

Equity in Procurement

Opportunities to advance a clean and just
energy future

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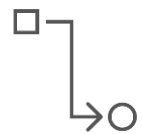
Washington State
Department of
Commerce

New approach



Community perspectives and collaboration

- Request for Information, feedback sessions – virtual and in person
- Translated materials and interpretation
- Environmental justice assessment in accordance with the Healthy Environment for All Act (HEAL)
- Feedback was incorporated into the RFA as much as possible under tight timelines
- Community advisory committee – 12 paid evaluators with lived experience evaluated proposals: \$75/hr (\$200/day) – to date \$14K in compensation



Reduced entry barriers

- Levelled the playing field by eliminating matching funds requirement for nearly all applicants
- Flexibility with eligible activities: planning, permitting, design, construction
- Flexibility to match fund sources, re-submit between rounds

Equity and environmental justice



Priority for projects serving historically marginalized communities

- Community-led and controlled approaches to decarbonization
- All projects deploy strategies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and accelerate state clean energy and climate goals
- Projects enhance energy system and community resiliency
- Tribal led projects honor self determination and sovereignty



Projects must demonstrate a benefit to population served by project

- Address environmental health conditions
- Provide economic benefits such as lowering energy burden, workforce opportunities
- Incorporate community-led decision-making or control of the asset
- Engage with community and tribes early and often

No wrong door

Pooled ten funding streams of \$116 million into three tailored opportunities

1



Tribal Clean Energy

- Projects that support energy sovereignty and resiliency
- Rolling grant process

2



Community Decarbonization

- Projects that improve energy burden, enviro. health disparities, resiliency
- Equity benefits heavily weighted

3

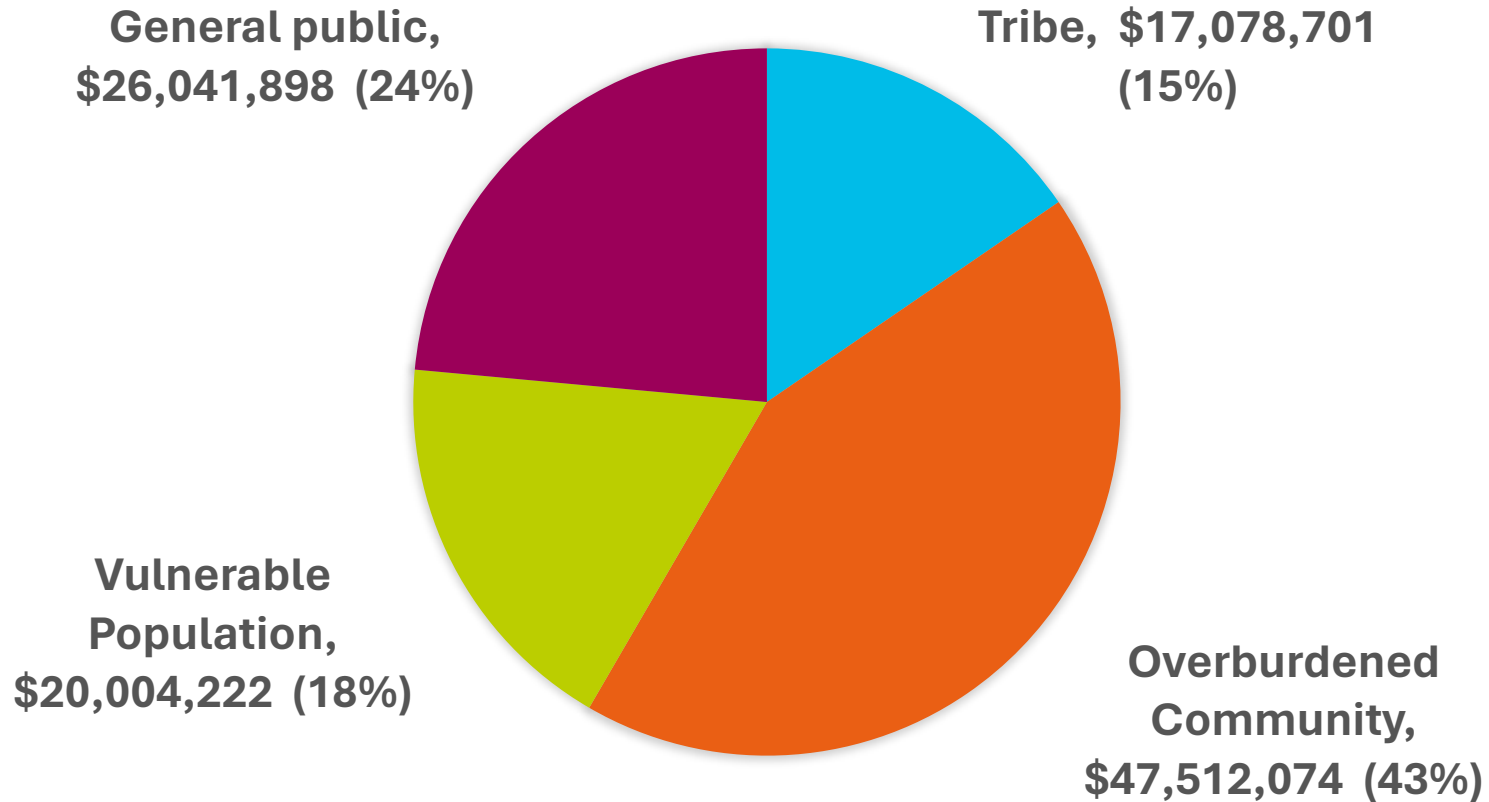


General

- Open to all
- Tech/management/EJ more evenly weighted

Applications from tribal and cmtly decarb were allowed to resubmit between rounds

Equity metrics to date



76% awarded to projects benefiting historically marginalized communities