

Empowering Workers Through Revitalizing Energy Communities

The Workforce of the Future



Interagency Working Group on Coal and Power Plant Communities and Economic Revitalization

Brian J. Anderson, Ph.D.

*Executive Director, Interagency Working Group on
Coal and Power Plant Communities and Economic Revitalization
Director, National Energy Technology Laboratory*



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF
ENERGY



NATIONAL
ENERGY
TECHNOLOGY
LABORATORY

Coal and Power Plant Communities and Economic Revitalization



- The Interagency Working Group (IWG) was established by [Executive Order 14008](#), Sec. 218, on Jan. 27
- The IWG released an [Initial Report](#) with recommendations to catalyze robust economic activity and support workers in America's energy sector

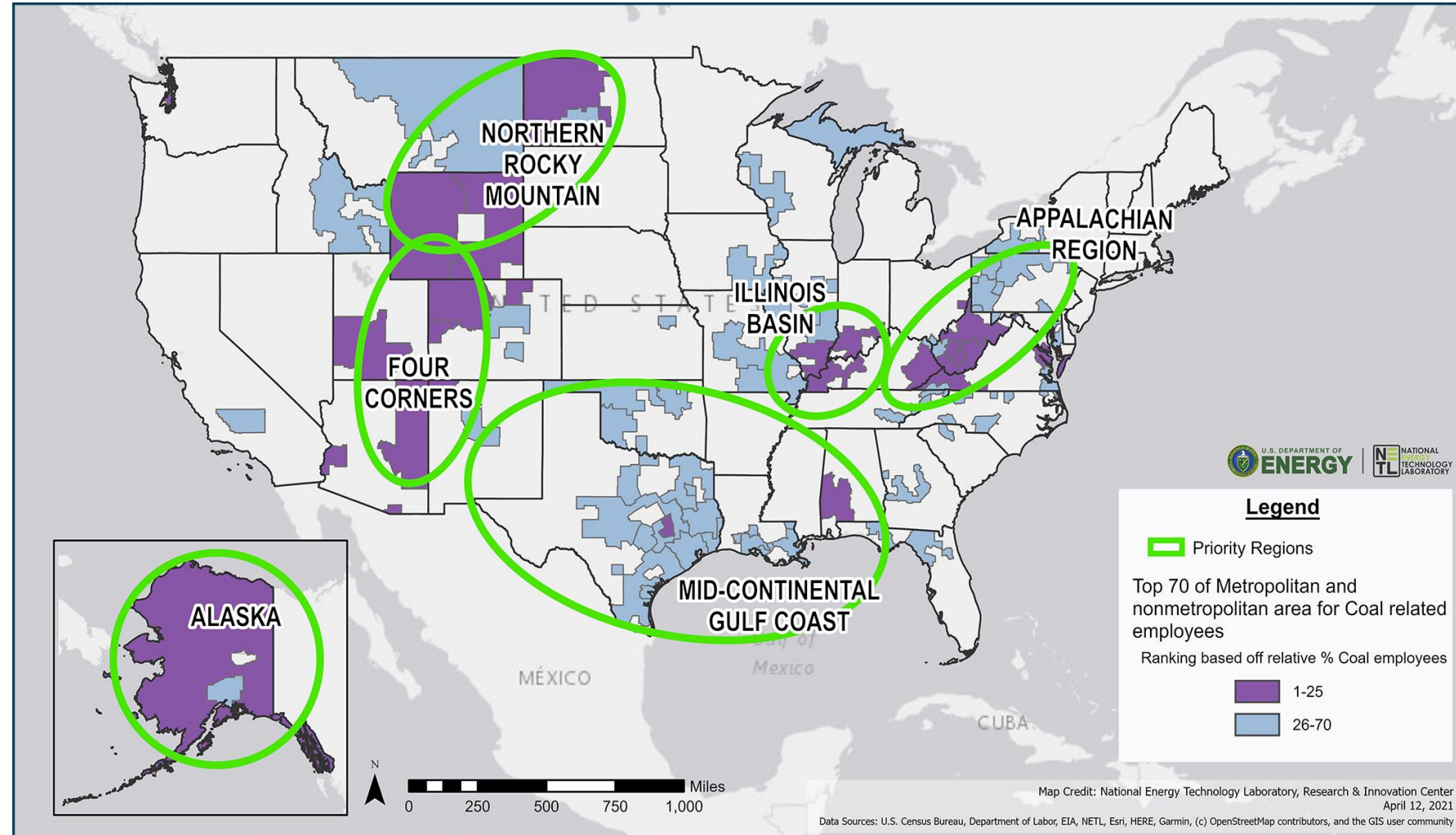


Initial Report to the President on Empowering Workers Through Revitalizing Energy Communities, Released April 23, 2021

