CRITICAL PROGRAMS FOR WYOMING COMMUNITIES ARE IN JEOPARDY

Take action to support key Inflation Reduction Act and Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Programs for Wyoming!

- March 2025 -

BACKGROUND—

Following Executive Order 14154, hundreds of programs that would benefit Wyoming communities have been frozen. These programs, mostly from the 2022 Inflation Reduction Act and 2021 Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, span a range of projects and incentives to increase energy efficiency, lower utility costs, reduce emissions, and increase local resiliency.

Although some IRA and BIL programs *might* see funding restored in the coming weeks, others remain at high risk of being repealed entirely. *This factsheet highlights key vulnerable programs and suggests talking points to help Wyomingites support continued funding.*

THE BIG PICTURE: IRA/BIL IMPACTS IN WYOMING—

- Wyoming has a lot at stake. More than 150 projects in Wyoming, worth \$1.8 billion, may have been impacted by the funding freeze. These projects support clean energy and power, buildings, infrastructure resilience, drought, and environmental restoration. Additionally, hundreds of millions in approved funding could still be cut by Congress.
- Wyoming listened. Wyoming leaders invested significant resources and time to host two
 Federal Funding Summits in 2023 and 2024 to help communities, nonprofits, and businesses
 secure IRA/BIL funding, they also established the Wyoming Grants Management Office to
 support these efforts.
- **Wyoming got to work.** Wyoming secured the highest investment in clean energy from the IRA/BIL of any state approximately <u>4.1% of the state's GDP</u> from 2023 to 2024.
- **Wyoming is invested.** Wyoming has invested \$98.7 million in state dollars for pilot and demonstration energy projects (i.e. carbon capture, rare earth minerals, renewables, and nuclear), which were primarily sparked by IRA/BIL tax credits and grants. State funding brought an additional \$261.1 million in combined federal and private funding.

WHICH IMPORTANT PROGRAMS NEED SUPPORT?

- Home Energy Rebates (HER): Wyoming's low-income residents would be able to receive rebates for home energy efficiency projects, covering up to \$14,000 or 100% of project costs. HER could significantly reduce home heating and cooling costs by up to 40–50%. Wyoming's application was approved by the DOE in January 2025 for \$69 million.
- Solar for All: This program is designed to help low-income residents afford rooftop solar installations to lower their electricity costs. Wyoming's application for this program was approved by the EPA in September 2024 for \$30 million, with 25% allocated specifically to Wind River Reservation tribes. The program would also support electrical upgrades for existing homes and apartment complexes, while creating local contracting jobs.
- Rural Energy For America Program (REAP): This program supports rural small businesses and agricultural producers to invest in energy efficiency and clean energy projects. Since its

- expansion under the IRA, 19 REAP grant projects totalling over \$2.1 million have helped rural Wyoming ranchers, farmers, and small businesses lower energy and operating costs.
- <u>Clean Energy & Energy Efficiency Tax Credits:</u> The IRA significantly expanded the size and
 eligibility of key tax credits to allow residents, businesses, nonprofits, and local governments to
 benefit from modernizing infrastructure and investing in energy efficiency projects. In general,
 local community projects can get up to 30% of costs reimbursed.

KEY TALKING POINTS—

- Clean energy and energy efficiency investments save Wyoming communities and individuals money. Programs like the Home Energy Rebates, Solar for All, Rural Energy for America Program, and the Clean Energy Tax Credits have strong local support and are a benefit to small-town economies, local infrastructure, jobs, and quality of life.
- These programs offer much-needed relief from high energy costs. More than 95,000 (~41%) households in Wyoming are considered low-income and they spend approximately 9% of their annual income (~\$2,900) on energy three times more than the <u>average US resident</u>. Rising energy costs are expected to increase this burden. Home Energy Rebates and Solar for All would give Wyomingites the financial break they deserve.
- Wyoming communities, businesses, and the state worked hard to secure IRA/BIL funding that address local priorities and needs. Wyoming leaders should maintain funding for all IRA/BIL programs the state applied for and was approved to receive. Wyomingites have already vetted these programs and determined that they were in their best interest to pursue.
- These programs bring federal tax dollars back to Wyoming. These dollars grow local jobs, improve infrastructure, cut costs, and enhance our quality of life. More than 7,500 Wyomingites

 17% of our state's energy sector workforce are already employed in energy efficiency.
 These programs help grow Wyoming's workforce and ensure we stay competitive with other states in the evolving clean energy economy.

SHOW YOUR SUPPORT FOR THESE PROGRAMS! Send a message to Wyoming's leaders—

Wyoming's Congressional Delegation

- Senator John Barrasso | www.barrasso.senate.gov/contact/ | tel:202.224.6441
- Senator Cynthia Lummis | www.lummis.senate.gov/contact/contact-form/ | tel:202.224.3424
- Representative Harriet Hageman | https://hageman.house.gov/contact/ | tel:202.225.2311

Wyoming's Governor

• Governor Mark Gordon | governor.wyo.gov/contact/governor | tel: 307.777.7434