

FEDERAL FUNDS FOR ENERGY INFRASTRUCTURE REINVESTMENT

Opportunities for Utilities and Other Companies

Established through the U.S. Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) of 2022, the Energy Infrastructure Reinvestment (EIR) category of the U.S. Department of Energy’s Title 17 Clean Energy Financing Program aims to finance projects that will revitalize energy infrastructure and help reduce emissions. The Energy Department can distribute up to \$250 billion in low-cost loans for EIR through its Loan Programs Office.

- EIR funding offers the opportunity to retool, repower, repurpose, or replace energy infrastructure that has ceased operations or to upgrade still operating infrastructure to reduce or avoid air pollutants and greenhouse gas emissions.
- The opportunity to take advantage of EIR financing is time-limited; loans must be approved no later than **September 2026**.

WHAT TYPES OF PROJECTS QUALIFY?

- EIR financing applicants are encouraged to consider projects that will displace polluting energy generation that may be nearing the end of its useful life. Examples include:



POWER SECTOR TRANSITION

- Clean energy replacement of retiring coal plants
- Energy transmission revitalization
- Pipeline conversion



ECONOMY-WIDE TRANSITION

- Fleet electrification and EV charging infrastructure
- Industrial process decarbonization
- Gas station redevelopment



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- Community solar projects
- Clean manufacturing
- Data centers with clean energy and storage resiliency projects



REMEDIATION OPPORTUNITIES

- Plant decommissioning
- Coal ash ponds
- Mine reclamation

- Financing also may go toward the creation of virtual power plants or enhanced transmission infrastructure to make the grid more flexible and resilient.
- Unlike many federal funding opportunities, the EIR category has no innovation requirement; energy companies may deploy proven technologies.
- To qualify for EIR funds, developers must show efforts to engage local communities in project development and demonstrate that residents will benefit through job creation, pollution reduction, or even remediation of existing environmental hazards present in locations like brownfields, closed mine lands, and oil and gas processing and delivery infrastructure.

WHO CAN APPLY?

EIR financing is available to a wide range of entities, including project developers, regulated utilities, public power utilities, independent power producers, clean tech manufacturers and service providers.

WHAT TYPE OF FINANCING IS AVAILABLE?

- Up to 80% of a project's funding can come from EIR loans, with financing costs just above the yield of U.S. Treasury Bonds and with lower fees and potentially less stringent bankability standards than typical bank-provided loans.
- Approved loans are typically granted for at least \$100 million, but smaller projects may be considered.
- EIR financing secured by utilities may be repaid over 30-year periods and structured as ratepayer obligations, with off-balance-sheet financing repaid through a dedicated bill surcharge.
- The U.S. Department of Energy's Loan Programs Office can also provide partial guarantees through EIR for commercial loans, covering up to 90% of loans made by other financial institutions.
- Funding can be stacked with clean energy tax credits to enhance bankability.

WHAT IS THE TIMELINE?

- The two-part application process typically takes six to 12 months.
- Loans must be approved by the end of September 2026.
- Disbursements and project construction are permissible through 2031.

WHERE CAN I FIND MORE INFORMATION?

- The U.S. Department of Energy's [EIR website](#) offers basic information.
- The DOE also provides no-fee, no-commitment project consultation services to help energy companies identify competitive projects before undertaking the application process.

