

# Optimizing Federal Funding Opportunities

### Presented by:

Chris Lover, Managing Director, <u>LoverC@pfm.com</u>
Lisa Lawrence, Managing Director, <u>LawrenceL@pfm.com</u>
Melissa LaBuda, Director, <u>Labudam@pfm.com</u>

**May 2024** 

PFM Financial Advisors. LLC

pfm.com





The most terrifying words in the English language are: I'm from the government and I'm here to help.

— Ronald Reagan —



Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act of 2021



Inflation Reduction Act of 2022













## Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) or, the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL)

 Infrastructure Investment & Jobs Act (IIJA) signed into law November 2021, includes historic investments in roads, bridges and highways (\$110 billion), broadband (\$65 billion), water (\$55 billion), transit (\$39 billion), airport (\$25 billion) & ports (\$17 billion) infrastructure

> **NEW PROGRAMS AVAILABLE** TO STATE AND LOCAL **GOVERNMENTS**



- Common themes across all legislation includes partnerships, equity, sustainability and outcomes
- Dollars have started flowing!!



# The IIJA provides more than \$860 billion for cities and states

Funding by Federal Agency		Types of Funding		
Dept of Transportation	\$567.1B	Formula (non-co	mpetitive): \$660B	
Dept of Energy	\$80.8B	Transportation	\$466.3B	
Environmental Protection Age	ncy \$67B	Energy	\$59.1B	
Department of Commerce	\$51.7B	Broadband	\$58.2B	
Others	\$97B	Water	\$54.8B	



Competitive:		\$204B
Transportation	\$124.4B	
Energy	\$39B	
Broadband	\$6.3B	
Water	\$2.6B	



### Inflation Reduction Act: Overview

Largest investment in U.S. Energy Infrastructure, with varied incentives to help subsidize the cost of achieving environmental goals.

- Signed into law on August 16th, 2022
- Provides \$369 billion over the next decade for new & existing programs
- Goal of reducing emissions by ~40% by 2030
- Potential for tax incentives to touch multiple aspects of your community
  - Installation of energy facilities (e.g., solar, wind, microgrid, biogas projects)
  - Conversion of vehicle fleets to electric/hybrid
  - Electric Vehicle (EV) deployment to include the **charging station** network
  - Energy efficient building design & construction (to include geothermal)
- The U.S. Treasury has **started providing more detailed guidance** (December 2023) and the first wave of applications for the IRA incentives is expected in Spring 2024



# **Complementary IIJA & IRA Programs**

		IIJA (November 2021)	IRA (August 2022)
Electric Vehicles	<b>7</b> J	<b>\$7.5 billion</b> for charging infrastructure	<b>\$2 billion</b> for domestic manufacturing grants
Schools & Ports		<b>\$5 billion</b> for clean or zero-emission school buses	<b>\$3 billion</b> for zero-emissions equipment at ports
Transit		<b>\$66 billion</b> for passenger & freight rail	<b>\$3 billion</b> Neighborhood Access and Equity Grants to improve transportation access
Electric Grid	食	<b>\$65 billion</b> to modernize & expand the national grid	<b>\$9.7 billion</b> for reliability & resilience improvements in rural areas
Homes		<b>\$3.5 billion</b> to the Weatherization Assistance Program	<b>\$8.6 billion</b> for energy efficiency upgrades
Environmental Remediation	23	<b>\$21 billion</b> in environmental remediation	<b>\$27 billion</b> for a national climate bank to finance green projects in underserved communities
Agricultural & Forestry	**	<b>\$3.3 billion</b> for wildfire risk reduction	\$19.5 billion for climate-smart agricultural practices

bill/5376



## **IRA Sectors Supported**

The IRA supports a wide variety of sectors and sub-sectors with clean electricity, transmission, and clean transportation programs.

### Energy



Electricity technology / infrastructure investment, oil & gas, battery production, nuclear, solar, wind transmission, alternative fuels

### Industry & Manufacturing



Domestic manufacturing, clean energy equipment, facilities, critical materials, supply chain

### Environmental



Air pollution, carbon removal, environmental quality, environmental justice, conservation

### Building



Homebuilding, energy efficient & electrification, climate resilience, HUD-assisted properties

### Agriculture



Farming, resiliency, wildfire management

#### **Transportation**



Vehicles, EV Charging stations, aviation, ports / waterways, public transit

#### Water



Water quality, covering canals with solar panels



# Poll question 1

My organization has stated renewable energy goals and targets that will significantly reduce our carbon intensity in the coming decade

- A. Agree
- B. Disagree

© PFM



# Tax Incentives for Tax-Exempt Entities

- For the first time, tax-exempt and government entitles that do not owe Federal Income taxes are able to receive a payment equal to the full value of tax credits for building qualifying clean energy projects or making qualifying investments.
- Elective pay allows entities to get their payment if they meet the requirements for the elective pay and the underlying tax credit
- Entities eligible for elective pay (applicable entities) do not normally owe federal income tax. However, by filing a return and using elective pay, these entities can receive a tax-free cash payment from the IRS for clean energy tax credits earned, assuming all requirements are met, including
- Applicable entities can use elective pay for 12 clean energy tax credits including the major Investment and Production Tax (45 and 48) credits, as well as tax credits for electric vehicles and charging stations.



