

MISSION

WEDC's mission is to strategically invest in Wisconsin to enhance the economic well-being of people and their businesses and communities.

VISION

WEDC's vision is an Economy for All, where every Wisconsinite has the opportunity to thrive.



CREATING AN ECONOMY FOR ALL,

WHERE EVERY WISCONSINITE HAS
THE OPPORTUNITY TO THRIVE



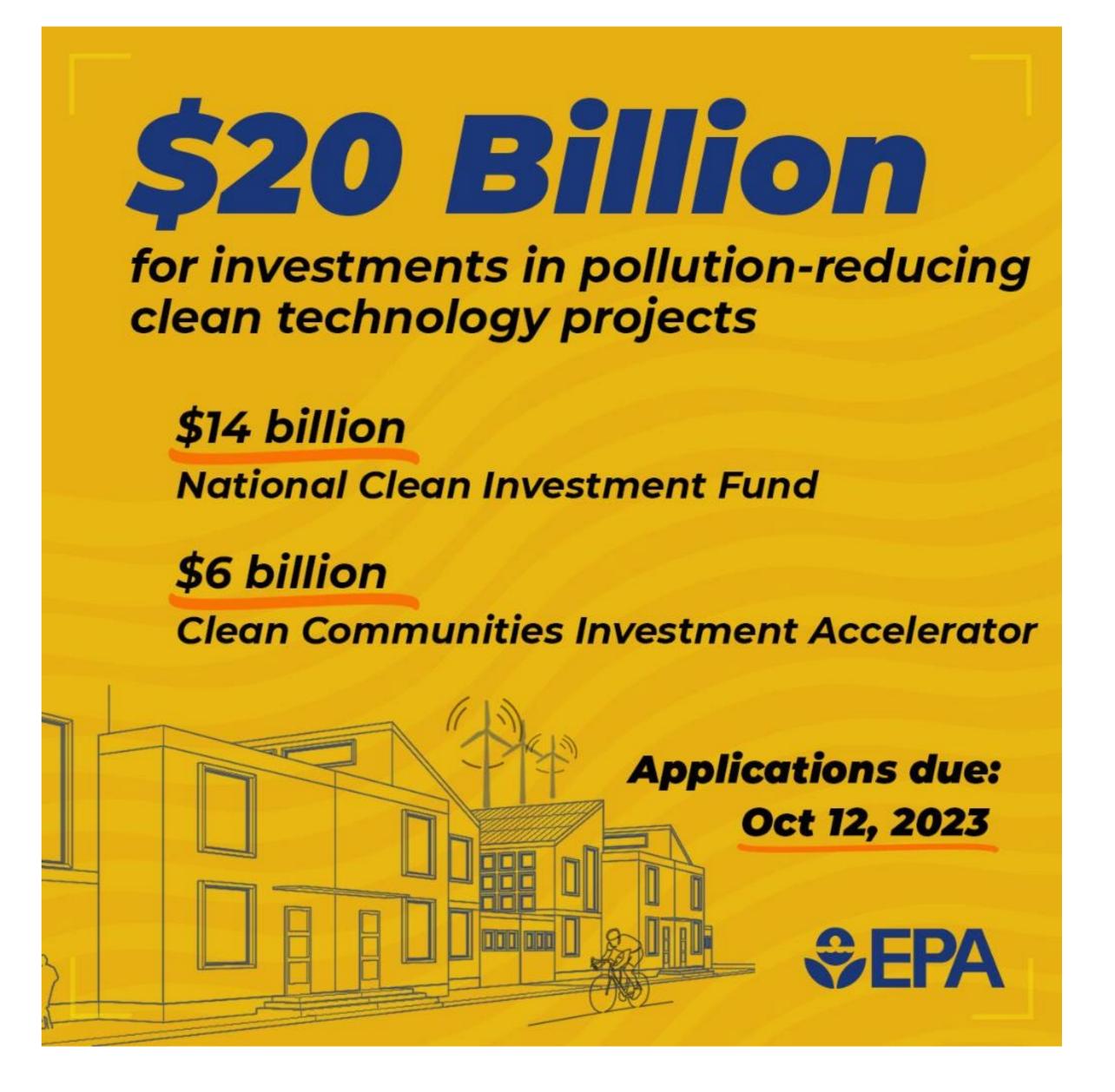
Agenda

- ➤ Welcome and Roll Call
- ➤ Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund (GGRF) Update
- ➤ Solar for All (SFA) Update
- ➤ Governor Evers' 2025-27 Executive Budget
- Discussion
- ➤ Adjourn



Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund (GGRF) Update

Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund (GGRF) Update





Eight Winners Announced for Environmental Protection Agency's Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund

April 15, 2024

Opportunity Finance
Network
\$2.3 billion

Inclusiv

Climate United \$7 billion

National Clean

Investment Fund

\$14 billion

\$1.9 billion

Clean Communities

Investment

Accelerator

\$6 billion

Justice Climate Fund \$0.9 billion Coalition for Green
Capital
\$5 billion

Appalachian
Community Capital
\$0.5 billion

Power Forward
Communities
\$2 billion

Native CDFI Network \$0.4 billion



Recognizing the opportunity, we focused on building a strong project portfolio and cultivating relationships with applicants, private lenders, and key stakeholders to establish our brand as Wisconsin's Green Bank and attract NCIF funding to the state

- ➤ Request for Information (RFI)
- > Public Webinars
- Workshops









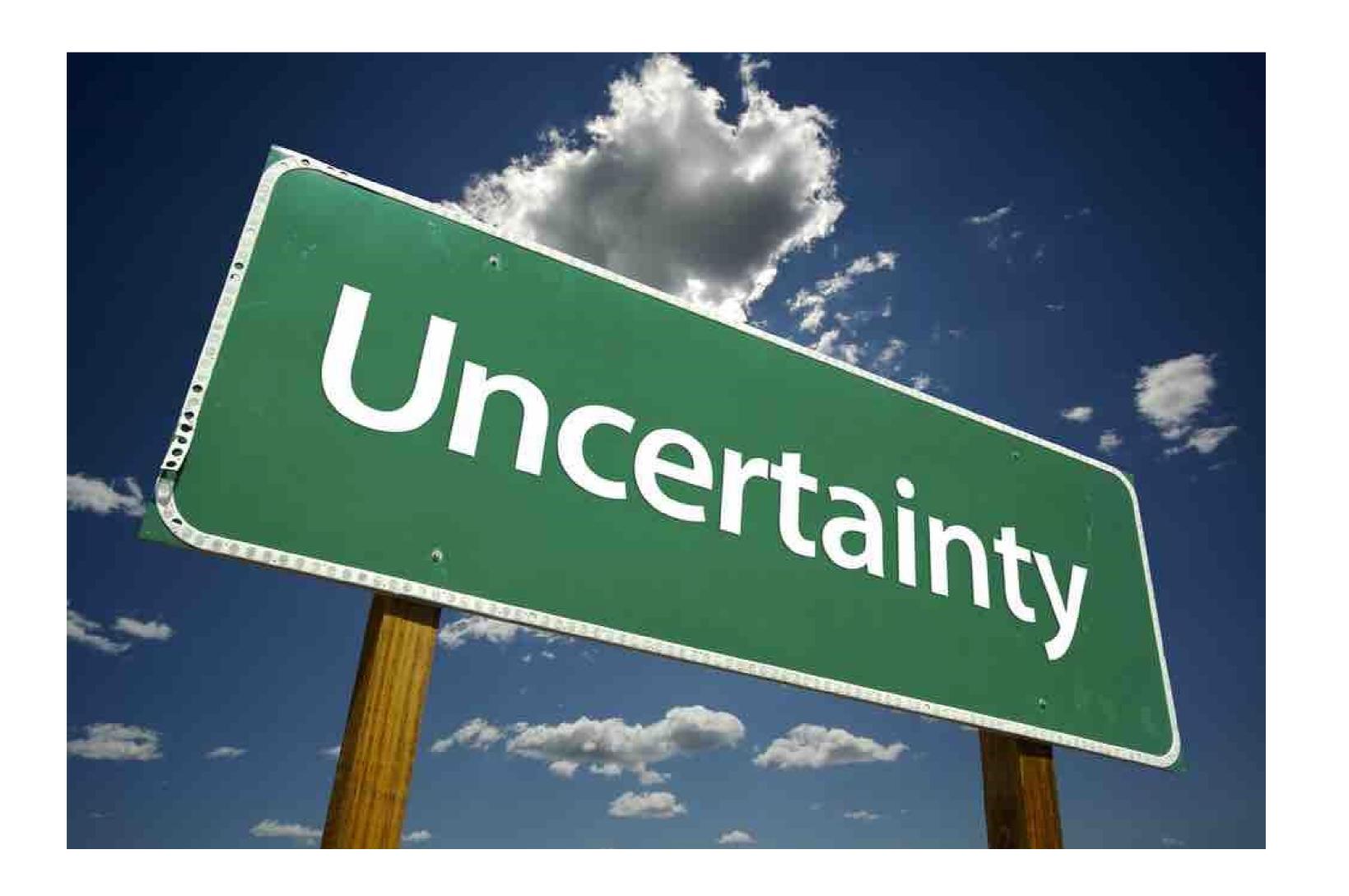
We Joined The U.S. Green Bank 50



About the GB50

A groundbreaking new organization bringing together green banks across the nation to lead a historic wave of clean energy and climate investment in American communities. The organization includes green banks in nearly all 50 states, Washington, D.C., and Puerto Rico.







Wisconsin Solar for All Program Update



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

OFFICE OF

MISSION SUPPORT

Re: Notice of EPA Assistance Award

Dear EPA Grant Recipient:

Attached is your Notice of Award from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. The Federal Award Identification Number is on your agreement on the top of page one and in the subject line of this message. Please use this number in communicating with EPA about this grant. We look forward to working with your organization for the successful completion of this project.

Please carefully review the assistance agreement and the terms and conditions.



Guiding Principles

- ➤ Prioritize Low-Income and Underserved Communities: Focus on high-need areas, including low-income residents and renters aiming to reduce energy burdens by at least 20%
- ➤ Foster Partnerships and Relationships: Establish key partnerships to maximize program impact and invite respectful discussion and decision-making
