

**Questions and Answers re: EECBG Request for Proposals**  
**Department of Public Service**  
**July 3, 2024**

**Q1: Are municipalities eligible to submit joint applications for EECBG grants; specifically, to have multiple municipalities join in a transportation planning process?**

A1: Yes, it is acceptable for multiple municipalities to join in a multi-municipal planning process such as a regional transportation plan. To do so, one municipality must be identified as the lead entity that will be responsible for managing the EECBG award and must submit the application. **PSD will allow municipalities to enter one such multi-municipal arrangement in the EECBG. Those that chose to do so may not submit an individual application or participate in another multi-municipal initiative.** Please see revised RFP posted at: xxx for additional details.

**Q2: Are villages within towns eligible?**

A2: Provided that the village is an incorporated village, then it is eligible to apply under EECBG per the RFP, which states, "Eligible Towns – Except for the towns and cities listed below, all other Vermont cities, towns, and incorporated villages are eligible to apply for EECBG funding from the PSD."

**Q3: Can multiple towns go in together to hire a consultant? Specifically, "clerk of the works" to manage their MERP implementation activities?**

A3: In cases such as technical assistance consultations for work related to energy goals or strategy, multiple towns may coordinate the hiring of a consultant (see the response to Q1 above). This is eligible under Category 2. However, if any current or proposed work entails or in the future will entail physical labor and installing equipment on properties it would not be eligible, so hiring of a clerk of the works would likely not be eligible. Even though the clerk of the works position would be administrative in nature, a current or proposed project that entails changes to buildings, properties, and/or landscapes would trigger certain federal requirements. Similarly, if the planning consultant is contracted to assist with implementation of approved projects that entail or will entail physical changes to buildings, properties, and/or landscapes, then such planning consultations are not eligible under this solicitation.

**Q4: Can towns purchase EV's?**

A4: Electric Vehicles are eligible under Category 7 in the RFP.

**Q5: Can a town submit multiple applications or just one?**

A5: Municipalities may submit only one application, but this application may contain more than one category. As stated above, municipalities may choose to participate in a multi-municipal arrangement as their one application. See the revised RFP for details.

**Q6: What is the distinction between different levels of "planning"? Does this matter for the EECBG planning categories? For example, there are basic levels of planning, then as projects move along,**

**they go to development planning then “implementation” planning. Would these advanced levels of planning still qualify?**

A6: Planning is an eligible activity under the EECBG when the work is at the visionary, strategic, or conceptual level (See Categories 1 and 2). Planning for implementation of projects or programs that entail or will entail actual physical activity, construction, equipment installation, and/or changes made on the ground, and that have already been approved, are not eligible as these would trigger certain federal requirements.

**Q7: Can towns use funds from savings of energy for long term capacity building?**

A7: Financial savings accrued by implementation of energy improvements belong to the municipality. How these savings are used is determined by the municipality.

**Q8: The EECBG deadline for applications is August 9, 2024, but the BGS MERP awards will not likely have been announced by that date. Is there a way to help municipalities coordinate between these two awards?**

A8: PSD issued the EECBG RFP based on timeline parameters established by DOE. Municipalities are encouraged to coordinate with PSD, BGS, RPCs and other stakeholders to the best of their ability within the timelines established by federal agencies with regard to other funding streams.

**Q9: Who to send emails to?**

A9: General EECBG questions should be submitted to [psd.eecbgprogram@vermont.gov](mailto:psd.eecbgprogram@vermont.gov). PSD-related questions may be submitted to Edward Delhagen at [Ed.Delhagen@vermont.gov](mailto:Ed.Delhagen@vermont.gov).

**Q10: Can PSD re-open the Question & Answer session?**

A10: Yes. See revised RFP.