

STAKEHOLDER ANNOUNCEMENT

USDA Seeks Applications for Grants to Offset High Energy Costs in Rural Areas

WASHINGTON, May 5, 2021 – U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Deputy Under Secretary for Rural Development Justin Maxson today announced that USDA is seeking applications for grants to offset high energy costs in rural areas.

USDA is making the funding available through the [High Energy Cost Grant](#) program. This program helps state and local governments 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.

Eligible projects must be in communities where the average residential home energy expenditure is at least 275 percent of the national average. USDA expects to award up to \$10 million for Fiscal Year 2021.

Paper applications must be postmarked and mailed, shipped or sent overnight no later than July 6, 2021.

Electronic applications must be submitted to grants.gov by midnight Eastern Standard Time on July 6, 2021.

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