- **Expand Workforce Opportunities**: Increase opportunities for diverse contractors and establish a sustainable workforce pipeline to meet the solar installation goals
- ➤ Enhance Stakeholder Engagement: Collaborate transparently with stakeholders, understand their objectives, and conduct inclusive outreach to inform program design



Wisconsin Solar for All

- > Program Objectives:
 - Expand access to solar energy for low-income households
 - Lower energy costs and reduce financial burdens for participants
 - Decrease greenhouse gas emissions
 - Foster clean energy careers and strengthen Wisconsin's workforce
- **▶ Grant award:** \$62 million
- **▶ Direct financial assistance** (grants): \$50 million
- > Community outreach, education and workforce development: \$4.5 million



Wisconsin Solar for All

➤ Direct financial assistance (grants): \$50 million

25% Rooftop single-family	\$12,500,000
20% Multi-family	\$9,500,000
55% Community solar	\$28,000,000





Wisconsin Solar for All - Eligibility

- **▶** Participant Eligibility Criteria (one of the following):
 - Households with incomes less than 80% of the Area Median Income (AMI)
 - Enrolled in a Public Assistance Program
 - Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
 - Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP)
 - Property qualifies as Affordable Housing
- ➤ Projects must result in at least 20% reduction in electric utility bills





SFA Stakeholder Advisory Groups (SAG)

Focus	Recommendations
Community Outreach and Education	 Ensure messaging is detailed, clear, and focused Engage with Community-Based Organizations Outreach and education plans specific to the community to be served.
Workforce Development and Labor	 Workforce Development Strategies will utilize existing resources and college systems strategies will be developed for encouraging diversity, rural communities, and a sustainable workforce for on-going solar industry in Wisconsin
Native Nations	 Engage Native Nations to alleviate obstacles and encourage participation in SFA program Create mechanism to ensure some Native Nation members can benefit from SFA program Invite Native Nations to participate in workforce conversation and opportunities Communicate with MTERA to increase SFA impact, if feasible



