

West Virginia Climate Pollution Reduction Grant: Industry/Transportation (2024-01-04 16:03 GMT-5) - Public Transcript

Sarah E Messbauer: Hello My name is Sarah messbauer and I am the deputy director for the West Virginia Office of Energy. I'm going to be talking with you today during this public meeting of the West Virginia Office of Energy about a funding opportunity on behalf of the state. It's called the Inflation Reduction Act. The funding is coming from the federal government from section 601414 and it is called the Climate Pollution Reduction Grant. This public meeting is to solicit feedback on the emissions reduction strategies that the state should take in order to reduce our emissions and secure funding for those efforts. I'm joining me.

Sarah E Messbauer: is there anybody else who can't hear anything?

Sarah E Messbauer: Sorry, just doing a sound check real quick. If you can raise your hand if you can hear me.

Sarah E Messbauer: All Looks like hearing is okay. Sam check your audio and just double check if you can hear anything.

Sarah E Messbauer: If you have any sound problems during the course of today's presentation please look at the bottom of your screen and select the closed caption box. That way you'll at least get closed captioning during the course of the conversation. You won't miss anything.

Sarah E Messbauer: So today's discussion again talking about the Climate Pollution Reduction Grant program. This is federal funding that's coming down to all 56 States and territories and West Virginia is seeking funding through this program to reduce our emissions today. We are discussing two of these six sectors that were pursuing funding for industry and transportation. And without further Ado. We will Jump Right In we're going to follow a few procedural rules during today's conversation first. Is that for the first part of the discussion when we're going over the basics of the Grant and West Virginia's efforts so far in responding to it.

Sarah E Messbauer: microphones will be muted to reduce background noise and enhance your ability to hear after we go over this initial introductory material. Attendees will be given three minutes to suggest Grant greenhouse gas reduction strategies. Please note that your comments should be limited to the industry and transportation sectors. If you do have feedback on other sectors, for example, power generation commercial or residential construction carbon sinks such as those related to land use or forestry. You can submit those comments through writing via email to jackson.r.igo@wv.gov until January 31st.

Sarah E Messbauer: Due to time limitations today, there will be no Q&A. That means that when you are giving your comments, if you raise a question, we will not be able to respond to it. If you would like to ask a question we will address those questions in a written Q&A document that will be posted to our website next week after our final stakeholder session on Monday. You can also submit additional written

questions if you think of another question after today's session ends at the Email address jackson.r.igo@wv.gov and you have until next Friday January 12th to do so.

Sarah E Messbauer: So with that said, providing a basic overview of the Climate Pollution Reduction Grant there are three components to this Climate Pollution Reduction Grant. The first is the Priority Energy Action Plan also known as the PEAP. This is a document that has two significant deliverables or documents that were produced as part of it. The first is a baseline emissions inventory that we're producing for throughout the state this documents where we are right now with West Virginia's and Emissions across our six main sectors. The second is a set of prioritized admissions reduction strategies. So once we know where we are with that emissions inventory, we're going to propose a set of reductions strategies.

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Sarah E Messbauer: for those emissions while the proposed strategies we are going to set forth in this prioritized energy action plan will be designed to reduce our GHG emissions. They'll also be consistent with the West Virginia office of newly adopted REAL energy policy. That's R, E, A, L and it stands for Reliable, Efficient, Affordable and Local and that is the policy that West Virginia is focusing on. Our energy strategies on energy that is reliable efficient affordable and local

Sarah E Messbauer: So to that end the Office of Energy is considering strategies that not only contemplate new sources of generation but also strategies that allow for current sources of generation to continue through for example, clean cold Technologies through carbon capture and sequestration and through the other things of that nature so it's an all Hands-On deck strategy anything goes strategy to reduce our emissions in this state

Sarah E Messbauer: the comprehensive energy action plan represents updated a more comprehensive version of that priority plan that is due in 2025 and it provides a more comprehensive version of the inventory and more thorough projections of where our reductions strategies that we selected in the paper are going to take us in order to meet targets consistent with the United States formal commitments to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and those targets being reductions of 50 to 50% relative to 2005 Levels by 2030 to 2035 and hitting that net zero emissions Target, but 2050.

