

Stakeholder Input on New Infrastructure Funding Grants Program Development

Implementation in USEPA Region 9



Presented to the R9 Solid Waste Workgroup on April 26, 2022

Overview

Circular Economy Strategy

- National Recycling Strategy
- Alignment with Tribal priorities
- Ways for Tribes to be involved

Bipartisan Infrastructure Law

- New grant funding opportunities
- Outreach, engagement, and feedback with Tribes

Feedback Questions

- What is needed, in terms of solid waste and recycling infrastructure or education/outreach, in order to help advance Tribe's programs in R9?
- What other limitations are there to supporting effective and efficient recycling programs for your Tribes?
- To what extent would new solid waste infrastructure and education/outreach grant money help to address those needs or limitations?
- What aspects should EPA consider when developing these new grant programs?
- What are additional avenues/ways that EPA should engage Tribes on these questions in R9?

National Recycling Strategy

Part One of a Series on Building a Circular Economy for All



Objectives of the Strategy

- Improve markets for recycled commodities
- Increase collection and improve materials management infrastructure
- Reduce contamination in the recycled materials stream
- Enhance policies and programs to support circularity
- Standardize measurement and increase data collection

EPA's Circular Economy Strategy Series

Part 1: National Recycling Strategy

- Focuses on enhancing the national municipal solid waste (MSW) recycling system
- Identifies stakeholder-led actions to create a stronger, more resilient, more equitable, and more cost-effective recycling system
- Acknowledges that recycling alone cannot help us achieve a circular economy
- Commits EPA to developing additional strategies (material reuse and reduction, food waste, plastics)

Part 2: Plastics

Part 3: Food Waste

Part 4: Critical Minerals and Electronics

Part 5: Built Environment

Part 6: Textiles

Next Steps and Engagement

Implement the Recycling Strategy

- Continue national, regional, and local efforts to implement the National Recycling Strategy

Develop Additional Circular Economy Strategies

- Develop additional circular economy strategies around plastics, food waste, critical minerals and electronics, built environment and textiles

Develop New Grant Programs

- Develop new grant programs and funding opportunities to support solid waste infrastructure and education/outreach

Gather Feedback

- Collect stakeholder input to inform strategies and grant opportunities
- Conduct regional outreach to States, Tribes, and local governments

How Tribes can be Involved

- Successful implementation of the National Recycling Strategy will require involvement and action from all stakeholders
- EPA is looking for stakeholders to sign up to lead or support actions included in the Strategy
- Request for Information will be published in the Federal Register – anticipated around May 1 – looking for input on new SMM grant programs



To express interest in leading or supporting an action, sign up at epa.gov/recyclingstrategy/forms/take-action

New Funding Under the BIL

Solid Waste Infrastructure and Recycling Grants (SWIFR)

- **\$275,000,000 (\$55M/yr from FY22-26)**
- Support improvements to local post-consumer materials management, including municipal recycling programs; and assist local waste management authorities in making improvements to local waste management systems.

Recycling Education and Outreach (REO) Grants

- **\$75,000,000 (\$15M/yr from FY22-26)**
- Focused on improving material recycling, recovery, management, and reduction.
- Directs EPA to develop a model recycling program toolkit for States, Tribes, local governments for use in carrying out the grant program.

Pollution Prevention (P2) Grants

- **\$100,000,000 (\$20M/yr from FY22-26)**
- Pollution Prevention (P2) grants provide technical assistance to develop and adopt source reduction practices. P2 means reducing or eliminating pollutants from entering any waste stream or otherwise released into the environment prior to recycling, treatment, or disposal.

Tribal Solid Waste Mgmt Grants

- **≥\$700,000 anticipated in FY22**
- These grants support the development and implementation of tribal solid waste programs, **activities covered are still under finalization:**
 - Likely items such as Waste Characterization, ISWMP, Feasibility Studies, Staff Time
- Individual awards up to \$100,000
- No cost share/match requirement; grants can be added to Performance Partnership Grants (PPGs)

Pollution Prevention (P2) - FY22 Source Reduction Assistance Grant

- **\$180,000 for two-year grants (from FY22-23)**
- Individual grant awards can be up to \$180,000 for the two-year funding period or \$90,000 funded per year
- 5% cost share/match requirement; grants cannot be added to a PPG
- No Sector-Specific emphasis areas
- Priorities for innovative source reduction activities, with focus on:
 - Prevention of GHG emissions and adaptation to climate change
 - Hazardous materials reduction
 - Innovative approaches to conservation of materials and resources
 - Environmental justice through P2 actions

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Contact Information

- Sign up to stay connected to learn about:
 - New grant programs!
 - EPA reports (Recycling Measurement Guide)
 - Circular Economy strategies (development and implementation)
 - epa.gov/recyclingstrategy/forms/stay-connected
- Email EPA at SMMPartners@epa.gov
- EPA Regional contacts:
 - Tribal Solid Waste Program nurre.deirdre@epa.gov
 - Sustainable Materials Mgmt Program stephenson.jenny@epa.gov
 - Pollution Prevention (P2) Program katz.john@epa.gov