



DCEO Economic & Community Development Programs

August 20, 2025 | John A Logan College Carterville, IL
Southern Illinois Clean Energy Summit



Illinois
Department of Commerce
& Economic Opportunity
JB Pritzker, Governor



Aaron McEvoy

Grant Manager, Office of Energy &
Business Utility



Matthew Swaine

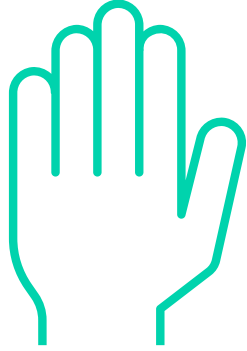
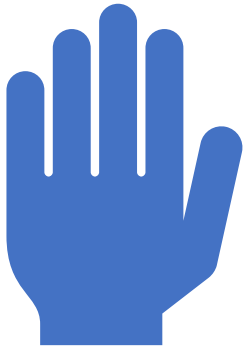
Grant Manager, Office of Energy &
Business Utility



Overview & Objectives

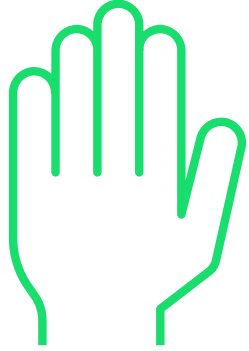
1. CEJA & DCEO CEJA Programs
2. Equitable Energy Future Grant Program
3. Community Solar Energy Sovereignty Program
4. Energy Transition Community Grant
5. Q & A



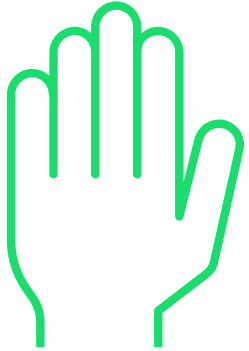


Raise your hand if.....

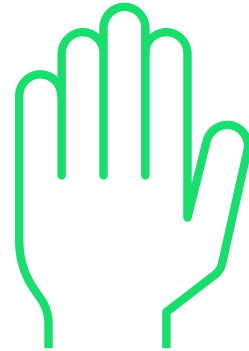


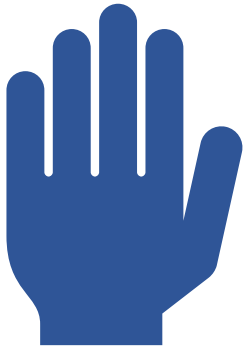


Raise your hand if.....



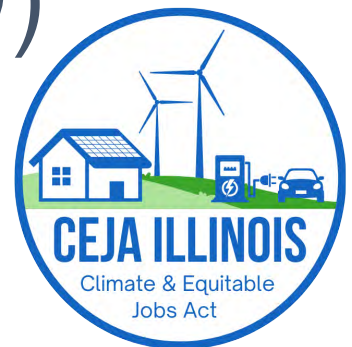
**You are familiar with the
Climate & Equitable Jobs
Act (CEJA)**





