances. The table on the opposite page offers a general overview of the basic rural area requirements for our major programs.

- **Use Our Eligibility Tool:** Our online tool at <https://eligibility.sc.egov.usda.gov> can help customers determine if they are in an eligible rural area and are otherwise qualified to apply.
- **Ask an Expert:** Before starting any application for assistance, we encourage customers to [contact USDA Rural Development](#)—and speak to a specialist—to learn more about rural area requirements and other eligibility criteria for the program.

## Rural Area Criteria

Program	No Rural Restrictions	For “Rural Areas”	For Up to 5,000 people	For Up to 10,000 People	For Up to 20,000 People	For Up to 35,000 People	For Up to 50,000 People
★ Farm Labor Housing Loans/Grants	◆						
■ Value-Added Producer Grants	◆						
■ Rural Energy for America Program Loan Guarantees/Grants <sup>1</sup>	◆						
■ Biorefinery, Renewable Chemical and Biobased Product Manufacturing Assistance Program	◆						
■ Repowering Assistance Program	◆						
■ Advanced Biofuel Payment Program	◆						
☆ Rural Energy Savings Program <sup>2</sup>		◆					
☆ Telecommunications Loans			◆				
☆ Water and Waste Disposal Loans/Grants				◆			
☆ Solid Waste Management Grants				◆			
☆ Technical Assistance and Training/Circuit Rider Grants				◆			
☆ Electric Loans					◆		
☆ Rural Broadband Access Loans/Loan Guarantees					◆		
☆ ReConnect Program					◆		
☆ Energy Efficiency and Conservation Loan Program					◆		
☆ Distance Learning and Telemedicine Grants					◆		
☆ Community Connect Grants					◆		
★ Community Facilities Direct Loans/Grants					◆		
★ Single-Family Housing Direct Loans (including Self-Help Loans)					◆	◆	
★ Single-Family Housing Loan Guarantees <sup>3</sup>					◆	◆	
★ Single-Family Housing Repair Loans/Grants <sup>3</sup>					◆	◆	
★ Self-Help Housing Technical Assistance Grants <sup>3</sup>					◆	◆	
★ Rural Rental Housing Direct Loans <sup>3</sup>					◆	◆	
★ Rural Rental Housing Loan Guarantees <sup>3</sup>					◆	◆	
★ Housing Preservation Grants <sup>3</sup>					◆	◆	
★ Rural Community Development Initiative							◆
★ Community Facilities Loan Guarantees							◆
■ Business and Industry Loan Guarantees							◆
■ Rural Business Development Grants							◆
■ Intermediary Relending Program							◆
■ Rural Microentrepreneur Assistance Program							◆
■ Rural Economic Development Loans/Grants							◆
■ Rural Cooperative Development Grants							◆
■ Socially-Disadvantaged Groups Grants							◆
■ Rural Energy for America Program Loan Guarantees/Grants <sup>4</sup>							◆
☆ Water and Waste Disposal Guaranteed Loans							◆

### Legend:

- ★ Housing/Community Facilities Programs
- Business/Cooperative Programs
- ☆ Utilities Programs

<sup>1</sup> For agricultural producers.

<sup>2</sup> [Contact RUS](#) for specifics.

<sup>3</sup> Primarily for populations up to 20,000; in special circumstances communities up to 35,000 may be eligible.

<sup>4</sup> For rural small businesses and REAP Audit/Development Grants.

## Rural Development Program Purposes

Rural Housing and Community Facilities Programs	Land & Buildings	Machinery & Equipment	Working Capital	Infrastructure	Technical Assistance/ Training
Single Family Housing Direct Loans (including Self-Help Loans)	◆				
Single Family Housing Loan Guarantees	◆				
Single Family Housing Repair Loans/Grants	◆				
Self-Help Housing Technical Assistance Grants					◆
Rural Rental Housing Direct Loans	◆			◆	
Rural Rental Housing Loan Guarantees	◆			◆	
Housing Preservation Grants	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆
Farm Labor Housing Loans/Grants	◆			◆	
Community Facilities Direct Loans, Loan Guarantees, Grants*	◆	◆	◆	◆	
Rural Community Development Initiative					◆
Rural Business and Cooperative Programs					
Business and Industry Loan Guarantees	◆	◆	◆	◆	
Rural Business Development Grants	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆
Intermediary Relending Program Loans	◆	◆	◆		
Rural Microentrepreneur Assistance Program	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆
Rural Economic Development Loans and Grants	◆	◆	◆	◆	◆
Rural Cooperative Development Grants				◆	◆
Socially-Disadvantaged Groups Grants					◆
Value-Added Producer Grant			◆	◆	◆
Rural Energy for America Program Loan Guarantees/Grants	◆	◆		◆	◆
Biorefinery, Renewable Chemical, and Biobased Product Manufacturing Assistance Program Loan Guarantees					
Repowering Assistance Program					
Advanced Biofuel Payment Program					
Rural Utilities Programs					
Water and Waste Disposal Direct Loans, Loan Guarantees, Grants	◆	◆		◆	
Solid Waste Management Grants					◆
Technical Assistance/Training/Circuit Rider					◆
ReConnect Program	◆	◆		◆	◆
Rural Broadband Direct Loans and Loan Guarantees	◆			◆	
Electric and Telecommunications Direct Loans/Loan Guarantees	◆	◆		◆	
Energy Efficiency and Conservation Loan Program	◆	◆		◆	
Rural Energy Savings Program	◆	◆		◆	
Distance Learning and Telemedicine Loans/Grants		◆		◆	
Community Connect Grants	◆	◆	◆	◆	

\*Initial operating expenses are eligible in conjunction with the financing of an eligible community facility project. However, grant funds may not be used to fund initial operating expenses.



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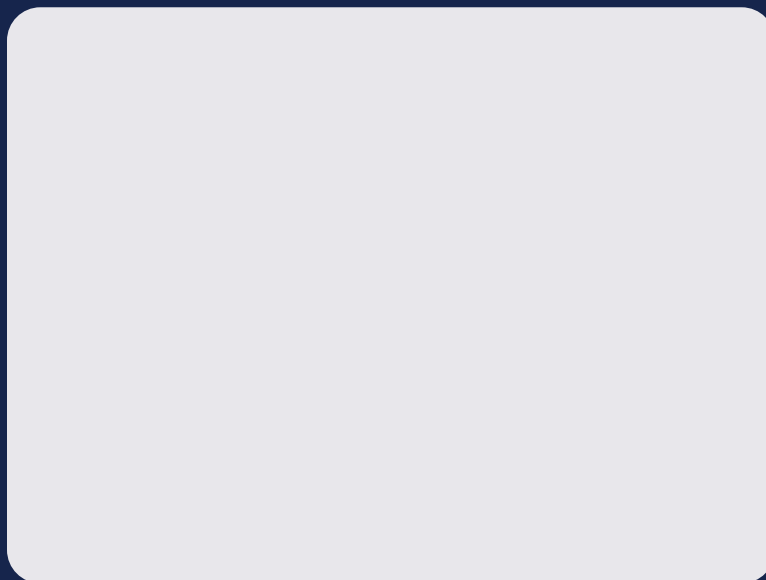
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The **Contact Us** menu tab has office addresses and phone numbers,  
or use our toll-free number at **1 (800) 670-6553** to be connected.



# Thank you!

## Interagency Working Group on Coal and Power Plant Communities and Economic Revitalization



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