Workers Through Revitalizing Initial Report to the President on Empowering Energy Communities



- Identified **25** priority Energy Communities
- Coal communities identified as immediately challenged
- Additional analyses forthcoming (e.g. taxes, EJ, oil & gas)



Investments



\$38B
in potential funding

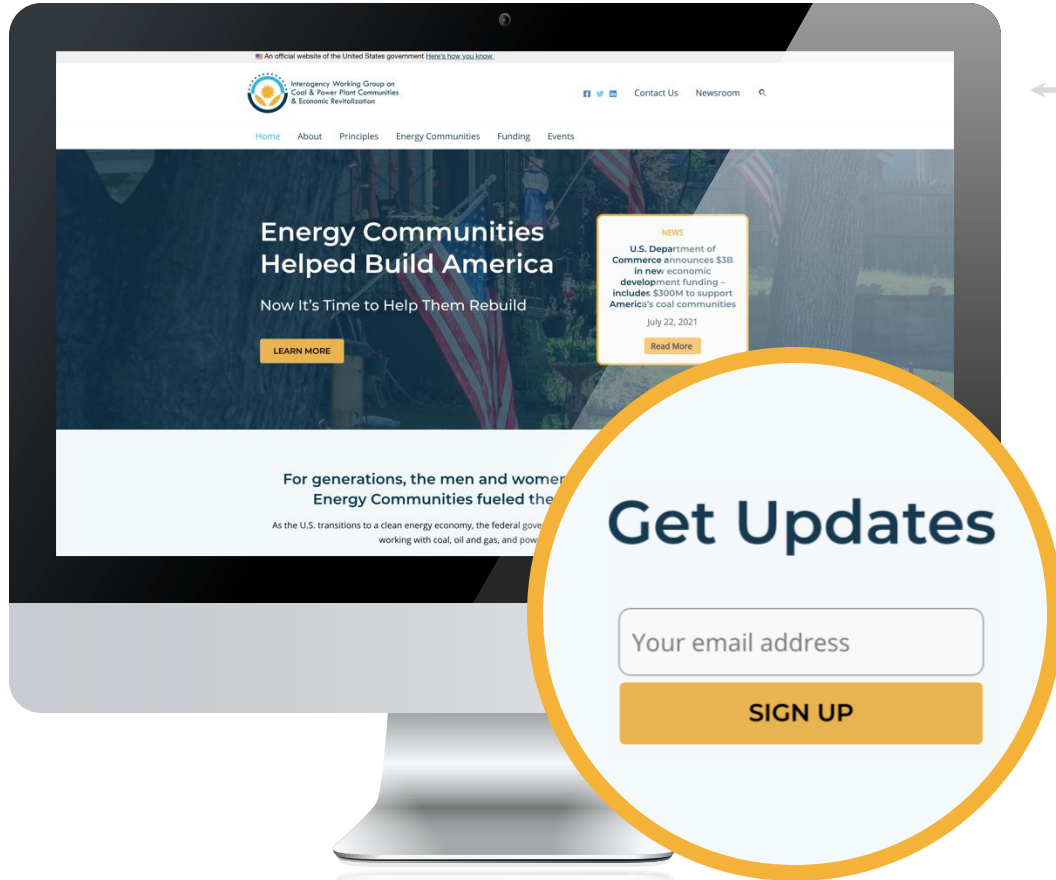
COORDINATE

CATALYZE

TARGET

The Looney Ridge mine in Wise County, VA

IWG Website & Social Media



energycommunities.netl.doe.gov



@EnergyComm_US



@EnergyCommunitiesUS



@energycommunitiesus



- ✓ **Stakeholder engagement opportunities**
 - ✓ Sign up at new website/follow social media
 - ✓ Attend webinars and workshops