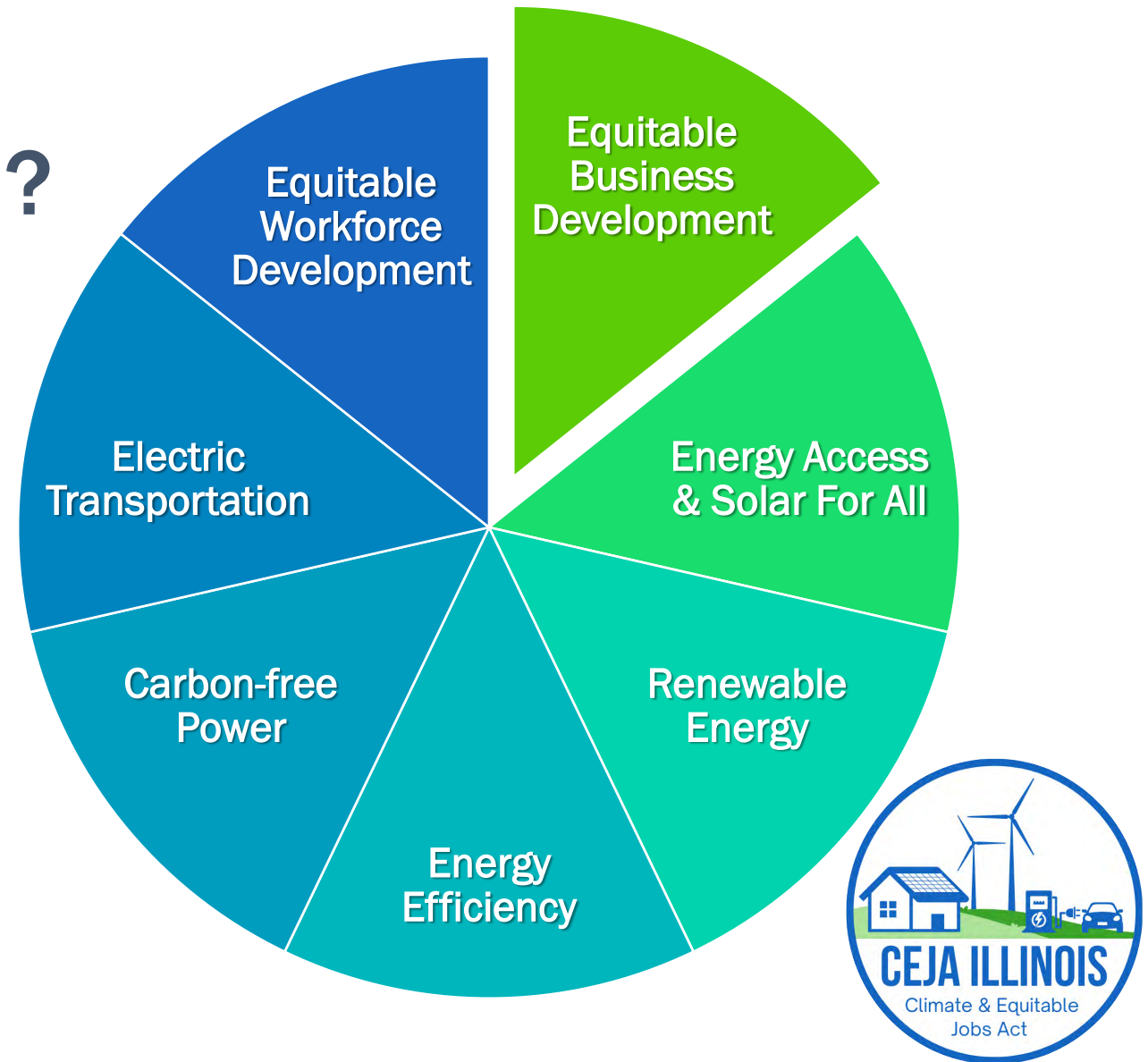
Keep your hand raised if....

You are familiar with any of
the CEJA Programs through
Illinois Department of
Commerce & Economic
Opportunity (DCEO)



What is the Climate and Equitable Jobs Act (CEJA) ?

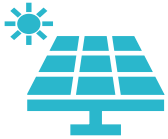
Comprehensive energy legislation that centers equity and puts Illinois on track to achieve 100 % renewable energy by 2050.



DCEO Clean Energy Programs

★ Funding Opportunity Currently Open

CEJA Economic & Community Development (\$74M) Office of Energy & Business Utility (OEBU)



Coal to Solar



Energy Transition
Community Grant
\$40M/yr.



Equitable Energy
Future Grant
Up to \$25.5M/yr.



Community Solar
Energy Sov. Grant
Up to \$8.5M/yr.

CEJA Workforce Training Programs (\$61 M +) Office of Employment & Training (OET)



Clean Jobs
Workforce Network
\$21M/yr.



Climate Works
Pre-apprenticeship
\$9M/yr.



Energy Transition
Navigators
\$6M/yr.



Returning Resident
Clean Jobs
\$6M/yr.



Energy Transition
Barrier Reduction
\$15M/yr.



Clean Energy Career
Pathway Program
\$4M

CEJA Councils & Boards Office of Energy & Business Utility (OEBU)



Energy Workforce
Advisory Council



Clean Energy Jobs
& Justice Fund

CEJA Contractor Support Programs (\$30M+) Office of Entrepreneurship & Innovation Technology(OEIT)



Contractor
Incubator
\$21M/yr.



Contractor
Primes Accelerator
\$9M/yr.