Governor Evers' 2025-27 Executive Budget





CLEAN ENERGY AND CLIMATE ACTION

Governor Evers 25-27 Executive Budget

04.07.25

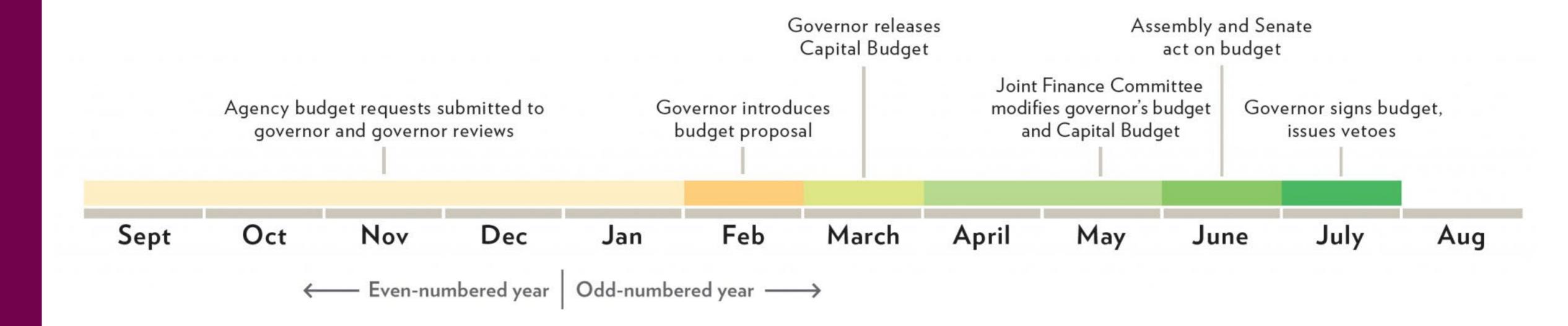
DISCLAIMER:

This presentation is intended as general information only, not as specific legal advice.

Consult qualified legal counsel for specific questions.

THE STATE BUDGET PROCESS

BIENNIAL BUDGET LIFECYCLE



NON-BUDGET FISCAL BILLS

"During the legislative session, there are bills other than the biennial budget bill that request funds for specific limited purposes, such as for a new program or to modify the operation of an existing program. These bills, introduced during the regular legislative session, are termed fiscal bills and have specific requirements related to them as they proceed through the legislative process. Each fiscal bill must be accompanied by a fiscal estimate predicting the cost of the bill to the state and its political subdivisions. [s. 13.093 (2) (a), Stats.] Each fiscal bill must also be referred to JCF before being passed. [s. 13.093 (1), Stats.]" – WI Legislative Council Information Memorandum, IM -2020-17



25-27 Executive Budget Clean Energy and Clean Economy

Green Innovation Fund - \$50 million GPR, FY26

Provide funding to WEDC to increase support to the Green Innovation Fund, which will increase lending and investment activities in the renewable energy sector

Grants for Biodigester Operator Certification and Regional Planning - \$600,000 GPR & SEG, FY26-27

Require DATCP to provide grants to individuals seeking biodigester operator certification and planning grants for establishing regional biodigesters in the state. Biodigesters are used to break down organic material into gas, liquids, and solids

Rural Capacity Building - \$5 million GPR, FY26

Provide funding to fund the Thrive Rural Wisconsin project to increase the availability and accessibility of local project capital to spur economic development in rural Wisconsin

Advanced Manufacturing Grants - \$5 million GPR, FY26

Providing funding to establish a grant program for matching grants to small and midsized manufacturing companies located in Wisconsin for investments in advanced manufacturing technologies.

Accelerate Wisconsin - \$10 million GPR, FY26

Provide funding to support a business accelerator program at WEDC to be administered in conjunction with the University of Wisconsin System and aimed at developing research, including research from the University of Wisconsin System, into new start-up businesses

Energy Innovation Grant program - \$20 million GPR, FY26

Provide funding to support the continuation of the Energy Innovation Grant program to ensure organizations from different sectors can invest in projects related to energy efficiency, renewable energy, energy storage and energy planning

RePowering Brownfields Pilot Program - \$1 million GPR, FY26

Create a pilot program at the commission to assist developers and electric providers with the cost of developing renewable energy infrastructure on brownfield sites.

Nuclear Power Plant Feasibility Study - \$1 million GPR, FY26

Provide funding for the commission to conduct a nuclear power plant feasibility study.

Research Credit Expansion for Nuclear Research - extend the 11.5 percent earnings categories for the research tax credit to include research activities in nuclear energy.