Sarah E Messbauer: The third part of the Climate Pollution Reduction Grant is the implementation Grant. So right now what we have is a small amount of funding, three million dollars of a planning Grant. So we're planning out this priority plan. We're using the funds to then move on to create this comprehensive plan. But really we're using these planning funds to work towards an implementation Grant so taking these proposed reduction strategies and what we're going to be doing is putting this information out there about where our emissions inventory is now what are proposed emission strategies could be and we're going to ask the public for project ideas whether that comes from companies whether it comes from utilities whether it comes from anybody with a good idea, you can submit through a competitive process a project application to help us reduce our emissions in the state through these reduction strategies. We've identified the applications through this process. We will be gathering all of these project ideas into one large proposal that West Virginia will submit as a state on April 1st. This is a competitive process.

Sarah E Messbauer: nationally there is 4.3 billion total dollars available. The award range state by state is two to five hundred million dollars. So there is a significant amount of funding available state by state. So just to reiterate again for the implementation grant, we are going to be sending out a request for proposals where we ask anyone with a potential method of reducing emissions in any of the six sectors

identified to submit their project ideas to us. We will evaluate those project ideas, take the projects we move forward with in one large project proposal as a state of West Virginia, submit that to the government to the Department of EPA and EPA will then award us and range between two and five hundred million dollars, depending on what our total request ends up being.

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Sarah E Messbauer: The proposed calendar for helping us to meet that April 1st deadline. It is coming up very fast as you can imagine right now. We are doing stakeholder meetings where we are gathering information from the public on what our reduction strategies should be. So we had our session on the power sector yesterday, today is the industrial and transportation sectors and Monday we are meeting with County and local government representatives to discuss their perspectives when we will be after that point continuing to solicit feedback from the public through the end of the month and using that information along with experts and researchers to determine our greenhouse gas reduction strategies during that process. We will also be hosting grant writing application workshops. So if you are interested in submitting a project proposal you can attend any one or all of these project grant writing workshops. This is where you will learn what materials you need to submit a budget justification, a narrative describing what your project is about and how it will reduce emissions and things of that nature. Those will be discussed in detail during those application writing workshops.

Sarah E Messbauer: The priority energy action plan where we share information about that Baseline inventory and those emissions reduction strategies is due March 1st, The Proposal submission deadline where interested parties would submit their projects to us is the fifth. We will share draft information about that priority energy Action Plan before the first as it becomes available so that you have that information to write your proposals and then the Grant application deadline as I mentioned previously is on April 1st.

Sarah E Messbauer: So the priority energy action plan for West Virginia is focusing on six sectors: electricity generation, industrial & Transportation, buildings that include commercial and residential, Agriculture, and waste management.

Sarah E Messbauer: Just to give you an idea of where West Virginia currently stands in terms of our emissions. This is from data that we have been collecting thus far. It's not complete but it gives you a picture of where we currently stand. The emissions in West Virginia predominantly come from the electric power generation sector. It's about 50% of the emissions in our state with industry and transportation being the second and third largest emissions generating sectors for West Virginia. If you look, most of the emissions intensity comes from the Northwest along the border of the Ohio, but also Urban and Metropolitan City centers are also more intense sources of generation.

Sarah E Messbauer: Industrial and power generation facilities also clustered in these sort of adjacent areas as you can see as well. I'll give you a moment to look at this just kind of reinforcing the points from the previous slide.

Sarah E Messbauer: And so as I said previously the sectors that we are focusing on during today's discussion are the industrial and transportation sectors. So at this point we are going to transition to the public comment period as I said previously all public commenters will have three minutes to share their thoughts. We would like all comments to remain respectful and courteous. We will give people a 30 second warning. If you reach that point in your comments and a 10 second warning as well in order to help us facilitate this comment process we're going to ask that I will just stop my SlideShare here for a

minute. We're going to ask that if you would like to make a public comment down towards the bottom of your screen. There is a small button with a hand that

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Sarah E Messbauer: Like this and if you click that hand that raises your hand and that lets us know that you are interested in speaking. So, please go ahead and raise your hand and click that button if you are interested in making a public comment.