Future Energy Jobs Act (FEJA) OET

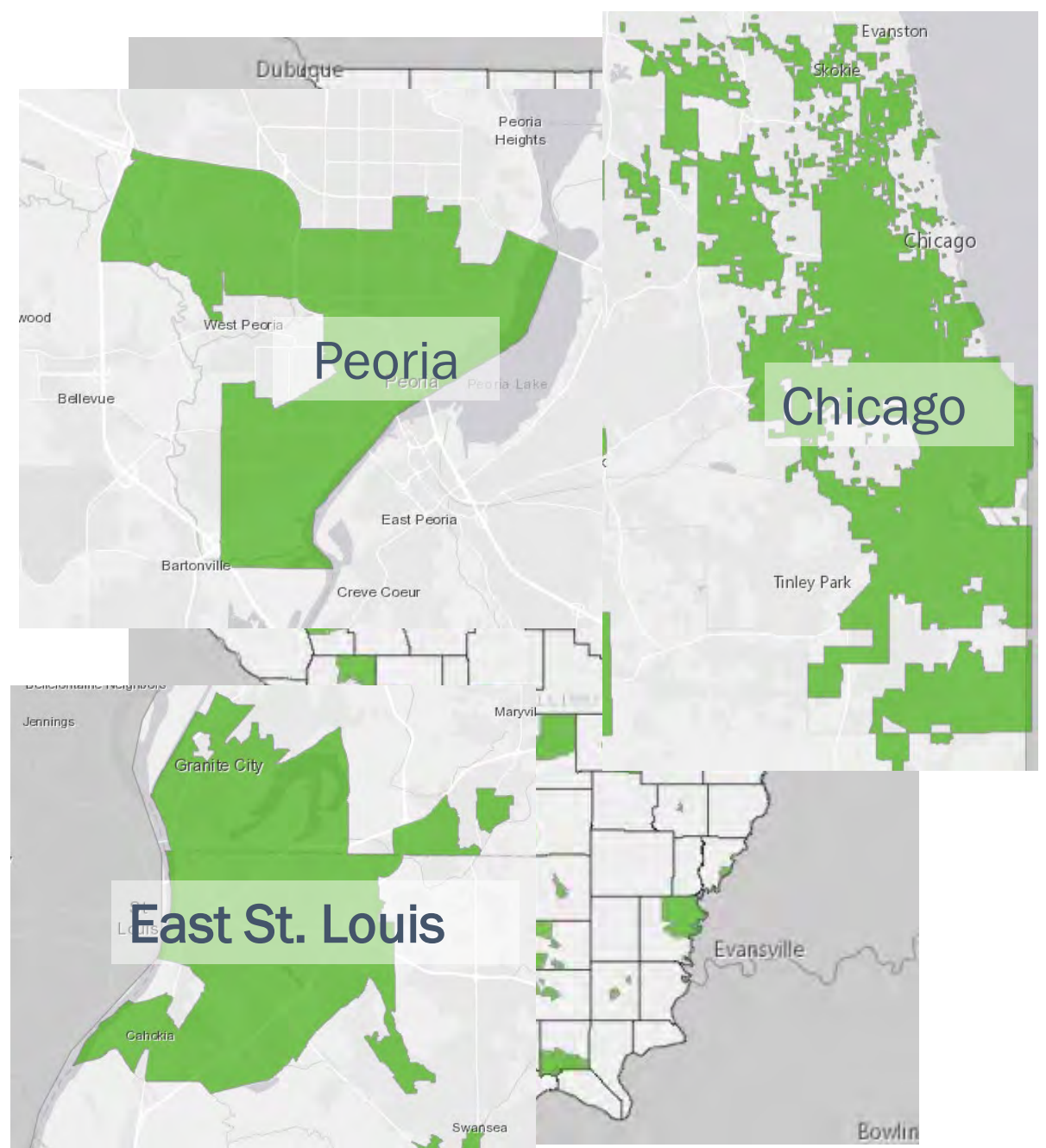


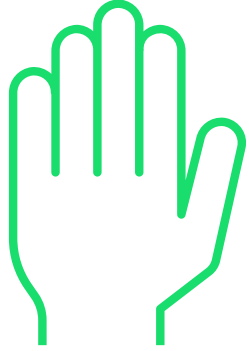
FEJA Workforce
Training Program

Equity Investment Eligible Communities (EIEC)

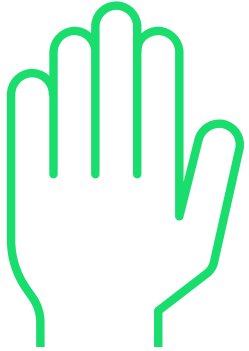
Priority provided to projects taking place in or serving EIECs

These regions have been centers of historic disinvestment, high rates of violence, and/or suffered the highest rates of negative environmental impacts.