- ✓ **Support coalitions and matching funds**

- ✓ **Provide input on priority IWG workstreams**
 - ✓ Stakeholder Engagement
 - ✓ Targeting Federal Investments
 - ✓ Capacity-Building/"One-Stop Shop"



**Economic Development Administration (EDA)
American Rescue Plan**

INVESTING IN AMERICA'S COAL COMMUNITIES

EDA's Mission

To lead the federal economic development agenda by promoting innovation and competitiveness, preparing American regions for growth and success in the worldwide economy.

- Increase America's global ECONOMIC COMPETITIVENESS
- Support COMMUNITY-LED ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
- Help communities develop RESILIENT AND AGILE local economies



\$3 billion in American Rescue Act funding to Invest in America's Communities

This **historic investment** will support bottom-up, middle-out economic development focused on advancing equity, creating good-paying jobs, helping workers to develop in-demand skills, building economic resilience, and accelerating the economic recovery for the industries and communities hit hardest by the coronavirus pandemic.

EDA investments made under the American Rescue Plan will support the Biden-Harris Administration's commitment not just to build the American economy back to where it was before the pandemic, but to **build back better and stronger**.



\$3 billion in American Rescue Plan funding to invest in:

Jobs for Today



Good Jobs Challenge
Travel, Tourism, &
Outdoor Recreation

Communities Built for All



Economic Adjustment Assistance
Indigenous Communities
Coal Communities Commitment

Regions for the Future



Build Back Better Regional Challenge
Statewide Planning,
Research, & Networks



EDA's Investment Priorities



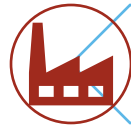
Equity



Recovery & Resilience



Workforce Development



Manufacturing



Technology-Based Economic Development



Environmentally-Sustainable Development



Exports & Foreign Direct Investment

To learn more about
EDA's Investment Priorities, visit
<https://eda.gov/about/investment-priorities/>



Coal Communities Commitment

EDA's \$300 million **Coal Communities Commitment** will ensure support for coal communities as they recover from the pandemic, create new jobs and opportunities, and create or expand new industries.

EDA will:

- **Encourage coal communities** to apply to all American Rescue Plan programs, offering them the opportunity to successfully compete for large, transformational grants
- Provide **planning and technical assistance grants** to help support states in their effort to develop plans to revitalize coal communities
- Offer opportunities to **develop national communities of practice** to support coal communities in building resilient economies
- Specifically support coal communities through **two Notices of Funding Opportunities (NOFOs)**



Coal Communities Definition

Communities and regions that can reasonably demonstrate how changes in the coal economy have resulted or are anticipated to result in job losses and layoffs in any coal-reliant commercial sector. This includes, but is not limited to:

- Coal mining
- Coal-fired power plants
- Related transportation, logistics, and/or supply chain manufacturing industries

There is no pre-defined list of impacted coal communities.

To demonstrate eligibility, complete applications must provide appropriate third party economic and demographic statistics that document the extent to which contractions in the coal economy have negatively impacted the community or region.



NOFOs

Description

Total American Rescue Plan funding: \$3B

- 1 Statewide Planning, Research, & Networks** **\$90M** Invest in economic plans, research to assess the effectiveness of EDA's programs, and support for stakeholder communities around key EDA initiatives
- 2 Build Back Better Regional Challenge** **\$1B** Transform 20-30 economically distressed regions through substantial investment through groups of 3-8 projects, totaling ~\$25-75M per region; open to proposals up to \$100M **\$100M**
- 3 Travel, Tourism, & Outdoor Recreation** **\$750M** Accelerate communities impacted by COVID-related travel and tourism decline through state grants (\$510M) and competitive grants (\$240M)
- 4 Economic Adjustment Assistance** **\$500M** Invest in infrastructure, technical assistance, planning, and revolving loan programs through competitive grants available to every community **\$200M**
- 5 Indigenous Communities** **\$100M** Additional Economic Adjustment Assistance funds to specifically support Indigenous communities
- 6 Good Jobs Challenge** **\$500M** Establish or strengthen regional systems to train workers with in-demand skills through employer-driven training, supporting participants with wrap-around services and employer commitments to hire