# **Changes to Tax Incentives**

- Previously, renewable incentives were only available to tax-paying entities; now tax-exempt entities can benefit from these incentives directly
- In many cases, existing incentives were increased and/or extended
- New incentives have been added
- Cost of achieving environmental objectives is likely lower now than it was prior to the IRA
- Projects constructed in 2022 could be eligible depending when reaching commercial operations
- Potential synergy between the IRA & the Infrastructure Investment & Jobs Act

### Sample Increased and/or Extended Incentives

- Expanded and modified the "179D" tax deduction for energy efficiency in commercial buildings
  - Expanded the Production Tax Credit to include solar (previously expired in 2005)
  - Extended both the Production Tax Credit & Investment Tax Credit to 2032 for carbon neutral technologies
- Increased the credit for EV charging stations from \$30,000 to \$100,000 & modified the definition from "per location" to "per unit"

### **Sample New Incentive**

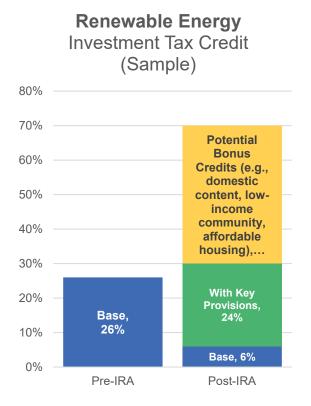
Added the Commercial Clean Vehicle
 Credit: Provides up to \$40,000 subsidy for large vehicle replacement (> 7 tons)



## **Key Provision: Investment Tax Bonus Credits**

Bonus credits can be applied to some of the IRA's base tax credits for clean energy projects that meet goals related to workforce, labor, priority communities, and domestic industries. The amount of bonus credits vary and can each range up to 10%.

Bonus Credit	Eligible Projects
Prevailing Wage and Registered Apprenticeship Requirements	Projects that employ apprentices from registered apprenticeship programs for a certain number of hours and pay prevailing wages
Domestic Content	Facilities built using required amounts of domestically produced steel, iron, and manufactured products.
Low Income or Tribal Communities	Facilities in low-income communities and tribal communities, including facilities that are part of federal housing projects or benefit lower income households.  You must apply and receive a capacity allocation, and
	then place your facility in service to claim this bonus.
Energy Communities	Projects located in communities historically dependent on fossil energy jobs and tax revenues, including areas with closed coal mines or coal fired power plants, and on brownfields.



<sup>\*</sup>The amount of a direct payment may be phased out for applicable properties that do not satisfy domestic content requirements and have a maximum net output of one megawatt or more. The phaseout is a percentage of the otherwise allowable amount. The phaseout percentage is 90% for properties that begin construction in 2024. Under Sections 45Y and 48E, the phaseout percentage is 85% if construction begins in 2025 and zero if construction begins after 2025.



# Poll question 2

My organization is planning on owning renewable assets by 2030

- A. True
- B. False

© PFM 13



# Tax Incentives 101 for Renewable Energy Projects

Incentive

### **Production Tax Credit (PTC):** \$27.50 per MWh

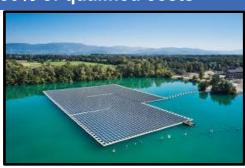
**OR** 

### **Investment Tax Credit (ITC):** 30% of qualified costs



Can elect to take either incentive (not both). Each project is unique in terms of which incentive and form of debt provides the highest benefit.

- Incentive is based on energy produced from the renewable facility
- Received annually for the first 10 years of operation
- Requires annual filing with the U.S. Treasury and the IRS (the amount of energy produced from the facility)
- Adjusted for inflation each year so maintains buying power
- Can finance with tax exempt debt, but incentive reduced by 15%



- Incentive is based on the installed cost of the renewable/clean energy facility
- Received **once** the facility produces energy or has achieved commercial operation
- Requires initial filing with the U.S. Treasury and the IRS (the qualified costs as well as engineering reports)
- Can finance with tax exempt debt, but incentive reduced by 15%





