Higher Blends Infrastructure Incentive Program (HBIIP)
Orientation and Enrollment

May 12, 2020
Welcome
Mark Brodziski
Opening Remarks
Bette Brand
Mark Brodziski
HBIIP Orientation and Enrollment

Agenda

• Opening Remarks
• Webinar housekeeping
• Orientation
• Enrollment
• Important Dates
• Questions
Overview

Higher Blends Infrastructure Incentive Program (HBIIP)

**What does this program do?**

The purpose of the HBIIP is to *increase significantly* the sales and use of higher blends of ethanol and biodiesel, by *expanding the infrastructure* for renewable fuels derived from U.S. agricultural products.

**Who may apply?**

Owners of –

**Transportation fueling facilities:**

Fueling stations, convenience stores, hypermarket fueling stations, fleet facilities, and similar entities with capital investments;

**Fuel distribution facilities:**

Terminal operations, depots, midstream partners, and similarly equivalent operations.
What funding is available?

Up to $100 million is available to eligible participants/owners:

• Approximately $86 million is available to transportation fueling facilities, for activities related to higher blends of fuel ethanol; **greater than 10 percent ethanol**, including E15 and E85.

• Approximately $14 million is available to transportation fueling facilities and biodiesel distribution facilities, for activities related to higher blends of biodiesel; **greater than 5 percent biodiesel**, including B20 or higher.
What are the terms?

Grants for up to, 50 percent of total eligible project costs, but not to exceed $5 million, whichever is less.

How must funds be used?

Funds made available under HBIIP may only be used for eligible equipment, infrastructure and related expenses to support the sales and use of higher biofuel blends.
Eligible Project Costs:

- Incurred during **Grant Period**;
- Purchase, installation, and/or retrofitting of fuel dispensers related equipment and infrastructure to support HB fuel sales;
- Construction, replacement, improvements;
- Fees – construction permits, and licenses;
- Professional service fees.

Grant Period

The period that extends from the *effective date* – the Execution of the Grant Agreement, through the *expiration date*.

The HBIIP **Grant Period** is not to exceed 18-months, unless otherwise specified in the Grant Agreement or agreed to by the Agency.
Grant Period
The Grant Period begins with Execution of the Grant Agreement.

The Grant Period is not to exceed 18-months, unless otherwise specified in the Grant Agreement or agreed to by the Agency.

When can I start ordering equipment and scheduling contractors?

Now! But remember,

*costs incurred prior to Execution of the Grant Agreement are not eligible project costs.*

Award Announcements, Obligations, Grant Executions are expected to begin in September.
Matching Funds

There is a **Matching Funds** (cost sharing) requirement of at least $1 for every $1 in grant funds provided.

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<th>Cash</th>
<th>In-kind value</th>
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### Matching Funds:
- Required to receive HBIIP grant
- Secured by applicant
- Remainder – All eligible project costs not covered by Grant funds
- Consist of **CASH** and In-kind contributions
- No in-kind from applicants
- Must have written commitments – Bank statements for cash, Letters of Commitment for in-kind
- Not from Other Federal grants
- Passive tax equity contributions allowed

- Arrangements with private entities
- Commercial vendors of fuels
- Agricultural commodity/renewable fuel promotional organizations
- State-led programs and private sector efforts
Targeted Assistance Goal

A Targeted Assistance Goal is established for applicants owning the fewest number of transportation fueling stations (and owning at least one).

40 percent of funds are available, For activities/investments involving transportation fueling facilities.

The Agency expects this Targeted Assistance to be exhausted by applicants owning 10 fueling stations/locations or fewer.
A **Consideration for Geographical Diversity** is afforded to

- Interstate Corridor
- Sole Station
- Western States
- New England States

Transportation fueling station owners based on the location of the proposed facilities.
Number of Awards

- The number of awards will depend on the number of eligible participants and the total amount of requested funds.
- In the unlikely event that every successful applicant is awarded the maximum amount available of $5 million, 20 awards will be made.
- We intend to make approximately 150 awards and provide assistance to 1,500 locations from this solicitation.
Sounds great!
How do we get started?

1) [https://rd.usda.gov/hbiip](https://rd.usda.gov/hbiip); Click the “Overview” button;
2) Click the “To Apply” tab;
3) Open the Checklist.
To Apply
Application Checklist

Important Documents

• [Checklist for Online Application System](#)
• HBIIP Online Access Request
• HBIIP Online Application Instructions and Users Guide (Available Soon)
  • [Single Point of Contact List for Executive Order 12372 requirements](#) (sec: 7.3.1.)
  • [Dispensers and Fueling Equipment Reference Guide](#) (sec: 7.5.6. and 7.5.7.)
  • [HBIIP Project Technical Report Guide](#) (sec: 7.8)
  • [Environmental Review Documents Guide](#) (sec: 7.8)
  • [Matching Funds Verification/Certification Guide](#) (sec: 7.7.2 and 7.8)
  • [SF 424 D Assurances - Construction Programs](#) (sec: 7.8)
HBIIP Enrollment

• USDA E-Authentication, SAM CAGE code, DUNS/UEI, TIN

• Requesting access to the Online Application System

• Obtaining access to the Online Application System
HBIIP Enrollment

• A Dun and Bradstreet Universal Numbering System (DUNS)/Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) number can be obtained at no cost via a toll-free request line at 1–866–705–5711 or online at http://fedgov.dnb.com/webform.

