

STAKEHOLDER ANNOUNCEMENT

USDA Extends Application Deadline to Nov. 7 for High Energy Cost Grants

WASHINGTON, Oct. 24, 2023 – U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) today announced that USDA is extending the application deadline to Nov. 7, 2023, for the <u>High Energy Cost Grants</u> program. The original deadline was Oct. 31.

In September 2023, USDA announced it was 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.

The High Energy Cost Grants 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 November 7, 2023.

Electronic applications must be submitted to <u>Grants.gov</u> by midnight Eastern Time on November 7, 2023.

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