# **Renewable Energy Incentives**

Renewable Energy Facilities				
Incentive	Production Tax Credit (PTC):  • Funds received over time  • 10 years, \$26/per MWh, adjusted for inflation assuming fair wage & apprenticeship requirements are met  • 15% reduction if tax-exempt financing is used	Investment Tax Credit (ITC):  • Funds received upfront (reimbursement)  • 30% of eligible construction costs of a renewable energy facility assuming fair wage & apprenticeship requirements are met  • 15% reduction if tax-exempt financing is used		
Example Projects	Installation of solar & wind facilities	Installation of solar & wind facilities; biogas digesters for sewer utilities		
Eligible Projects	Solar, wind, landfill gas, geothermal, biomass, trash, qualified hydropower, marine & hydrokinetic resources	Solar, fuel cells, waste energy recovery, combined heat & power, small wind property, energy storage, qualified biogas property, electrochromic glass, microgrid controllers, geothermal		
Bonus Credits	<ul> <li>10% for meeting domestic content requirements</li> <li>10% for projects located in energy communities</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>10% for meeting domestic content requirements</li> <li>10% for projects located in low-income communities</li> <li>20% for projects in qualified low-income residential building or low-income economic benefit project</li> <li>10% for projects located in energy communities</li> </ul>		
Timing Considerations	<ul> <li>Eligible projects are projects that start construction by December 31, 2024 (geothermal extended to 2035)*.</li> <li>The technology-specific PTC ends in 2024 and is replaced by a new technology-neutral PTC (§45Y) starting in 2025.</li> <li>Start phasing out in 2032 .</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Eligible projects are projects that start construction by December 31, 2024 (geothermal extended to 2035)*.</li> <li>The technology-specific ITC ends in 2024 for most technologies and is replaced by the new technology-neutral clean electricity ITC (§48E), which begins in 2025.</li> <li>Start phasing out in 2032</li> </ul>		
Implication	District can finance a renewable project with tax-exempt debt & claim 85% of the Production Tax Credit.	District can finance a renewable project with tax–exempt debt & receive a direct payment from the IRS for up to ~25.5% of eligible construction costs.		



# Achieving Renewable Energy Goals: Before & After the IRA

### Historically,...

- Prior to the IRA, only tax-paying entities could benefit from renewable energy tax credits
- A county would primarily enter into an agreement with a tax-paying developer with developer building & owning the project
  - The county would agree to purchase energy at an agreed-upon rate over the term (e.g., 15 20 years), which would generally be adjusted annually for inflation
  - The developer received several incentives, including a Production Tax Credit or an Investment Tax Credit as well as the benefit of accelerated depreciation of the asset
  - The developer would embed some of these incentives into the contracted cost of energy
  - The county's cost of energy would also reflect the Developer's investment return objectives

#### Now...

 A county can receive the Production Tax Credit or Investment Tax Credit directly, even when financing the project with tax-exempt debt

	Pre-IRA: Solar Developer Builds & Owns	Under IRA: County Builds & Owns
Tax Credits	Solar Developer receives 30% of eligible costs	County receives 25.5% of eligible costs*
Financing	Solar Developer secures at private cost of capital typically with a "Tax-equity" partner	County secures at lower cost of capital
Construction Risk	Solar Developer responsible	County responsible (or contractor)
Decisions at End of Useful Life	Solar Developer controls	County controls
Additional Considerations	<ul><li>Pricing of contracts not very transparent</li><li>Unknown efficiency of depreciation benefit</li></ul>	<ul> <li>County's lease versus own strategy</li> <li>Reporting &amp; filing requirements</li> </ul>

<sup>\*</sup> Assumes the County elects Investment Tax Credit, meets Fair Wage & Apprenticeship requirements & finances the balance of the project with tax-exempt debt. Determining most efficient incentive requires project specific analysis.



# Poll question 3

My organization is planning fleet electrification in the coming few years

- A. True
- B. False

© PFM 17



# **Qualified Commercial Clean Vehicle Tax Credit**



	Qualified Commercial Clean Vehicle
Example Projects	Electrification of police fleet, school buses, ambulances, & garbage trucks
Eligible Projects	<ul> <li>Plug-in electric vehicles, fuel cell vehicles</li> <li>Varying weight &amp; battery capacity requirements</li> <li>For use on public streets, roads &amp; highways</li> </ul>
Incentive	Tax credit (i.e., direct payment to the District) is the lessor of:  • 15% of vehicles cost (30% for vehicles not gasoline or diesel powered)  • Incremental cost of clean versus "non-clean" (e.g., gasoline, diesel) vehicle  Max amounts linked to vehicle size:  • <7 tons: \$7,500/vehicle  • >7 tons: \$40,000/vehicle (e.g., school buses, heavy-duty municipal vehicles)
Timing Considerations	Vehicles must be acquired after December 31, 2022 & before the end of 2032
Implication	Can replace vehicle fleets with cleaner options and receive a direct-pay subsidy to reduce the cost – although hybrid options could be limited.



