



Nebraska Power Summit

Infrastructure Investment & Jobs Act (IIJA) and Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) Update

Karisa Vlasek, Coordinator-Grants & Stakeholder Outreach

October 5, 2023

Agenda

- IIJA vs. IRA
- OPPD's Approach to IIJA & IRA
- OPPD's Grant Strategy
- IIJA & IRA "Funding Buckets" by Entity Type
- Sharing Funding Opportunities with Customers & Communities
- Where to Find Information

IIJA vs. IRA

Two Separate and *Massive* Pieces of Federal Legislation with Lots of Funding Opportunities

IIJA

- Law in November 2021
- ~\$1.2T
- ~381 grant programs
- 5 Years (FY22 to FY26)
- Largest infrastructure bill passed in generations
- Bipartisan support

IRA

- Law in August 2022
- ~\$740b
- ~102 programs
- Mix of tax credits, incentives, loans, and grants
- 10 Years
- Biggest investment in clean energy/climate change by US ever
- Public Power finally eligible for tax credits!

OPPD's Approach to IJA & IRA

- IJA was passed 1st in November 2021
 - Organized an internal team of SMEs
 - Headed by Karisa Vlasek
 - Focus on competitive grants
- IRA was passed 2nd in August 2022
 - Organized an internal team focused on IRA opportunities
 - Headed by John Thurber, Director of Treasury & Financial Operations
 - Loans, tax credits, rebates, customer, community, grants
- Merge teams or keep separate?
 - Explored the idea of one larger team, but ultimately decided to keep two teams
- Teams meet separately month
 - Each team has breakout meetings
 - Karisa & John attend both meetings, coordinate information



OPPD Grant Strategy for IJA & IRA

- Establish IJA & IRA Teams
- How do we decide *which* grants and *when* to go after them?
 - Build on existing OPPD Grant Strategy & Prioritize Funding Areas
 - Need to prepare & move fast!
 - Grants due 60-90 days
 - Research, project information, budget
 - Identify Subject Matter Experts (SMEs), organize working groups
- Need to align internal resources
 - People, matching funds, balance with other project work, grant management & compliance if funded
- APPA is asking members not to share specifics on competitive grants



IIJA & IRA Funding Buckets

Grants-Direct to OPPD

- Competitive Grants
- Led by Karisa Vlasek

- Tax Credits/Direct Pay, Loans
- Led by IRA Team, John Thurber

Grants-Partnerships (OPPD leading with partners/Partners leading with OPPD)

- Competitive grants
- Led by Karisa Vlasek

Community Funding Opportunities: Nonprofits, Others

- OPPD not directly eligible
- Share opportunities with our communities
- Grants, Loans, Rebates & Tax Credits
- Shared responsibility

OPPD Customer Funding: Residential, Business, Commercial, Industrial

- OPPD not directly eligible
- Direct to customers
- Rebates, Tax Credits, Incentives, Loans, Grants
- Led by Product Development & Marketing Team



Customer & Community Information Sharing

Customer



A screenshot of the OPPD website. The page title is "Inflation Reduction Act Tax Incentives". The navigation menu includes "RESIDENTIAL", "BUSINESS", "OUTAGES", "ENVIRONMENT", "NEWS & RESOURCES", "ABOUT", and "COMMUNITY". A sidebar menu lists: "Customer Service", "Billing & Payment", "Energy Efficiency", "Trees & Power Lines", "Products & Services", and "Residential Rates". Below the menu is a photo of a worker on a roof with solar panels. The main text reads: "INFLATION REDUCTION ACT TAX INCENTIVES. Maximize your savings with home efficiency updates. The Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) makes it simple and affordable for you to make energy-efficient upgrades that reduce your energy costs, lower carbon emissions and improve the comfort of your home. OPPD is your trusted resource for IRA incentives, connecting you with the information you need to make informed decisions and OPPD-certified Trade Allies who can complete your updates." A small circular badge with "IRA TAX REBATES AVAILABLE NOW" is in the bottom right of the text area. At the bottom, a quote states: "IRA upgrades could save the average taxpayer up to \$1,000 on annual energy costs by 2030." with a citation to "Department of Energy, 2023."

A social media post from @OPPDcares dated Aug 1. The text says: "Tax incentives are available for making energy-efficient upgrades to your home! 🏠💰". Below the text is a paragraph: "The Inflation Reduction Act makes it simple & affordable to make energy-saving improvements that reduce your energy costs, lower carbon emissions & boost home comfort. 📍 oppd.com/IRA-Incentives".

Community



Community Conversation with the North Omaha "Ad Hoc" Committee

Community & Stakeholders interested in all the funding opportunities under IJA & IRA



SIERRA CLUB
NEBRASKA CHAPTER

IIJA & IRA Grants are “Federal Grants on Steroids!”

Challenges

- Grant application timelines are **very short!**
- Complex Grant Process
 - Notice of Intent to Apply, Concept Paper
 - Have to be invited to apply by funding agency
 - Full grant application due in 30-60-90 days
- Grant Compliance Requirements
 - Justice40/Community Benefits Plan, Buy American Build American, Davis Bacon Prevailing Wages, Job Creation, Apprenticeships, Audits, and so much more!



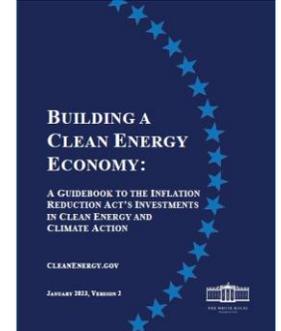
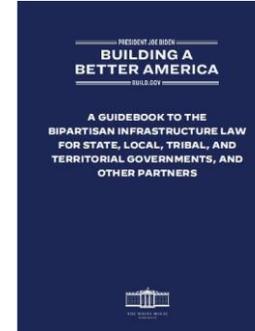
Opportunities

- Unprecedented Funding Opportunities
- IIJA: Biggest Infrastructure Investment in a Generation
 - Bipartisan support
- IRA: Largest climate investment in history
- Opportunity to impact communities most impacted by climate change, pollution, & environmental hazards



Where to Information on IIJA & IRA

- Guidebooks from the White House
 - Funding programs listed
- Funding Agencies
 - DOE, EPA, DOT, etc...
 - Websites, Webinars, Newsletters
- Other Utilities
 - Bi-Weekly Meetings with NPPD
- Industry Newsletters
- APPA-Large Public Power Council (LPPC)-Grant Coordinator's Group
- APPA Government Relations Working Group Calls
- Social Media!





Questions?