• Register the DUNS/UEI# at www.sam.gov. Include the CAGE code & expiration date.

To Apply
HBIIP Online Access Request

Important Documents

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  o HBIIP Project Technical Report Guide (sec: 7.8)
  o Environmental Review Documents Guide (sec: 7.8)
  o Matching Funds Verification/Certification Guide (sec: 7.7.2 and 7.8)
  o SF 424 D Assurances - Construction Programs (sec: 7.8)
Request to Participate

- Select: Create both Company Account and User Account.
- Company’s Legal Name
- Company TIN
- DUNS/UEI Number
- SAM CAGE code

**Applicant Type (Select One):**
- Owner of 10 fueling stations or fewer
- Owner of greater than 10 fueling stations
- Fleet facility
- Fuel Distribution Facility
To request access to *HBIIP Online Application System*:

1. Send an Email attached with a **completed and encrypted** *HBIIP Online Access Request* to, [HigherBlendsGrants-access@usda.gov](mailto:HigherBlendsGrants-access@usda.gov)

Please allow at least 2 business days to process your request.
Request to Participate

To request access to *HBIIP Online Application System*:

1. Send an Email attached with a **completed and encrypted** **HBIIP Online Access Request** to, [HigherBlendsGrants-access@usda.gov](mailto:HigherBlendsGrants-access@usda.gov)  
   Please allow at least 2 business days to process your request.

2. Send second email immediately with encryption password
Obtaining access to the Online Application System

- Upon approval, a Company’s authorized/rightful users will each receive an email from, RD.AdminAppsSupport@usda.gov with,

A URL and instructions to access the system.

Copy the URL and paste it into the address bar of a Google Chrome internet browser and hit enter.

Bookmark the URL for future use.
May 15, 2020

- The HBIIP Online Application System (OAS) is scheduled for delivery Friday, May 15, 2020, at which time;

- A Solicitation of Applications to announce officially the beginning and ending dates of the 90-day HBIIP application window will be published in the Federal Register.
To Apply

HBIIP Online Application Instructions and Users Guide

Important Documents

• Checklist for Online Application System
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• HBIIP Online Application Instructions and Users Guide (Available Soon)
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Open the HBIIP Users Guide

Higher Blends Infrastructure Incentive Program (HBIIP)

Online Grant Application Instruction Guide

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Office of the Chief Information Officer
United States Department of Agriculture
Rural Development Business Center
Washington, D.C.

5/15/2020
1.0
Plan your work. Work your plan!

The average time to complete the HBIIP application is estimated at 78 hours; much less of course for “Owners of 10 stations or fewer.”

You may also begin reviewing/completing these necessary application elements while you await access:

- Single Point of Contact List for Executive Order 12372 requirements (7.3.1.)
- Dispensers and Fueling Equipment Reference Guide (7.5.6. and 7.5.7.)
- HBIIP Project Technical Report Guide (7.8)
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Important Dates

What’s Next?
What’s next?

• Accept Enrollment Requests, 5/13/20
• HBIIP Application Window Opens, 5/15/20 (anticipated);
  • HBIIP Online Application System Goes Live!

• Training Webinars – See Events tab
  • Fueling Station and Fleet Facility Emphasis, Tuesday, 5/19/20, 2pm EDT
  • Fuel Distribution Facility Emphasis, Tuesday, 5/26/20, 2pm EDT
  • HBIIP Applicants and Stakeholders Check in, Tuesday, 6/2/20, 2pm EDT
  • Topics TBD, Tuesday, TBD, 2pm EDT

• HBIIP Application Window Closes, 8/12/20 (on or about), 11:59pm EDT;
  • HBIIP Applications No Longer Accepted; Submit button unavailable.
What’s next?  
Application Processing

August:
• Agency Review for Eligibility and Completeness
• Evaluation Panel and Competition

September:
• Selection, Written Communication to All Participants
• Public Announcement of Awards/Obligation
• Grant Agreement/Contracts Execution
• Project Executions
Questions

Kelly Bogle
Thank you!

Anthony Crooks
EnergyPrograms@usda.gov
202-205-9322

A recording of this Webinar, “HBIIP Orientation and Enrollment” with Q&A Document is available,

https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/higher-blends-infrastructure-incentive-program

Click the Events tab
Important Milestones

• **April 2017** – President Trump established *Interagency Task Force on Agriculture and Rural Prosperity*

• **January 2018** – Secretary Perdue presented the Task Force’s findings to President Trump; 31 recommendations including “increasing investments in innovative tools such as renewable fuels.”

• **January 2020** – The USDA requests public input to help with the creation of the *Higher Blends Infrastructure Incentive Program (HBIIP)*

• **February 2020** – Secretary Perdue announces *New Innovation Initiative* and his intentions to make available *$100 million in competitive grants* for infrastructure projects to facilitate increased sales of higher biofuel blends through the Higher Blends Infrastructure Incentive Program (HBIIP).

• **Also Feb. 2020** – USDA convenes a Federal Interagency Task Force of experts.

• **May 5, 2020** – USDA publishes *Notice of Funds Availability* for the Higher Blends Infrastructure Incentive Program (HBIIP) for Fiscal Year 2020.

• **May (forthcoming)** -- *Solicitation of Applications* for the Higher Blends Infrastructure Incentive Program (HBIIP) for Fiscal Year 2020.