# **Alternative Fuel Refueling Property Tax Credit** (i.e., "Charging Station" Credit)



Alternative Fuel Refueling Property Tax Credit			
Example Projects	Installation of Electric Vehicle (EV) charging stations and supporting infrastructure		
Eligible Projects	Property for the storage or dispensing of clean-burning fuel (CNG, LNG, electricity, hydrogen) or electricity into the vehicle fuel tank or battery; includes bidirectional charging equipment		
Incentive	Tax credit (i.e., direct payment to the County), with max of:  30% of costs, assuming fair wage & apprenticeship requirements are met (6% of costs if not) OR  \$100,000 per unit		
Timing Considerations	<ul> <li>Starting in 2023, only eligible if placed within low income or rural areas</li> <li>Incentive expires after December 31, 2032</li> </ul>		
Implication	Could potentially receive tax credits for expansion of local EV charging networks.		



# §179D Energy Efficient Commercial Building Tax Deduction



- Tax deduction expanded under IRA for new and retrofit commercial buildings achieving specified cost/energy savings
- Not available via elective pay, it's a tax deduction
- However, certain tax-exempt entities may allocate the deduction to the designer of the building or retrofit

Energy Cost Savings**	Deduction if Not meeting Prevailing Wage Criteria	Deduction if meeting Prevailing Wage Criteria
25% minimum	\$0.50 per sqft	\$2.50 per sqft
Every +1%	+\$.02 per sqft	+\$.10 per sqft
50% maximum	\$1.00 per sqft	\$5.00 per sqft

<sup>\*\*</sup>Baseline for calculating savings depends on one of two pathways new construction/retrofit

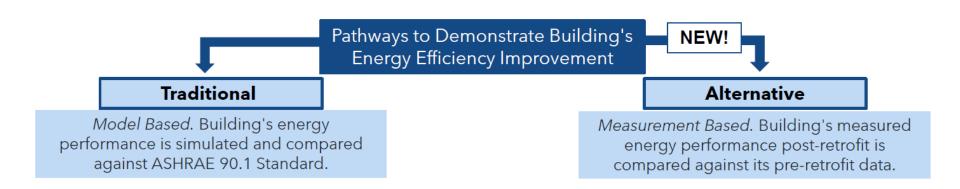
- Eligible installations include:
  - Interior lighting
  - HVAC
  - Hot water systems
  - Building envelope
- For more information, see IRS 179 website: https://www.irs.gov/credits-deductions/energyefficient-commercial-buildings-deduction



## **Key Updates from the IRA**



- The tax deduction increases on sliding scale with % improvement in energy efficiency.
- The deduction increases fivefold if project meets prevailing wage and registered apprenticeship requirements.
- Tax-exempt entities, including tribal entities, eligible to allocate their deduction (previously applied to public buildings solely).
- An alternative retrofit pathway created to show improvement in energy efficiency.





# **Snapshot of IRA Incentives Available to Citizens and Businesses**

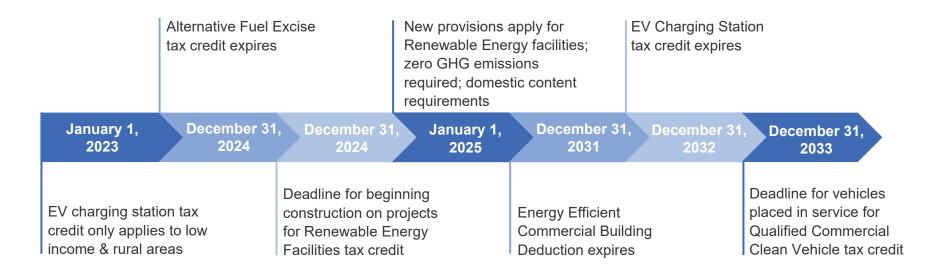


Program	Description
The Homeowner Managing Energy Savings (HOMES) Rebate Program	\$4.3 billion for state energy offices to establish rebate programs for residential retrofits.
High-Efficiency Electric Home Rebate Program	<ul> <li>\$4.5 billion to state energy offices to establish rebate programs for residential electrification.</li> <li>Participating households may be eligible to receive up to \$14,000 in rebates.</li> </ul>
Energy Efficient Home Improvement Credit	<ul> <li>Tax credit up to \$3,200 annually to lower the cost of energy efficient upgrades by up to 30%.</li> <li>Includes the purchase of heat pumps, insulation, efficient doors &amp; windows, electrical panel upgrades &amp; energy audits.</li> </ul>
Residential Clean Energy Credit	<ul> <li>Tax credit of 30% to lower the installation cost of residential clean energy.</li> <li>Includes rooftop solar, wind, geothermal &amp; battery storage.</li> </ul>
Clean Vehicle Tax Credits	<ul> <li>Vehicles include battery electric, plug-in hybrid or fuel cell EVs</li> <li>Existing \$7,500 tax credit for <i>new</i> EVs can now be transferred at the point of sale.</li> <li>New credit for <i>used</i> EVs of up to \$4,000. Credit may not exceed 30% of sale price.</li> <li>Domestic sourcing requirements for vehicle manufacturers go into effect in 2023.</li> </ul>
New Energy Efficient Home Credit	<ul> <li>Modifies &amp; increases the tax credit available for homebuilders for energy efficient homes.</li> <li>Base credit increases five times if prevailing wage provisions are met.</li> </ul>



# **Timing Considerations**

- Consider accelerating projects because over time, certain incentives stop and / or become more restrictive
- The prevailing wage and apprenticeship provisions will become operative for facilities when construction begins on or after January 30, 2023





# What Can Clients be Thinking About Now?



PFM generally recommends establishing a "Due Diligence Team" to review these opportunities as well as evolving guidance from US Treasury.

