



renewables
program

zero emission vehicle innovation fund

background:

The Bonneville Environmental Foundation (BEF) works to eliminate the barriers to widespread renewable energy adoption. Our renewable energy work is focused in the Pacific Northwest states of Washington, Oregon, Idaho, and western Montana.

As a part of this work, BEF seeks to support the development of and access to zero emission vehicles (ZEV) within utility territories served by Bonneville Power Administration (BPA). Projects must be related to one or more of the following Funding Categories.

In order to catalyze development of ZEV projects, BEF is intending to provide grant funds directly to utility applicants, which are not to exceed \$50,000 per proposal, and not to exceed \$200,000 in total awards. Projects that increase ZEV access to underserved communities will be given preference.

innovation funding categories

infrastructure:

Development of infrastructure that enables or includes the implementation of level 2 charging at multifamily, workplace, or destination locations. Projects must address community needs or increase equitable access for underserved communities.

community engagement:

Projects that include ZEV adoption programs, dealership engagement, or campaigns that boost the growth of ZEVs.

smart charging:

Projects that include implementation of demand shifting related to ZEVs, rebates for ZEV Demand Response (DR) programming, or installation of infrastructure that enables implementation of DR with ZEVs.

other:

Ideas that do not fall within the previous listed categories but provide creative solutions to increasing equitable adoption of ZEVs and the benefits they may bring to utilities.

funding priorities

Projects with the following elements will receive ranked preference within the review process.

1. Increases equitable access to ZEVs
2. Promotes innovation through helping utilities overcome awareness, engagement, and ZEV adoption barriers
3. Contains the potential for replicability
4. Promotes current or future Smart Charging
5. Inclusion of match funding that exceeds the required amount
6. Proposals to return revenue or Clean Fuels Credits to BEF

submission, review & decision process

BEF will accept letters of inquiry that contain brief project proposals. Letters must be submitted by end of the day on April 17th, 2020 to zev@b-e-f.org in PDF or Word form. Projects that fit within a funding category and meet both the Eligibility and Technical criteria will be invited to submit a full application. For invited applicants, full applications are due by end of the day on June 30th, 2020 to zev@b-e-f.org in PDF or Word form.

Project grant funding will be allocated on a competitive basis and is subject to BEF's review, budget, selection process, and sole discretion. Funding is not guaranteed with submission of either the Letter of Inquiry or Full Proposal.

eligibility criteria

- Applicants must be preference utility customers of the Bonneville Power Administration (BPA)
- Projects must propose solutions that have the potential to increase ZEV adoption and utilization within BPA preference utility territories
- Projects that address the needs of underserved communities are preferred. These communities include but are not limited to: low-income individuals; communities of color; immigrants; non-English speakers; the long-term unemployed; communities with limited access to transportation options; women and girls; veterans; senior citizens; people with disabilities; and members of the LGBTQ+ community. Additional communities that have been underserved by access to ZEVs include but are not limited to: residents of multi-family housing; and areas with a low density of public charging stations
- Grants will be awarded for up to 75% of project cost
- Projects that will be implemented within 12 months of the award notification are preferred



loi submittal

An LOI must be submitted and selected by BEF to proceed with the full application.

Project teams must submit a 1/2 - 1 page summary that includes:

Background

- Utility Name
- Project Location, provide support for property owner if applicable
- Selected Funding Category(ies)
- Utility's history with ZEVs

Project Description and Goal

- Provide a brief description of the proposed project including how project provides benefits to all utility customers
- Describe how the proposal aligns with BEF's funding priority(ies)
- Describe the projected scope of the project and the projected budget

loi evaluation criteria

- How well does the proposed project align with the Funding Categories and Priorities?
- Is the project goal clear and compelling?
- How does the project help the utility and/or community overcome barriers to ZEV growth?
- Is there support from the property owner?
- How well does the project provide benefits to utility customers including those from underserved communities?

For questions regarding Letters of Inquiry, please email us at zev@b-e-f.org

