

Climate Pollution Reduction Grant:

Developing Plans to Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions in Nebraska

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Nebraska Power Summit
5 October 2023



What are Greenhouse Gases?

Greenhouse gases absorb infrared radiation, trapping heat in the atmosphere and making the planet warmer. While some greenhouse gases are emitted by natural processes, the large majority of greenhouse gas emissions result from human activities.



Greenhouse gases include:

- carbon dioxide (CO₂) – fossil fuel combustion
- methane (CH₄) – landfills, oil & gas operations, manure, cattle
- nitrous oxide (N₂O) – fossil fuel combustion, nitrogen fertilizers
- other industrial gases containing fluorine

EPA Climate Pollution Reduction Grant (CPRG) Program


PHASE 1: Planning

Nebraska has received a \$3 million non-competitive planning grant to develop climate pollution reduction strategies.

(The City of Omaha has a separate \$1 million planning grant.)

PHASE 2: Implementation

\$4.6 billion available nationwide for competitive grants to implement planned measures. Open to all state agencies, municipalities and other government entities, and tribes in Nebraska.




Coordination and Outreach

As the lead agency for Nebraska, NDEE is required to:

- coordinate with other state agencies and governments in the planning and
- conduct extensive public and stakeholder outreach.

NDEE will work with stakeholders to identify voluntary actions and incentive programs to reduce GHG emissions. These programs can be funded through the Climate Pollution Reduction Grant Program and other federal grant programs.



Planning will consider key economic sectors:

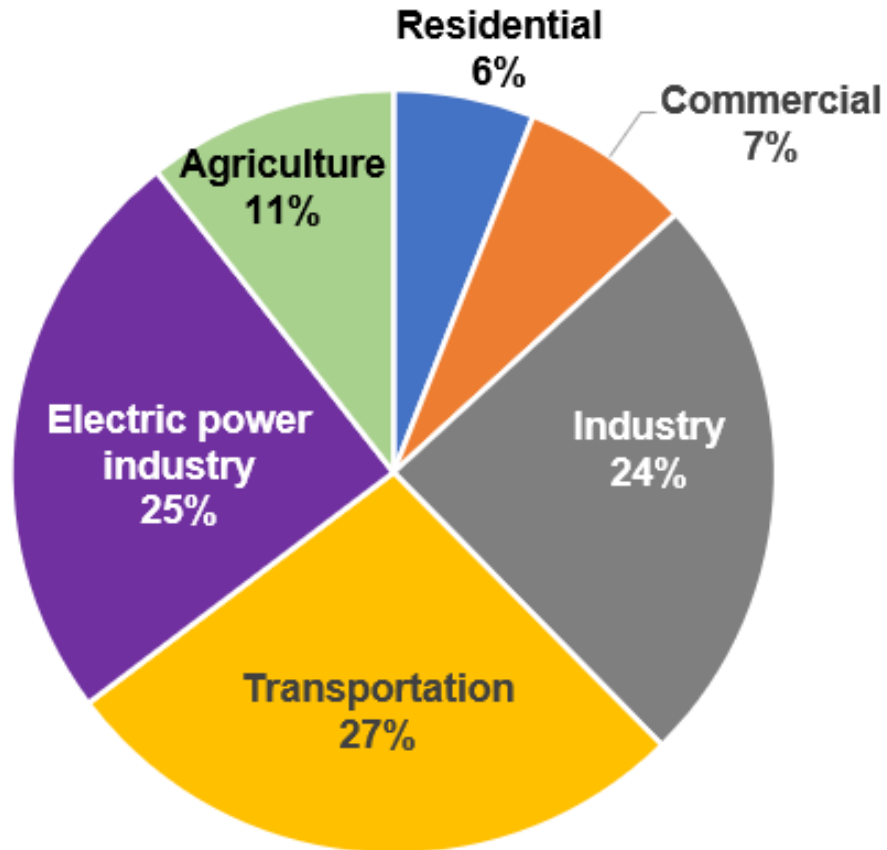


KEY SECTORS

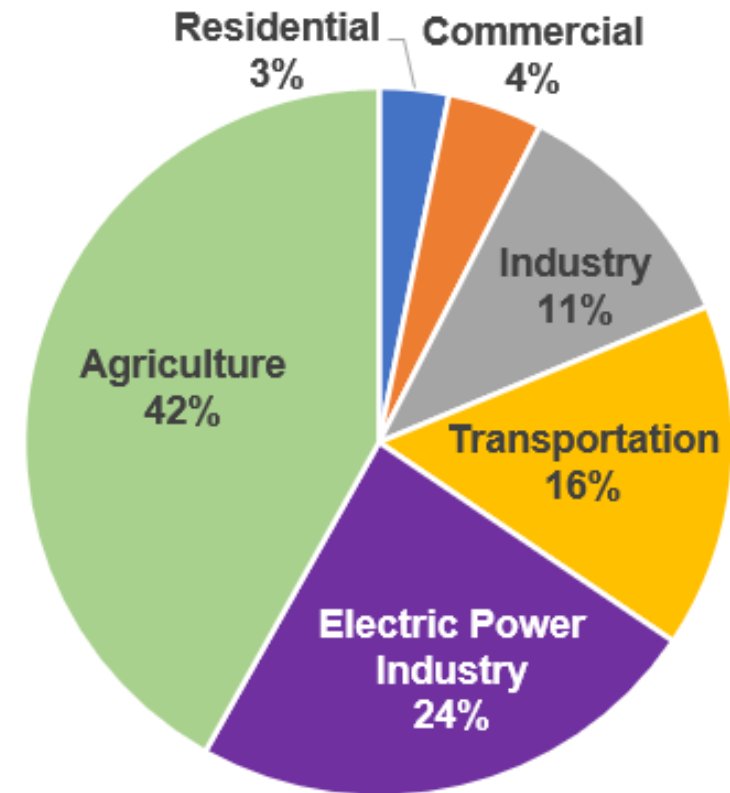


EPA GHG Emission Inventories by Sector, 2020

National




Nebraska



Planning Grant Deliverables:

1. A *Priority Climate Action Plan* (PCAP), due March 1, 2024
2. A *Comprehensive Climate Action Plan* (CCAP) due in August 2025
3. A *Status Report* due at the close of the 4-year grant program.


Governmental entities in Nebraska may submit applications for CPRG implementation grants by April 1, 2024 to fund GHG reduction measures covered by the PCAP.



Priority Climate Action Plan (PCAP – Mar. 1, 2024):

Propose high-priority, implementation-ready, near-term measures to reduced greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in one or more sectors.

Requirements:

- A GHG inventory (may use EPA state-level inventory)
 - Quantified GHG reduction measures
 - Analysis of benefits to low-income and disadvantaged communities
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Identifying Nebraska Underserved Communities

Federal agencies have created online tools that states can use to identify low-income and disadvantaged (underserved) communities:

- White House Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool
- EPA Environmental Justice Screening Tool

In addition to income, these tools estimate the burden communities experience from a number of social, economic, health, and environmental factors:

