

## STAKEHOLDER ANNOUNCEMENT

### **USDA to Partner with Energy Providers to Lower Costs for People in Rural Areas**

**WASHINGTON, Sept. 1, 2023** – U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) today announced that USDA is seeking applications from energy providers to lower costs for people in rural areas. The grants will help providers offset costs for people whose household energy expenses total 275% of the national average or higher.

USDA is making the funding available through the Rural Utilities Service's [High Energy Cost Grant](#) program.

The program helps state and local governments, federally recognized Tribes and nonprofit agencies acquire, construct, extend, upgrade or otherwise improve energy generation, transmission or distribution facilities.

Grants may also be used to install on-grid and off-grid renewable energy systems and to make energy efficiency improvements.

USDA expects to award up to \$10 million for Fiscal Year 2024.

Paper applications must be postmarked and mailed, shipped or sent overnight no later than October 31, 2023.

Electronic applications must be submitted to [Grants.gov](#) by midnight Eastern Time on October 31, 2023.

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