Composition includes:

Finance
Legal
Procurement
Facilities
Bond Counsel
Tax Counsel
Financial Advisor
Consulting Engineer
Auditor

- Identify & evaluate IRA incentives that may support own environmental objectives.
  - For solar (or wind, microgrid or biogas) projects:
    - Compare Power Purchase Agreements to direct ownership
    - Compare the Investment Tax Credit vs. Production Tax Credit
    - Compare the financial impact of using tax-exempt debt & lower incentive vs. taxable debt & higher incentive
  - For projects under construction, determine eligibility & track eligible costs for reimbursement (accountant attestation)
  - Identify the location of "energy communities" in the area, if any
- Consider accelerating certain programs or projects in light of the step-down in incentives or more stringent requirements
- Consider adding programs or projects in light of incentives available
- Consider cross-cutting programs across departments to try to capture as many of these incentives as possible
  - Identify opportunities to combine credits & increase credits
  - Identify any overlap in IRA & IIJA incentives
- Awareness campaign for incentives available to residents & businesses
- Review of grant funding and national green bank opportunities in the IRA (not covered in this presentation)

© PFM



# Poll question 4

I have a fairly good understanding of the process needed to apply for these incentives.

- A. True
- B. False

© PFM 25



# **Elective Pay Process**



## **Overview: IRS Finalizes Elective Pay Process**

On March 5<sup>th</sup>, 2024 the IRS released final guidance on elective pay mechanics

### Process to Receive Direct Pay

- <u>Complete Pre-Filing Registration</u>: Requires information on filer, project, and appliable project; This process will generate a registration number (www.irs.gov/eptregister)
  - Registration / registration number will need to be updated for every tax year that filer pursues Tax Credit.

### File Annual Tax Return and Tax Credit IRS Forms (Examples Include):

- Form 990-T: Exempt Organization Tax Return (<a href="https://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/f990t.pdf">https://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/f990t.pdf</a>)
- Form 3468: Investment Credit (<a href="https://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/f3468.pdf">https://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/f3468.pdf</a>)
- Form 3800: General Business Credit (<a href="https://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/f3800.pdf">https://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/f3800.pdf</a>)

#### Direct Pay Requirements

- <u>Prevailing Wage / Apprenticeship Requirements</u>: For facilities beginning construction on or after 12/29/2023 to receive the full subsidy, prevailing wage and apprenticeship requirements must be met, or made a good faith affirmation
- <u>Domestic Content</u>: While tax credit and credit transfer projects are eligible for a 10% bonus if they meet domestic content requirement beginning in 2024, elective pay projects failing to meet the Domestic content requirements see the subsidy reduced



## **Elective Pay Mechanics & Process**



## **Pre-Filing Registration**

Register each unique project for which tax credit will be claimed via IRS website Get unique registration number



## **IRS Filings**

File tax return (Form 990-T) & Form 3800 with registration numbers and supporting documentation by tax deadline

Due 4.5 months after end of taxable year (+6-month extension if requested)



### **Receive Funds**

IRS makes payment after review of tax filing

Likely more than 1 year after project is placed into service/money is spent



## **Pre-Filing Registration Details**

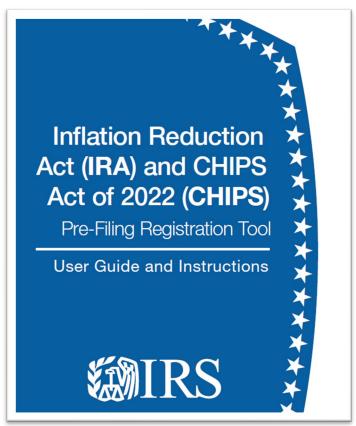
Pre-Filing registration is mandatory for applicable entities

• The Inflation Reduction Act and CHIPs Act of 2022 Pre-Filing Registration Tool User Guide and Instructions

provides detailed information for applicable entities

 Complete and submit the pre-filing registration request no earlier than the beginning of the tax year in which the applicable entities will earn the credit it wishes to monetize.