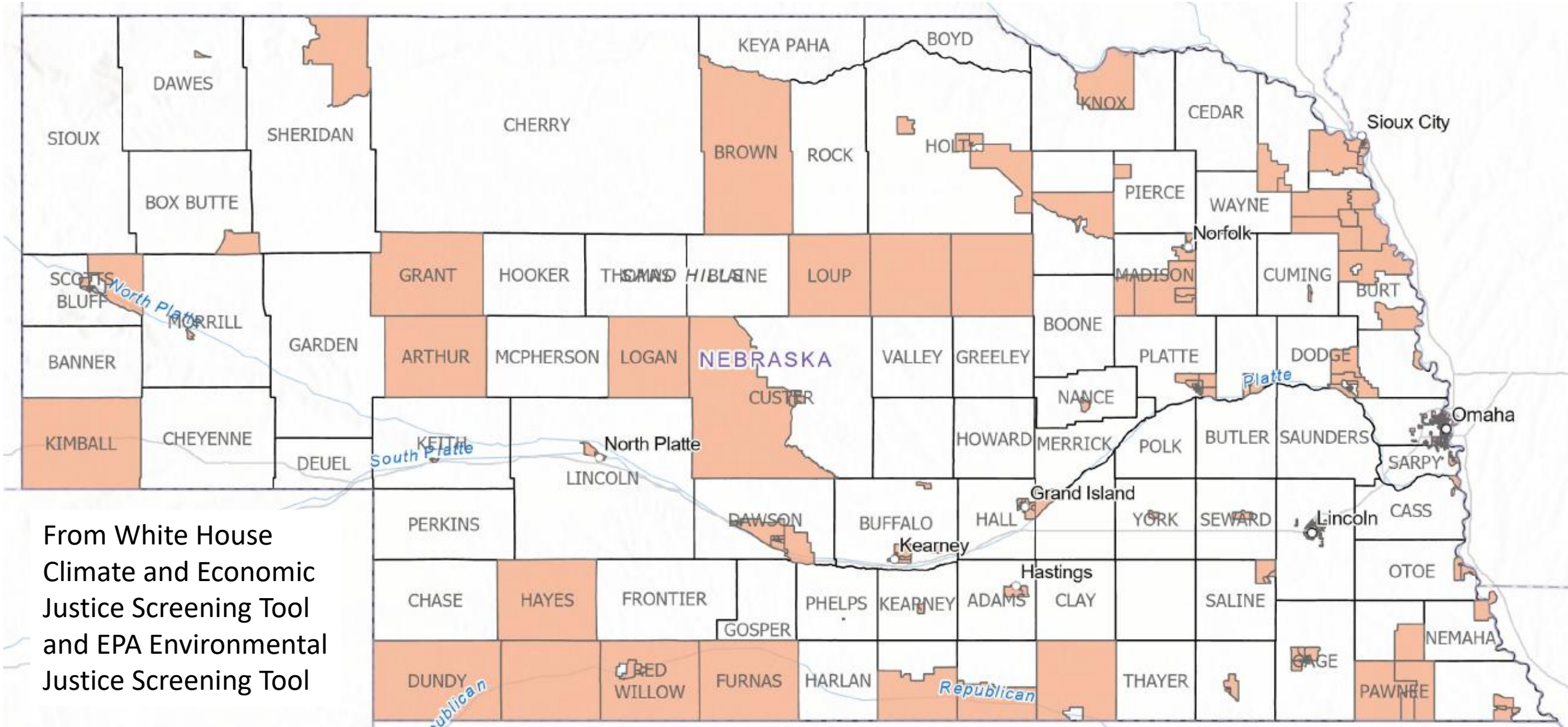
- Climate change
- Health
- Transportation
- Exposure to a variety of pollutants
- Energy
- Housing
- Workforce development

Low-income census areas that exceed thresholds in any of these factors are considered to be disadvantaged.

Lands of Federally Recognized Tribes are also considered disadvantaged.