\$300M Coal Communities Commitment

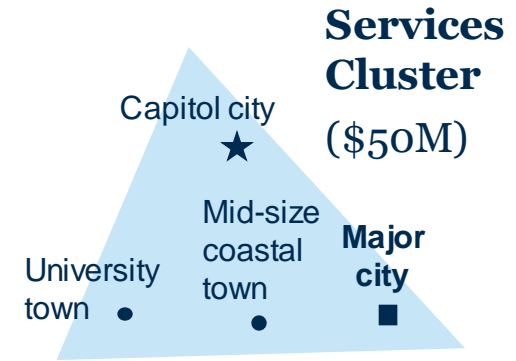


Build Back Better Regional Challenge

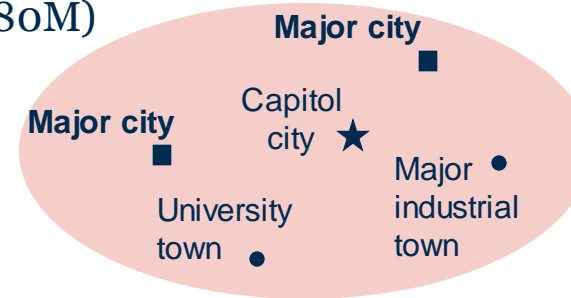
\$1 Billion

Transform economically distressed communities through substantial investment in regional growth clusters

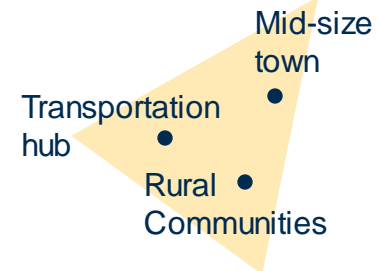
- Proposals should include regional coalitions, industry support, and high-impact projects with a shared vision for a regional growth cluster
- One key coordinating entity per region
- 3-8 projects per regional cluster
- **\$100M to the *Coal Communities Commitment***



Manufacturing Cluster
(\$80M)



Ag-tech Cluster
(\$25M)



Projects can include:

Planning | Infrastructure | Workforce | Entrepreneurship



Build Back Better Regional Challenge

Two-Phased Approach

Phase 1: 50-60 regions awarded technical assistance grants to help regions prepare for Phase II and mature their clusters
Total: ~\$500,000 per region

Phase 2: 20-30 regions from Phase I regions awarded implementation grants from full project cluster applications

Total: ~\$25-\$75M, up to \$100M per region

Phase 1 proposal deadline:
October 19, 2021

Phase 2 application deadline:
March 15, 2022

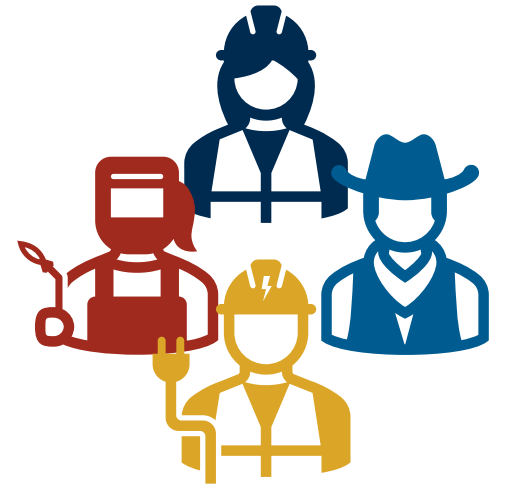


Economic Adjustment Assistance

\$200 million to coal communities

Invest in infrastructure, technical assistance, planning, and revolving loan programs through competitive grants available to every community

- Most flexible American Rescue Plan program; intended to fund non-construction and construction activities not already part of another Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO).
- A wide range of technical, planning, workforce development, entrepreneurship, and public works and infrastructure projects are eligible for funding under this program.
- EDA encourages application submissions based on long-term, regionally oriented, coordinated, and collaborative economic development or redevelopment strategies that foster economic growth and resilience. This includes plans aimed at building stronger regional economic links between urban centers and rural areas.