- This is the earliest date for pre-filing registration. The IRS will
  provide you with a registration number for each applicable credit
  property.
- The IRS intends to review and process registration submissions through the IRA/CHIPS Pre-Filing Registration tool in the order it receives them
- If the registrant chooses to make additional pre-filing registration submissions for different facilities/ properties, the registrant must wait until the most recent pre-filing registration submission is processed by the IRS and returned.
- After you submit a registration package, you can monitor its status in the "Your Registration" site.



© PFM https://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/p5884.pdf 29



# **Recording Keeping Requirements and Cost Tracking**

ategory	Response	Notes			
Seneral Information			Prevailing Wage Requirements		
Project name	ABC Solar Field		Meets Prevailing Wage Requirement		
Project location (address)	101 Market Street, Anywhere USA		Prevailing Wage Exception: Able to make correction payment	□ Yes □ No	
Project owner(s)	ABC Utility			Not Applicable	
Project Type	New construction, solar on the building		Prevailing Wage Exception: Able to make penalty payment	□ Yes □ No	
estimated total project costs		Everything			
	\$1.145.000	materials s	Apprenticeship Requirements		
	\$1,140,000	consultant t	Meets Labor Hours Requirement	☐ Yes ☐ No	N/A, <1MW exception
Estimated Qualified Costs <sup>1</sup>	\$[to come]	time	Meets Apprentice to Journeyworker Ratio Requirement	□ Yes □ No	N/A, <1MW exception
Project financed with tax-exempt debt?  f yes, how much?	□ Yes ⊠ No		Meets Participation Requirement	□ Yes □ No	N/A, <1MW exception
ax year	FY 2023		<ul> <li>Apprenticeship Exception: Satisfies Good Faith Effort Exception</li> </ul>	☐ Yes ☐ No	
Maximum Net Output					
Maximum net output of project	62 kW		Apprenticeship Exception: Able to make	☐ Yes ☐ No	
leets One Megawatt Exception	Yes □ No		penalty payment		
Construction Schedule			Domestic Content Adder	22 Not Applicable	
ate when "physical work of a significant ature began" (Physical Work Test)	[January 2022 (est)]		Meets requirements for steel and iron	□ Yes ⊠ No	
Date when 5% or more of the total cost of the project was paid or incurred (5% Safe Harbor)	[January 2022 (est)]		Meets requirements for manufactured products	☐ Yes ⊠ No	
Date construction commenced (earlier of	[January 2022 (est)]		_Domestic Content Exception: Satisfies Increased Cost Exception	☐ Yes ☒ No	
Physical Work Test or 5% Safe Harbor)	- , ,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,			☐ Not Applicable	
Estimated date for commercial operation placed in service)	November 9, 2022		Domestic Content Exception: Satisfies Non- Availability Exception	☐ Yes ⊠ No	
stimated Continuity Safe Harbor deadline	December 31, 2026		-	□ Not Applicable	

© PFM



# **Elective Payments Process to Claiming Energy Credits**

### **Identify and Pursue Projects**

#### **Build Internal Team**

• Work with financial officers, in house counsel, procurement, engineering etc...

### **Determine Tax Year**

- Generally accounting year for tax-exempt entities
- For ITC, the year after placed in service, and for PTCs, beginning the year after eligible production occur

### **Placed in Service**

•The applicable credit property must be placed in service before a registration number will be issued

### **Complete Pre-Filing Registration**

- Project placed in service prior to pre-filing registration
- Provide information on applicable credits and project
- Receive registration number for each property (required for direct pay)

### **Satisfy Eligibility Requirements**

- •Elective pay only available for tax years beginning 2023; Practically this means projects owned by an Applicable Entity (tax-exempt entity) and entering operations in 2023 or later
- Documentation of tax credits and bonuses Wage & Apprenticeship, Domestic Content

### File Annual Tax Return

- Provide information on applicable credits, project, and Wage & Apprenticeship / Domestic Content documentation
- Submit relevant return forms generally form 990-T, form 3800, and form for the particular credit

### **Receive Payment**

• Payment is made after tax return has been processed and within 45-days of the due date for the return



## **Bringing It Together**

- What credits are being used?
- Are there eligibility restrictions or bonus credits that have specific criteria?
- What type of funding am I using, and does it impact project cost basis?
- Two-step process with IRS
  - Pre-filing registration portal
  - Elective pay filing
  - Receipt of funding occurs after construction complete
- Planning for direct pay should begin early in project.