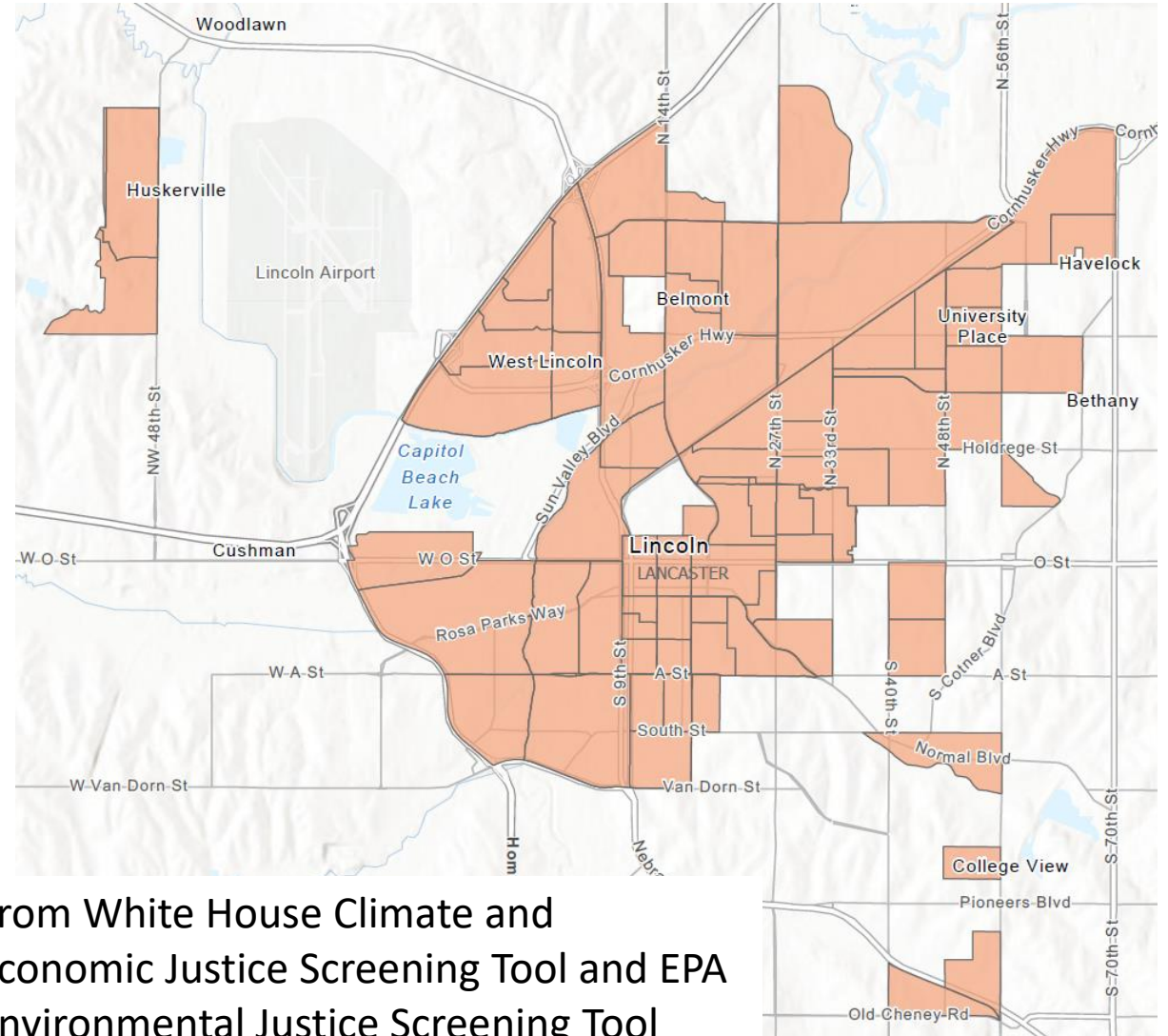