Examples of EDA Projects that have Supported Coal Communities

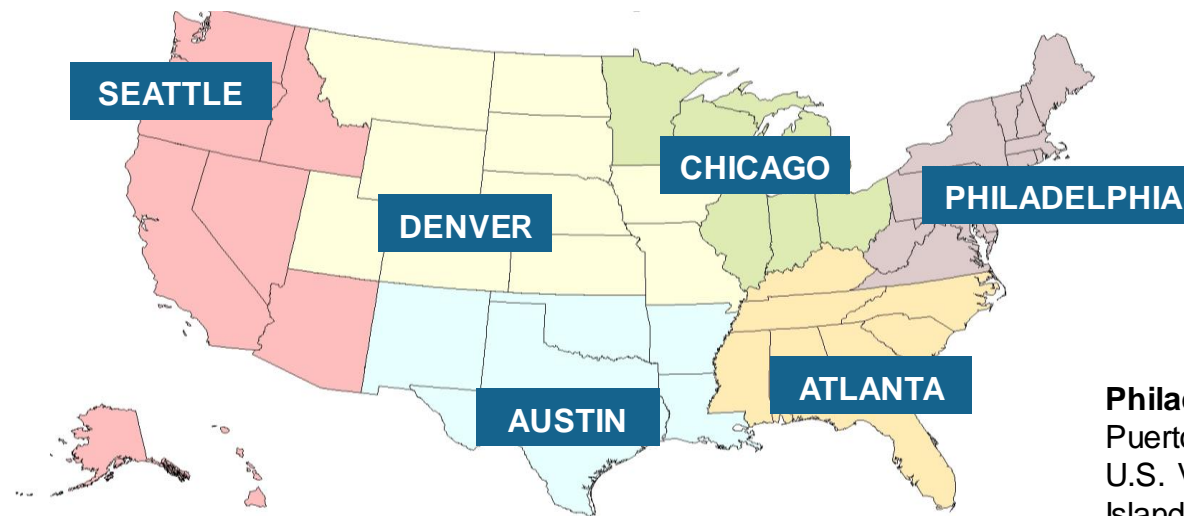
- **Mandan, North Dakota:** \$4M grant to the North Dakota Association of Rural Electric Cooperatives to construct a new lineworker training facility.
- **Southeast Ohio:** \$1.6M to Ohio University to support the Building Opportunities Beyond Coal Accelerating Transition (BOBCAT) Network which assists communities that have been impacted by the decline of the coal industry. This project utilizes development resources and regional collaboration to accelerate the region's economic diversification through entrepreneurial growth, workforce development, and identification of infrastructure investment needs.
- **Sheridan, Wyoming:** \$2.26M to the Sheridan Economic and Educational Development Authority to fund the construction of a new manufacturing facility at the Sheridan High Tech Park. The investment will expand operations for the local manufacturing company including an insulated metal building structure, the purchase of equipment and materials, plumbing, electrical and data lines, and a fire suppression system.
- **Johnstown, Pennsylvania:** \$1.95M grant to the Johnstown Regional Development Authority to build a new entrepreneurial center to house growing small businesses. The center also helps persons recovering from opioid addiction reenter the local workforce.
- **Hazard, Kentucky:** \$3.88M to construct the Hazard Community College Center of Manufacturing Excellence facility in the Kentucky Community and Technical College System.



EDA's American Rescue Plan programs can support projects like this and more, and will provide unprecedented funding to coal communities across the country.

Next Steps to Apply

1. Read the **Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO)** and Eligibility Requirements: <https://eda.gov/funding-opportunities/>
2. Find your **Economic Development District** for planning support and technical assistance: <https://eda.gov/resources/directory/>
3. Connect with your state's **Economic Development Representative** with questions: <https://eda.gov/contact>



Seattle:
American Samoa
Guam
Federated States of
Micronesia
Palau

Philadelphia:
Marshall Islands
Commonwealth of the
Northern Mariana
Islands



Resources

Visit www.eda.gov/arpa/resources for:

- One-page program overviews
- Webinar recordings and slides
- FAQs
- Applicant support tools and videos



Questions?



Visit www.eda.gov/arpa to learn more about the American Rescue Plan programs and find contact information for each.