Chula Vista, CA, Unveils Electric Vehicle Fleet and Charging Stations<sup>1</sup>



Lakeville Area Schools, MN1



# Thank you



# **Appendix**

© PFM



## **Direct Payment Tax Credits Available to Tax-Exempt Entities**

- Under the IRA, state, local and Tribal governments as well as non-profit organizations and other tax-exempt entities, may elect to receive the following credits as direct payments:
  - Production Tax Credit (Section 45, Section 45Y)
  - Investment Tax Credit (Section 48, Section 48E)
  - Credit for Qualified Commercial Clean Vehicles (Section 45w, tax-exempt entities only)
  - Alternative Fuel Refueling Property Credit (Section 30C)
  - Alternative Fuel Excise Tax Credit (Section 40A)
  - Additional credits not covered in this presentation
    - Credit for Carbon Oxide Sequestration (Section 45Q)
    - Zero-Emission Nuclear Power Production Credit (Section 45U)
    - Credit for Production of Clean Hydrogen (Section 45V)
    - Advanced Manufacturing Production Credit (Section 45x)
    - Clean Fuel Production Credit (Section 45z)
    - Advanced Energy Project Credit (Section 48C)



## **Elective Pay Application Overview**

- Section 6417 of the Tax Code allows tax-exempt entities to receive cash payments from federal government for clean energy and climate investments established under the IRA through a direct payment of tax credit
- The process to apply is multi-step process
- First, register with the IRS on a new registration portal
- If the information provided through the portal is sufficient and verifiable, the IRS will issue a special registration number
- Must obtain a separate registration number for each project. In general, each registration number corresponds to one clean energy property in one tax year.
- After obtaining a pre-filing registration number, an applicable entity must:
  - Make the elective pay election on an original tax return Form 990-T
  - Complete relevant source credit forms and:
    - · IRS Form 3800 and
    - IRS Form 3468 for ITC http://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/i3468.pdf
    - IRS Form 8936-A for Clean Commercial Vehicles https://www.irs.gov/forms-pubs/aboutform-8936-a
    - IRS Form 8911 for Alternative Fuel Vehicle Refueling Property Credit https://www.irs.gov/forms-pubs/about-form-8911
  - Provide certain supporting information and calculations
  - Must annually renew registration number and attest
  - Provide updates for changes or new information



## **Prevailing Wage & Apprenticeship Requirements**

- On November 30<sup>th</sup>, the U.S. Treasury published initial prevailing wage & apprenticeship guidance
- With the 60-day effective period included in the Act, the requirements will be operative for facilities when construction begins on or after January 30, 2023
- Prevailing wage requirements are governed by the Davis-Bacon Act
- For most incentives, following the prevailing wage & apprenticeship requirements increases the amount of the incentive

Tax Incentive	Prevailing Wage Requirements	Apprenticeship Requirements
Production Tax Credit (Section 45, Section 45Y)	Yes (10 years post COD)*	Yes
Investment Tax Credit (Section 48, Section 48E)	Yes (5 years post COD)*	Yes
Credit for Qualified Commercial Clean Vehicles (Section 45w)	No	No
Alternative Fuel Refueling Property Credit (Section 30C)	Yes	Yes
Alternative Fuel Excise Tax Credit (Section 40A)	No	No
Energy Efficient Commercial Buildings Deduction (Section 179D)	Yes	Yes
Credit for Carbon Oxide Sequestration (Section 45Q)	Yes	Yes
Zero-Emission Nuclear Power Production Credit (Section 45U)	Yes	No
Credit for Production of Clean Hydrogen (Section 45V)	Yes	Yes
Advanced Manufacturing Production Credit (Section 45x)	No	No
Clean Fuel Production Credit (Section 45z)	Yes	Yes
Advanced Energy Project Credit (Section 48C)	Yes	Yes

<sup>\*</sup> Time starts date facility is placed in service. "COD" is Commercial Operational Date."



# 5X Credit Multiplier – Prevailing Wage and Apprenticeship Requirements Facilities Under 1MW

- Prevailing Wage Requirement Not Required for Facilities under 1MW.
  - Still get 5x multiplier without meeting the prevailing wage/labor requirements if the maximum net output of the facility is less than 1 megawatt of electrical (as measured in alternating current) or thermal energy.
- Apprenticeship Requirement Not Required for Facilities under 1MW
  - Not required for facilities under 1MW. Still get 5x multiplier without meeting the apprenticeship/labor requirements if the maximum net output of the facility is less than 1 megawatt of electrical (as measured in alternating current) or thermal energy.















## **Prevailing Wage Requirements**

- Prevailing wages are determined in accordance with the Davis-Bacon Act
- Laborers & mechanics employed by the entity or contractor/subcontractor on site
  - Does not apply to admin, clerical or executive
- For construction & alteration/repair; is generally based on the county of construction
- Wage should be the prevailing wage in that locality as determined by the Secretary of Labor
  - www.sam.gov
  - Solar and wind are characterized as "heavy construction"
  - Some data appears to be very limited in terms of the type of workers in selected communities
  - Must use all labor classifications of those working onsite
  - · If the location or type of labor is not listed
    - Request a wage determination from DoL
    - Info required: Type of facility, location, proposed worker classification, proposed rates, planned job description and duties & rational on why this is the prevailing wage
    - DoL will provide a determination of labor classification & wage rates
- Must preserve records (accounting) for work performed in accordance with general recordkeeping requirements:
  - Identifying the applicable wage determination
  - Laborers & mechanics who performed construction work on the facility
  - Classifications of work they performed
  - · Hours worked in each classification
  - Wage rates paid for the work
- Apprentices can have lower than prevailing journeyman wage of the same classification
- Wages include bona fide fringe benefits
- Some mandates about vacation days & employer contribution for vacation pay credits