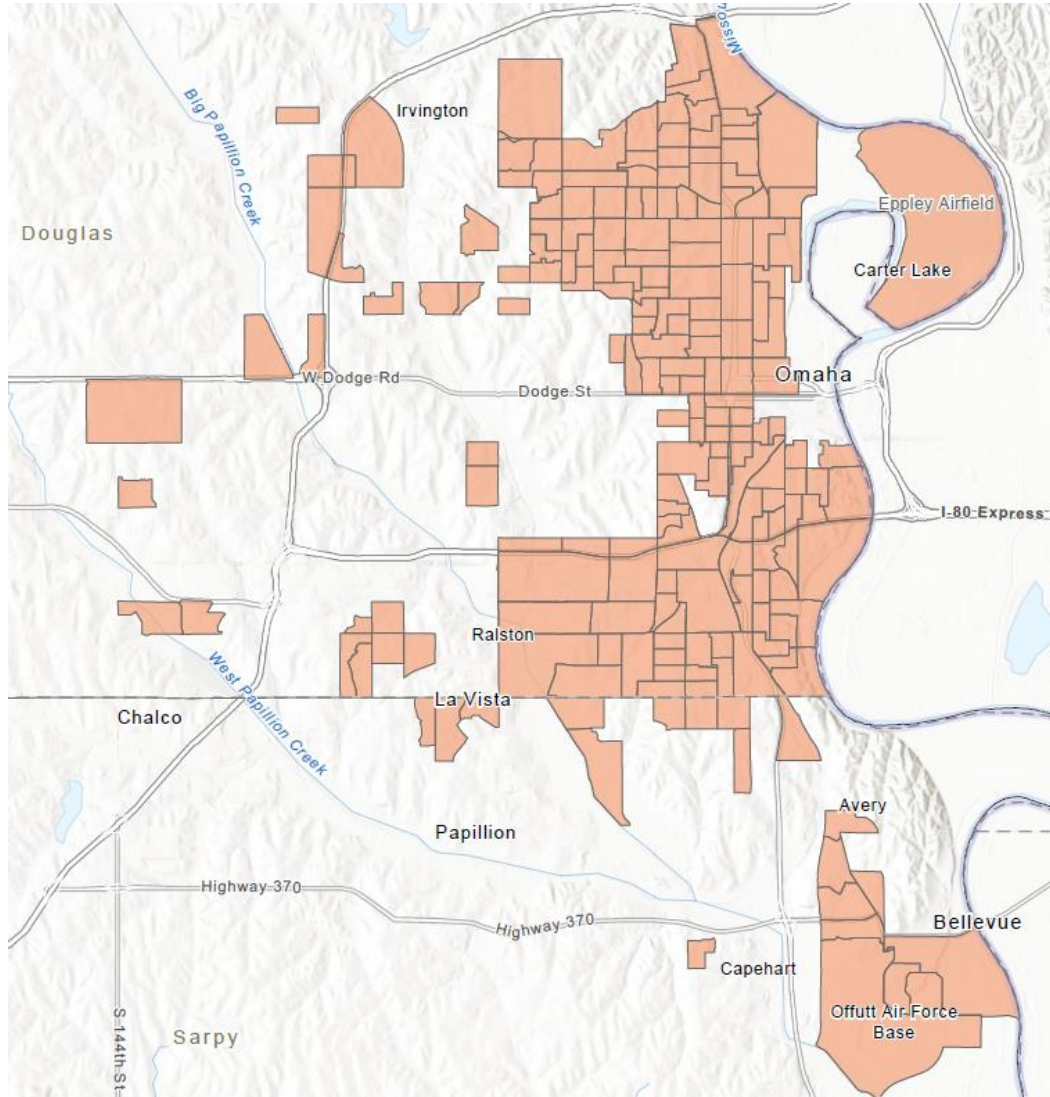


