



Energy & Environment Innovation Plan



EEI PLANNING EFFORTS

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PRIORITIES & PRINCIPALS

03 | ONGOING PLANNING
EFFORTS

ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT INNOVATION (EEI) PLANNING

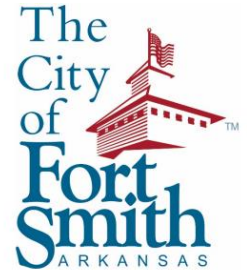


Enabling access to and enhancing Arkansas's competitiveness for federal funding for energy and environment infrastructure and practices that reduce emissions of greenhouse gases (GHGs) and other pollutants

- ✓ **PRIORITY ACTION PLAN (DUE 3/1/2024) "EEI PLAN"**
Application ready incentive program and project concepts to compete for \$4.6 billion in competitive implementation grants
- ✓ **COMPREHENSIVE ACTION PLAN (DUE 7/5/2025)**
Comprehensive roadmap of state priorities for low and zero- emissions energy and environmental infrastructure investments
- ✓ **STATUS UPDATE (DUE 7/5/2027)**
Update on implementation and future needs

EPA PLANNING GRANTS -- ARKANSAS EEI PLAN

- ✔ EPA awarded \$250 million in formula grants to states, tribes, and local governments under its Climate Pollution Reduction Grants (CPRG) Program.
- ✔ Using funds to develop plans for reduction of greenhouse gas (GHG) and other pollutant emissions



BIG \$\$\$ to follow . . .

BIG OPPORTUNITIES for Arkansas!

IMPLEMENTATION GRANTS

- ✔ EPA will award **\$4.6 billion in competitive grants** for measures developed under the CPRG planning grant.
- ✔ EPA anticipates awarding individual grants **between \$2 million and \$500 million**, with funding tiers allowing comparably sized projects to compete against one another.
- ✔ Implementation grant guidance released September 20, 2023 with **applications due April 1, 2024**. Submission of CPRG **priority plan is prerequisite** to application for implementation grants.

IMPLEMENTATION GRANTS CONT'D

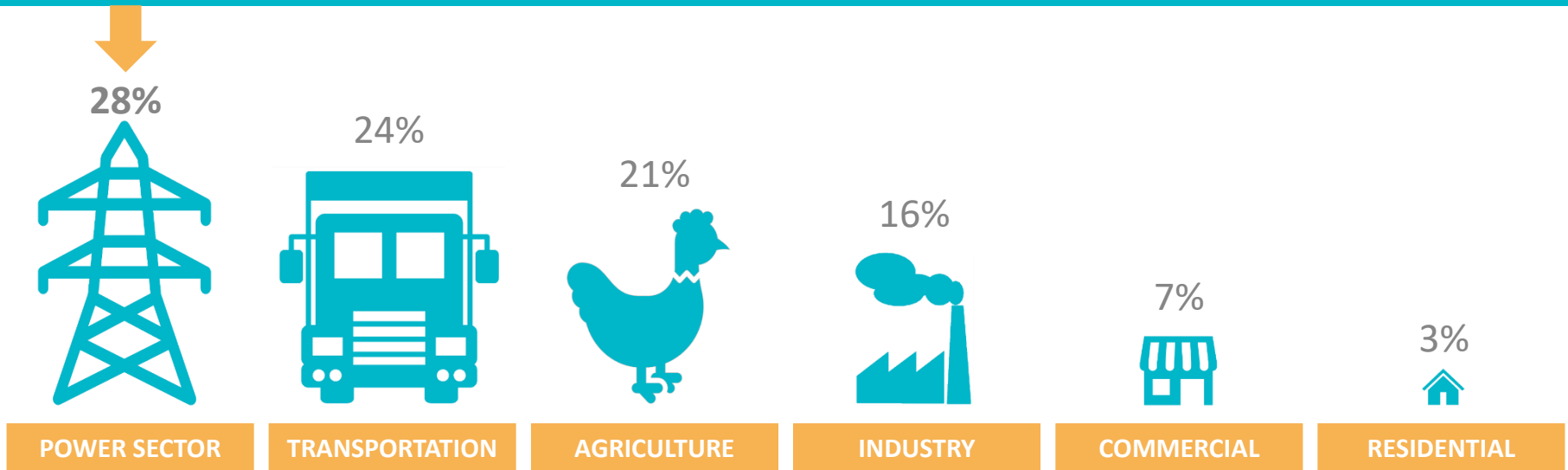
- ✓ Anticipated period of performance: October 1, 2024 – September 30, 2029
- ✓ No cost-share (matching funds) required!

ELIGIBLE ENTITIES (PROJECTS MUST BE IN THE EEI PLAN!)

- ✓ State Agencies
- ✓ Local Government Agencies (cities, counties, metropolitan planning organizations, councils of government, regional organizations comprised of multiple municipalities)
- ✓ Tribal Governments
- ✓ Coalitions of eligible entities cooperating at a regional scale

ARKANSAS GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS

- ✔ The power sector is currently the largest contributor to GHG Emissions in Arkansas
- ✔ Carbon dioxide makes up 70% of Arkansas GHG emissions, followed by methane (19%) , nitrous oxides (10%), and fluorinated gases (3%)



OPPORTUNITIES FOR INNOVATION



LOW- AND
ZERO-EMISSION
ENERGY

BENEFICIAL
ELECTRIFICATION



EFFICIENCY
AND WASTE
MINIMIZATION

CAPTURE &
SEQUESTER



Arkansas Investment Priorities



Facilitating Statewide Economic Growth and Competitiveness

Growing and expanding the economy within Arkansas by increasing access to economic opportunities for communities, advancing **transportation** and **commerce**, and maintaining a **resilient supply chain**.