Utility Aid for Energy Storage Facilities

include energy storage facilities in the calculation of utility aid payments to counties and municipalities.

Grants for Local Projects - \$165.1 million GPR/SEG, FY26-27, 2.0 FTE GPR positionsGrants to nonstate entities for local building projects that serve a statewide purpose, as determined by the Building Commission.

Local Government Grant Resource Team - \$822,400 GPR in FY26-27, 5.0 FTE GPR positions

Provide position authority and related funding to establish a grant resource team within the Division of Intergovernmental Relations to assist local governments in navigating federal and state grant application processes.

Enhanced Electricity Resource Planning - Require electric utilities with owned generation to submit biennial integrated resource plans that evaluate the utility's ability to meet long-term electricity demand and its planned approach to integrate clean energy into its portfolio. Also, Modify the framework of the commission's biennial Strategic Energy Assessment to integrate utility-specific, long-term electricity resource planning.

Securitization Of Retiring Power Plants - modify current law to allow utilities to securitize the entire remaining unpaid balance of a retiring power plant, in addition to the unpaid balance of pollution control equipment

Certificates of Public Convenience and Necessity Final Action Extension - modify current law to allow the commission chairperson to grant an additional 180-day extension before taking final action on a project's certificate of public convenience and necessity.

Energy and Liquefied Natural Gas Storage Facilities - provides utility aid payments to counties and municipalities where energy storage and liquefied natural gas storage facilities are located.

Intervenor Compensation Funding - \$415,000, FY26-27

Provide additional expenditure authority to ensure sufficient financial assistance for organizations that choose to become intervenors in a commission proceeding.

INVESTING IN ENERGY EFFICIENCY

Focus on Energy Funding & Residential Customer Energy Storage - modifying current law to allow the commission to double the funds available to the Focus on Energy program to **2.4 percent** of each utility's annual operating revenues and current law to allow energy storage projects for residential customers to qualify for the Focus on Energy program.

Whole-home Upgrade Grants - \$7.2 million GPR, FY26

Establishes a pilot program under which DOA must award one or more grants to Walnut Way Conservation Corp. to fund home improvements in low-income households in a first-class city (presently only Milwaukee) that have one or more of the following goals: 1) reducing carbon emissions; 2) reducing energy burdens; 3) creating cost savings; or 4) creating healthier living environments.

INVESTING IN ENERGY EFFICIENCY

Energy Improvements Low-Cost Debt Financing - modify current law to allow utilities to offer inclusive on-bill, low-cost debt financing of energy improvements for customers.

Dairy Agriculture Resilience Investment Now Grant Pilot Program - \$1.5 million GPR, FY27

Requires DATCP to create a Dairy Agriculture Resilience Investment Now Grant pilot program, under which DATCP must provide grants to dairy producers with fewer than 1,000 head of milking cows to undertake projects designed to improve the dairy producer's operational efficiency and resilience.

SUPPORT FOR TRIBAL NATIONS

Grants to each American Indian tribe or b\Band in Wisconsin - \$41.46 million GPR, FY26-27

Requires DOA to award grants of equal amounts to each American Indian tribe or band in the state for the following purposes: (1) To programs to meet the needs of members of the tribe or band and (2) to promote tribal language and cultural revitalization.

Other Tribal Support - Award grants to American Indian tribes or bands in this state to support home repairs that reduce energy burdens and improve health outcomes, in an amount up to \$1,000,000 annually.

SUPPORT FOR TRIBAL NATIONS

Director of Native American Affairs and Agency Tribal Liaisons - \$1.5 million GPR, FY26-27, 8.0 FTE GPR positions

Creates a Director of Native American Affairs at DOA to manage relations between the state and Native American tribes. The position will coordinate with other dedicated state agency tribal liaisons. Creates a Tribal Liaison at eight agencies.

Tribal Enterprise Accelerator Program - \$5 million GPR, FY26

Provide funding to create a tribal enterprise accelerator program that would establish a statewide technical assistance and grant program for tribal nations to diversify their revenue strategies outside of the gaming and entertainment industries through community development investment grants and capacity-building grants

TRANSPORTATION

Regional Transit Agencies - reinstating law that allows for municipalities and counties to enter into agreements to create regional transit agencies anywhere in the state.