Nebraska Underserved Community Areas



From White House
Climate and Economic
Justice Screening Tool
and EPA Environmental
Justice Screening Tool

Omaha and Lincoln Underserved Census Tracts




From White House Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool and EPA Environmental Justice Screening Tool

Comprehensive Climate Action Plan (CCAP – Aug. 2025):


Consider all significant GHG sources and sectors in the state, establish near-term and long-term emission reduction goals, and identify appropriate strategies and measures.

Requirements:

- A GHG inventory (may use EPA state-level inventory)
 - GHG emissions projections
 - Quantified GHG reduction measures
 - Analysis of benefits for the full area and population
 - Analysis of benefits to low-income and disadvantaged communities
 - Workforce planning analysis & plan to leverage other federal funding
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Starting Points for Stakeholder Discussions

NDEE will be hosting discussions with stakeholder working groups to identify practical, voluntary GHG emission reduction measures that could become part of Nebraska's plans.

- The next series of slides present some potential measures for the different sectors.
 - These are intended as examples to serve as starting points for further discussion.
 - We invite stakeholders and the public to comment and/or expand on these and to propose additional measures.
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Agriculture/Natural and Working Lands: Policy & Program Examples



Provide incentives to producers to implement soil health practices (no-till, cover crops, nutrient management) that regenerate soils, store carbon, increase crop production, and reduce fertilizer use.



Promote climate-smart livestock management practices: feed mixes/additives, alternative manure management, and managed grazing.



Provide incentives to convert irrigation wells from diesel to electric.



Provide incentives for anaerobic digesters to reduce manure and ag waste and produce biogas.

Transportation: Policy & Program Examples



Provide incentives to public fleets for purchase of electric vehicles.



Encourage replacing diesel school buses with electric or low-emission buses (EPA Clean School Bus Program).



Provide incentives for electrification of municipal transit services (DOT Low/No Emission Bus Program).



Expand regional electric vehicle charging (NDOT – NEVI Program).

Clean and Renewable Electricity Generation: Policy & Program Examples



Funding to low-income and disadvantaged communities for residential solar installation (Solar for All Grant).



Incentive program for community solar projects on contaminated lands.



Incentive program for solar canopies on parking lots & cattle feed lots.



Reducing Demand with Energy Efficiency: Policy & Program Examples



Funding to utilities to expand energy efficiency incentives for residential and commercial customers.



Buildings / Housing / Communities Policy & Program Examples



Rebates for high-efficiency heat pumps and home appliances/equipment for single-family and multifamily households (HOMES/HEEHRA grants).



Funding for repairs/upgrades needed for eligibility for weatherization and other efficiency upgrades.



Create financing mechanisms for efficiency upgrades for tenants and property owners (in collaboration with NIFA).



Funding for urban and rural communities to plant well-adapted replacement tree species to decrease energy use, reduce heat-island effects, and store CO₂.

Competitive Implementation Grants

Competitive Implementation Grants will be available to fund measures proposed in Priority Climate Action Plans.

- \$4.3 billion pool open to government entities in states and MSA's covered by PCAPs
- \$300 million available to tribes and territories with PCAPs

For the state & MSA funding, EPA anticipates awarding a total of 30 to 115 grants. Awards will range between \$2 million and \$500 million.

Applications will be evaluated for benefits to low-income and disadvantaged communities.

Application deadline: April 1, 2024. Selection Notification: July 2024

Awards: October 2024



Competitive Implementation Grants


EPA expects to award grants within five tiers based on the amount of funds requested. Applications will be evaluated against other applications within the same tier.

Tier	Grant Ranges	Funds Targeted per Tier	Anticipated Number of Grants Awarded
Tier A	\$200,000,000 - \$500,000,000	\$2 billion	4-10
Tier B	\$100,000,000 - \$199,999,999	\$1.3 billion	6-13
Tier C	\$50,000,000 – \$99,999,999	\$600 million	6-12
Tier D	\$10,000,000 - \$49,999,999	\$300 million	6-30
Tier E	\$2,000,000 - \$9,999,999	\$100 million	10-50

Join a Stakeholder Workgroup

Stakeholder workgroups will begin meeting in the next few weeks.

Contact NDEE to join one of these workgroups:

- Agriculture / Natural and Working Lands
 - Energy Production
 - Transportation
 - Buildings, Housing, and Communities
 - Energy-Intensive Industries / Waste Management
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Resources

NDEE CPRG webpage with the planning grant workplan:

<http://dee.ne.gov/ndeqprog.nsf/onweb/cprg>

Join the Climate Pollution Reduction Listserv:

Instructions are provided on the CPRG webpage.

Submit written comments:

Nebraska Department of Environment and Energy

Attn: Randy Smith – Waste and Air Grants Section

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