



## **REA Energy Community Development Project Program**

### **Program Mission**

Our mission is to stimulate growth in the communities we serve, through a mutual excitement and understanding of the cooperative spirit, empowering organizations to work together to make a difference for generations to come.

### **About the Program**

Pennsylvania legislation was passed allowing electric cooperatives to use escheated funds for regular assistance, emergency assistance, capital improvement projects within the community and education. Therefore, REA Energy Cooperative, Inc. (REA) has created a process for these funds. The Community Development Project Program provides grants from this community project fund for capital projects that support community and economic development and will be of significant benefit to REA members and the public. REA Energy awards the grants to local governments and non-profit groups such as civic organizations, schools, volunteer fire departments, libraries, emergency medical services, museums and historical associations within the counties served by REA.

### **Eligibility Requirements**

The Escheats Committee (committee) shall consider the following criteria in making a recommendation:

1. Funds must be used for capital projects;
2. Recipients shall be located in the Cooperative's service territory or directly benefit its members;
3. Recipients shall be public and non-profit entities; and
4. Projects that create jobs shall be given priority.

The committee shall be responsible for establishing and maintaining the application guidelines and requirements.

The types of projects that are not eligible include, but are not limited to: completed projects; religious or church-sponsored facilities that can only be used by church members; social service projects; land acquisition projects; program operating costs; debt-reduction campaigns; seminars and conference fees; computer equipment or software; most functions carried out by a taxing entity; office equipment; and batteries for equipment.

### **Counties in Which REA Energy Community Project Grants May be Awarded**

- Armstrong
- Blair
- Cambria
- Clearfield
- Indiana
- Jefferson
- Westmoreland

### **PROGRAM GOALS**

Emphasis is placed on projects that align with our program goals:

- Encourage economic diversity;
- Contribute to the health and development of a community to improve the attractiveness of the community to public and private enterprises; or
- Improve the quality and/or quantity of services essential for the development of viable communities and

economic growth, including services related to education, community planning, recreation, health care, public safety, employment, training or transportation.

## **Application Instructions**

The following documents are required for a complete application.

- REA Energy's Community Development Project Summary Application
- Copy of organization's State of Pennsylvania or IRS determination letter, if applicable
- Most recent IRS Form 990, if applicable
- Financial statement (Prior three (3) year's audited financial statements)
- Program narrative
- Budget summary (Sources of funds and financing methods)
- Project timeline, including the estimated completion date of all phases of the project
- Pictures of the project, if applicable
- List of elected body or board of directors for the requesting organization, including names, current email addresses and phone numbers (please notify of any changes you submit your application)

*NOTE: All potential applicants are encouraged to contact us for more information regarding eligibility requirements before submitting an application as some of the requirements may have changed.*

## **Application Process**

Applications will be accepted from January 1st through June 30th of each year. Additionally, all funds will be approved or disapproved by the Board within 60 days of final application submission.

## **Where to Submit Applications:**

Submit completed applications in person or by mail to:

REA Energy Cooperative, Inc.

Attn: Stacy Hilliard

P.O. BOX 70

Indiana, PA 15701

Phone: 724-349-4800, ext. 5874

Applications may also be e-mailed to [reaenergy@reaenergy.com](mailto:reaenergy@reaenergy.com).

*Please note that application reviews can take approximately 8-12 weeks to complete from the deadline until funding. Be sure to take this into account when planning your project. Staff can review draft applications and provide feedback if needed.*