Transit Capital Assistance Grants - \$20 million GPR, FY26

Create a transit capital assistance program at WisDOT to help transit providers replace vehicles.

Electric Vehicle Charging Stations Consumer Protections - \$434,200 GPR, FY26-27, 2.0 FTE GPR positions

Provide expenditure and position authority for oversight of electric vehicle charging stations.

Complete Streets: modify current law to require the inclusion of nonmotorized transportation facilities known as Complete Streets when building certain roadway and authorize WisDOT to promulgate rules identifying exceptions to the requirement.

TRANSPORTATION

Eminent Domain for Nonmotorized Paths - providing local government units the authority to use eminent domain to acquire land for the construction of non-motorized paths.

Passenger Rail Operations Assistance - \$15.2 million SEG FY26-27

Increase funding to support passenger rail operations and ongoing expansion feasibility studies in the state.

Rail Synergies: Attaching the Office of the Commissioner of Railroads to the Wisconsin Department of Transportation to create new synergies.

Emission Testing - \$659,400 SEG FY26

Funding for vehicle emission testing in southeast Wisconsin.

PRIORITIZING CLIMATE RESILIENCY AND ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

Community Climate Engagement Grants - \$1,3 million GPR, FY26-2, 1.0 FTE GPR position DOA to establish and administer a community climate engagement grant program and award grants to local nongovernmental organizations in Wisconsin to promote local climate and clean energy community engagement.

Community Climate Action Grants - \$10.1 million GPR, FY26-27, 1.0 FTE GPR position DOA to create a grant program to assist local governmental units and governing bodies of federally recognized American Indian tribes and bands to develop climate risk assessment and action plans or implement emission reduction and action projects. DOA will also be required to assist local governments and tribal governments with the development of climate risk assessment and action plans.

Environmental Impacts on Communities - Requires DNR to establish a list of communities in Wisconsin have a high density of individuals at or below 200 percent of the federal poverty guideline; consider a proposed project's impacts on these communities and engage with them in the permit application process,; and consider the cumulative impacts of a proposed project and the community engagement process conducted by the permit applicant when making permit decisions.

TAX EXEMPTIONS

Sales Tax Exemption for Residential Electricity and Natural Gas

Expand the sales and use tax exemption on electricity and natural gas sold for residential use to include the months of May through October. Electricity and natural gas sold for residential use is already exempt from the state sales tax from November through April. The fiscal impact is an estimated reduction in tax revenue of \$49.7 million in FY26 and \$105.9 million in FY27.

Sales Tax Exemption for Battery Storage for Renewable Energy Systems

Create a sales and use tax exemption for property used primarily to store or facilitate the storage of energy produced by a solar, wind or biogas renewable energy system. The fiscal impact is an estimated reduction in tax revenue of \$3.2 million in FY26 and \$4.5 million in FY27.



ADVANCING WORKFORCE

Wisconsin Fast Forward grants - \$50 million GPR, FY26

Provide funding for job training support through Wisconsin Fast Forward, including (a) \$2,000,000 GPR in FY26 for green jobs training.

Workforce Innovation Grant Continuation/Expansion - \$140.3 million GPR, FY26-27, 2.0 GPR positions

Provide funding to establish an ongoing workforce innovation grant fund

Workforce Advancement Program -\$15.5 million GPR, FY26-27, 1.0 GPR position

Provide funding and position authority for the establishment of an ongoing Wisconsin Worker Advancement Program. This program aims to build upon the foundation of the federally supported Worker Advancement Initiative by continuing to engage in outreach efforts to reach population groups underserved and disconnected from the labor force.

ADVANCING WORKFORCE

Registered Apprenticeship - \$5.6 million GPR, FY26-27, 6.5 GPR positions

Expansion of the state registered apprenticeship program, includes bridging pathways between youth and registered apprenticeship and apprenticeship infrastructure.

Career Navigators - \$1.6 million GPR, FY26-27, 11 GPR positions

Provide position and expenditure authority to ensure that each workforce development area in the state has a dedicated employment and training specialist position to serve in the role of a "career navigator" and expand upon the success of the Wisconsin Career Connection pilot program.

Youth Apprenticeship Appropriation - \$11.2million GPR, FY26-27

increasing expenditure authority for local youth apprenticeship grants

Discussion