Keeping Communities Safe

Improving public and **transportation safety** provisions through promoting road and highway **safety education** and training programs, strengthening **cybersecurity** infrastructure, and making safety improvements to roads and bridges.



Preparing the Infrastructure Workforce

Scaling up the workforce needed for project delivery, promoting access to **quality jobs**, and developing a pipeline of **talent** across the state.



Preservation and Promotion of The Natural State

Celebrating the State's natural resources to develop, create, and sustain **outdoor recreation**, **business**, and **employment** opportunities through ecology initiatives, environmental **resiliency** projects, and **proper water** management practices.



Creating a Portfolio of Reliable, Efficient, and Secure Energy Options

Expanding affordable and **efficient energy** options available to Arkansans through resource development while maintaining a strong **energy workforce** and **secure** electric power grid that can withstand emergencies and severe weather.

Arkansas Core Investment Principles

- 1** ***MAXIMIZING REACH*** – Prioritizing opportunities that generate significant impact for many Arkansans
- 2** ***FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY*** – Evaluating programs based on match requirements, financial sustainability, and the frequency of recurring costs
- 3** ***IMPROVING CORE SERVICES*** – Improving quality of life by enhancing access to essential infrastructure (e.g., Water, Education, Public Safety, Electricity, Public Transportation)
- 4** ***EXPANDING ACCESS AND CONNECTIVITY*** – Investing to strengthen transportation and digital networks, linking communities throughout the state
- 5** ***DRIVING RURAL IMPACT*** – Expanding the availability and quality of infrastructure in rural communities to support economic development and jobs

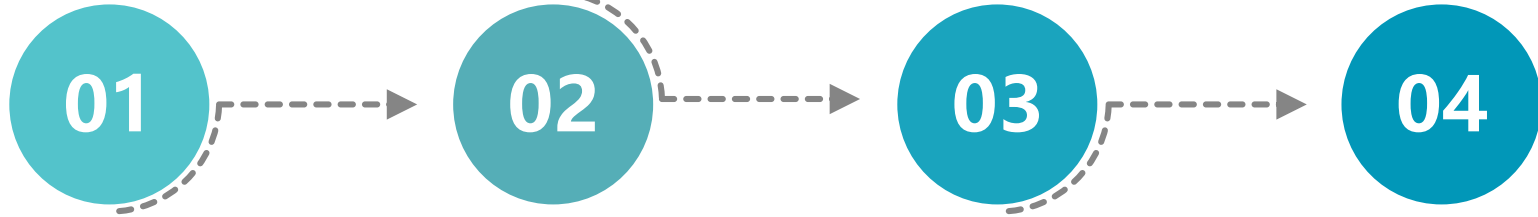
EEI PLAN COMPONENTS



Evaluation Criteria for CPRG Implementation Grants (*total = 250 pts*)

Overall Project Summary and Approach	Impact of GHG Reduction Measures	Environmental Results – Outputs, Outcomes, and Performance Measures	Low-Income and Disadvantaged Communities	Job quality	Programmatic Capability and Past Performance	Budget and Timely Expenditure of Grant Funds
Description of GHG Reduction Measures (20 pts)	Magnitude of GHG Reductions, 2025 - 2030 (20 pts)	Expected Outputs and Outcomes (10 pts)	Community Benefits (25 pts)		Past Performance (10 pts)	Budget Detail (20 pts)
Demonstration of Funding Need (10 pts)	Magnitude of GHG Reductions 2025 - 2050 (10 pts)	Performance Measures and Plan (10 pts)	Community Engagement (10 pts)		Reporting Requirements (10 pts)	Expenditure of Awarded Funds (15 pts)
Transformative Impact (15 pts)	Cost Effectiveness of GHG Reductions (15 pts)	Authorities, Implementation Timeline, and Milestones (10 pts)			Staff Expertise (10 pts)	Reasonableness of Cost (10 pts)
	Documentation of GHG Reduction Assumptions (15 pts)					
45 pts	60 pts	30 pts	35 pts	5 pts	30 pts	45 pts

THE NEXT 6 MONTHS



OUTREACH

Stakeholder and
Community
Meetings, Survey,
Idea Box

September – December 2023

PLAN DESIGN

Design of model
incentive program
designs and project
concepts, benefits
analysis

FINALIZE EEI PLAN

Receive feedback,
finalize plan,
submit to EPA

DUE March 1, 2024

APPLY FOR GRANTS

State and local
agencies apply for
implementation
grants

DUE April 1, 2024

Energy & Environment Innovation Plan



Industrial Sector Workshop & Community Feedback Meeting

DETAILS

Date and Time: November 28, 2023
12:00 pm – 5:00 pm
5:00 pm – 8:00 pm

Location: Arkansas Northeastern College
Blytheville, AR

Virtual Option: <https://tinyurl.com/EEI-Plan-Indust-Zoom>



KEEP IN TOUCH



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@AREnergyEnvironment

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!



SURVEY

Help us understand
your community's
priorities.

Scan the QR code to
complete the survey.



IDEA BOX

Do you have a
specific project
or program
design concept?

Scan the QR code to
submit your idea.