## **Apprenticeship Requirements**

- Need an applicable percentage of the total hours on the worksite be completed by apprentices in a registered program (as established/managed in the National Apprenticeship Act, DoL or a state's apprenticeship agency)
  - https://www.apprenticeship.gov/about-us/apprenticeship-system
- Some key requirements to be met:
  - Apprenticeship Labor Hour Requirement
  - Apprenticeship Ratio Requirements
  - Apprentice Participation Requirement
  - · General Recordkeeping in sufficient detail to calculate these 3 requirements
- Sliding scale of hours required depending on when construction begins:
  - Construction before January 1, 2023
     10%
  - Construction between January 1, 2023 & January 1, 2024
     12.5%
  - Construction after January 1, 2024
     15%
- Applies to the applicant as well as contractors & sub-contractors with 4 or more employees associated with the construction/alteration or repair of the facility
  - Contractor with 4 employees requires 1 apprentice
- Appears that if there is construction occurring on a daily basis, the headcount on site must include the appropriate number of apprentices



## **Apprenticeship Requirements (continued)**

- There are exceptions:
  - Good Faith exemption: deemed to have satisfied the apprenticeship requirements if the taxpayer has requested qualified apprentices from a registered apprenticeship program, &:
    - Request has been denied provided that the denial is not the result of a refusal by the taxpayer (or contractors/subcontractors) to establish a qualified apprenticeship program (basically)
    - The registered apprenticeship program fails to respond to such request within 5 business days after receipt of request
    - Need to maintain documentation on the communication with the Apprenticeship Program
      - Taxpayer might be able to "pay up" for the shortfall x \$50 an hour & qualify
- Fines
  - Intentional Disregard Provision: \$50/hour penalty increased to \$500/hour



## **Beginning of Construction Definition**

- U.S. Treasury guidance released November 30<sup>th</sup> defines the beginning of construction for the prevailing wage & apprenticeship requirements
- 2 tests
  - Physical Work Test <sup>1</sup>
    - physical work of a significant nature begins,
    - maintenance of a continuous program of construction (continuity requirement)
    - focuses on work and not cost
    - Has to be contracted if contracted
    - On or off-site counts
    - Does not include planning & design, finance activities, research, preliminary permitting, exploring or surveys and feasibility studies
  - 5% Safe Harbor <sup>2</sup>
    - Incur 5% or more of the total cost of the facility with a continuous effort to move the project to completion (continuity requirement)
    - Includes all applicable costs
    - If work is contracted (binding written contract), costs incurred by the contractor are deemed incurred by the taxpayer
- Continuity Requirement <sup>3</sup>
  - Must be met under both tests
    - There is a continuity safe harbor based on the duration of the construction period to get the project to COD
      - 4 years for PTC and ITC
      - 6 years for carbon capture
      - 10 years for offshore wind and projects built on federal land

(3) www.irs.gov/pub/irs-drop/n-18-59.pdf, Notice 2018-59, Section 7.01(2)(a).



### **Disclosures**

PFM is the marketing name for a group of affiliated companies providing a range of services. All services are provided through separate agreements with each company. This material is for general information purposes only and is not intended to provide specific advice or a specific recommendation.

Financial advisory services are provided by PFM Financial Advisors LLC, a registered municipal advisor with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) and the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board (MSRB) under the Dodd-Frank Act of 2010. Swap advisory services are provided by PFM Swap Advisors LLC which is registered as a municipal advisor with both the MSRB and SEC under the Dodd-Frank Act of 2010, and as a commodity trading advisor with the Commodity Futures Trading Commission. Additional applicable regulatory information is available upon request.

Consulting services are provided through PFM Group Consulting LLC. PFM's financial modeling platform for strategic forecasting is provided through PFM Solutions LLC. A web-based platform for municipal bond information is provided through Munite LLC.

For more information regarding PFM's services or entities, please visit www.pfm.com.

Special disclaimer regarding the research and forecasts included in today's presentation: This research and any forecasts are based on current public information, as of the date of this presentation (or as of such date as may be specified in the presentation), that we consider reliable, but we do not represent it as accurate or complete, and it should not be relied on as such. The information, opinions, estimates and forecasts contained herein are also as of the date hereof and are subject to change without prior notification.

Case studies are provided for information purposes only and do not constitute specific advice or a recommendation. Opinions, results, and data presented are not indicative of future performance. Actual results may vary. Inclusion on this list does not represent endorsement of PFM's services.

© PFM 43