Sarah E Messbauer: Okay, Perry Bryant. It looks like you're interested. Please go ahead and unmute yourself and your time will begin whenever you start speaking.

Perry Bryant: Thank you, Sarah appreciate the opportunity to make some comments and appreciate the Office of Energy hosting these meetings. in terms of Transportation. I have two recommendations for your consideration; one would be to work with the West Virginia Department of Highways to ensure that charging stations are adequately covered. I know that they are adequately covered on interstates. I don't want to make sure that there are adequate charging stations in Mullins or Glenville and other places that are rural areas make sure that they have charging stations for electrical vehicles and their neighborhood that they can use conveniently also and I would work with the Department of Highways to ensure that our cities are both walkable and bikeable every individuals that we can get out of a car and into or using the bicycle will decrease the transportation a climate emissions. And then third my other recommendation would be to ensure that everybody who tips went to the effort to participate in these that they receive a copy of the Grant application once you submitted on April 1st, I think that it's

Sarah E Messbauer: Thank you, Perry, appreciate your comments. If there's anybody else who would like to speak you can raise your hand or you can turn on your camera that will let us know that you're interested.

Sarah E Messbauer: to encourage anyone who is here today to go ahead and share your thoughts. However Forums might be or not. This is your opportunity to have an impact on what the state does with this project and we are really genuinely interested in hearing from you. So just want to encourage you to just take a moment and share whatever is on your mind right now.

Sarah E Messbauer: Go ahead Perry. You've got some time left.

Perry Bryant: I did not exceed my three minutes yet. Just one other quick comment is in terms of industry. WVU has a very Innovative program to work with industry to do Energy Efficiency measures,...

Sarah E Messbauer: Yeah, go ahead.

Perry Bryant: and I think it'd be well worth looking at the Office of Energy exploring what kind of connections they can make with WVU to promote those Energy Efficiency measures within industry. Thanks again.

Sarah E Messbauer: the largest source of the missions in Industry comes from methane whether that comes from coal mines or from natural gas production on that more specific subject of methane emissions. Does anyone have any ideas, suggestions or feedback commentary on what we could do, should do on the subject of methane emissions?

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Sarah E Messbauer: Okay, we have a comment in the chat. I'll recommend to make sure more electric cars for example instead of cars that make emissions because it's not electric same to all Transportation type in the country. Thank you for that comment.

Sarah E Messbauer: Any comments about Transportation outside of vehicles or electric vehicles? There's also large Transportation around Rail and water in West Virginia.

Sarah E Messbauer: And I will make one more petition for comments.

Sarah E Messbauer: And seeing none I will conclude our public comment period please know that you can add comments in the chat. If you would prefer to comment that way and transition back to my slides. I will provide additional information about how you can share your thoughts and suggestions with the Office of Energy.

Sarah E Messbauer: This session is being recorded and it will be posted to our website at energywv.org. There's a specific page that's dedicated to the Climate Pollution Reduction Grant and West Virginia's efforts on this initiative. So I encourage you to check that out. We're going to be posting additional resources as we receive them and develop them for general information about climate pollution reduction.

Sarah E Messbauer: jackson.r.igo@wv.gov written comments. So any kind of comment you have about directions. We should or shouldn't take in regards to our CPRG submission that can also be submitted to jackson.r.igo@wv.gov. Please submit those by January 31st, I believe that's a Wednesday. You can submit them by email to that email address or if you prefer to submit them in writing.

Sarah E Messbauer: You can send them to our office at the Capitol. That's 1900 Kanawha Boulevard East Building 3 Suite 600, Charleston, West, Virginia 25305, and this concludes the public meeting to discuss the CPRG grant program industry and transportation sectors. We have one additional public stakeholder meeting to discuss local government and counties, so, please do share information about that meeting if people for whom that topic would be relevant, please also share information about how to submit public comments with people you believe would have an interest in doing so thank you again for attending. We appreciate your engagement and we hope you have a pleasant evening. Take care and we hope to hear from you soon.

Meeting ended after 00:25:24 🖐️