

Indiana Office of Energy Development State Roundtable Discussion

1. What projects or programs are your office's SEP funds supporting this upcoming year and will you be considering changes due to COVID-19?
 - a. Indiana is planning approx. 4 programs this year with a focus on resilience and infrastructure improvements.
 - i. Rural Energy Innovation- that focus on rural communities- to boost energy innovation and efficiencies, emerging technologies in farm/agricultural communities (populations typically fewer than 30,000);
 - ii. Green Bucks- we are also going to offer a program targeting small businesses across the State of Indiana with a focus on retrofitting equipment and infrastructure that is inefficient.
 - iii. Community Energy Challenge- Indiana will offer this program to target municipal governments to improve their energy footprints through efficiency measures, audits and infrastructure improvements.
 - iv. Public Safety- Indiana will offer infrastructure grants to public safety across the State of Indiana that will enable departments to invest in and/or replace vehicles with cleaner alternative fuels and new infrastructure to enhance resilience for critical operations.
 - b. What additional clean energy policies, programs, or projects is your office supporting (if any), and how is your office working to overcome implementation challenges associated with COVID-19?
 - i. Indiana is in the process of a complete website overhaul to enable more effective education and communication. We will be balancing a hybrid approach of in-person work with remote work policies for the foreseeable future.
 - c. Have you been able to improve your office's programs or operations as a result of COVID-19?
 - i. Indiana, like many states, has learned it can be just as effective working remotely if the need arises.
2. How is your office working to advance equitable and inclusive energy policies, programs, engagement, and decision-making?
 - a. The State Energy Office in Indiana will continue to advance an all-of-the-above approach to energy policy with affordability, reliability and stability of rates being at the forefront of all programs and policies for consumers. We have always been a diverse office and will continue to ensure that personnel decision-making reflects that. We are actively participating in IRP and other regulatory and policymaking processes across the state to ensure that decision-making and considerations are given to vulnerable and often excluded communities. We are also evaluating several key membership opportunities to key groups including AABE (American Association of Blacks in Energy) to provide an additional resource for support and educational outreach as well as to enhance recruiting opportunities.