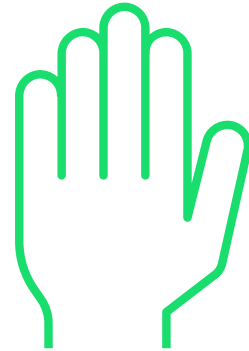




Raise your hand if.....



You work on renewable energy projects





Raise your hand if.....



You work on energy efficiency projects



Equitable Energy Future Grant Program (EEF)

Award Information

\$25.5 million annually in pre-development funding for renewable energy and/or energy efficiency projects. Awards range \$250k - \$1 million.

Eligible Applicants:

- Illinois Power Agency certified Equity Eligible Contractors
- Business, non-profit, or cooperative organization that meets equity building criteria based on submitted CEJA Ecosystem Utilization Plan (CEUP).



Professional
Services



Applications
& Deposits



Purchase/
Lease Land



Permits &
Zoning



Interconnection
Costs



Equipment &
Supplies



Marketing &
Outreach



Staff &
Operations



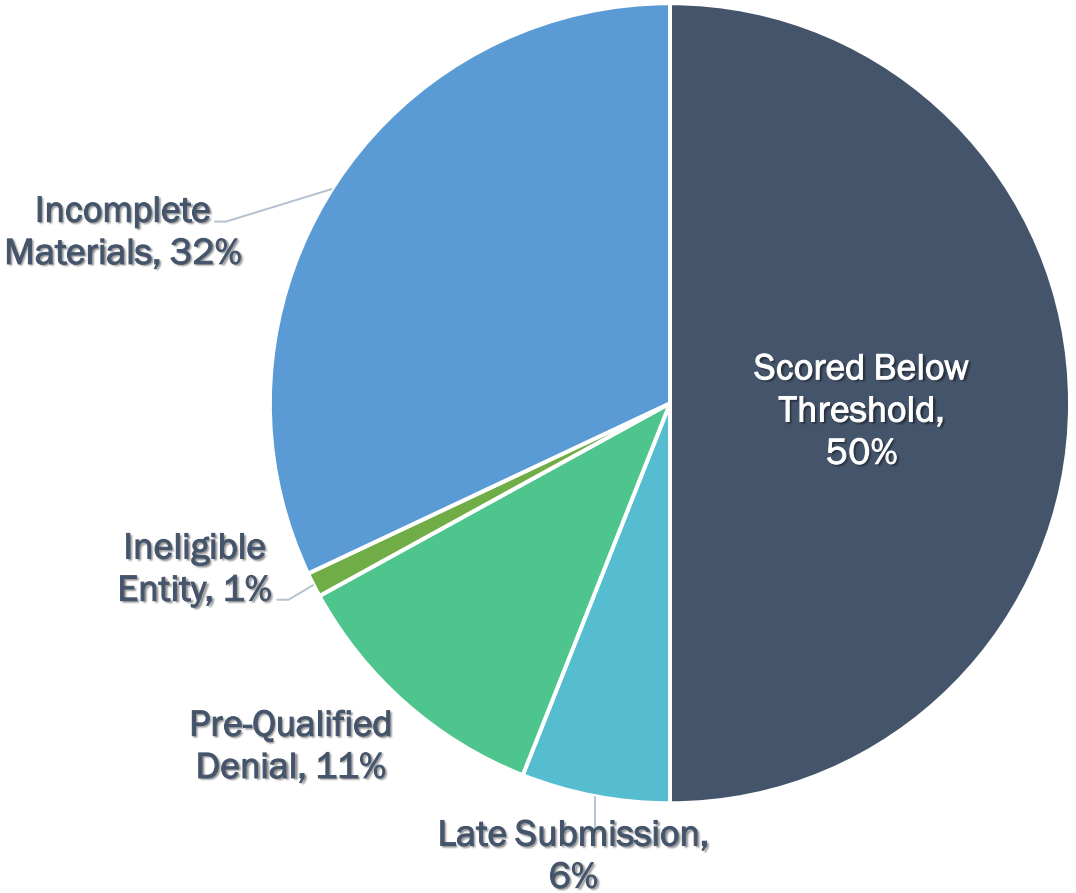
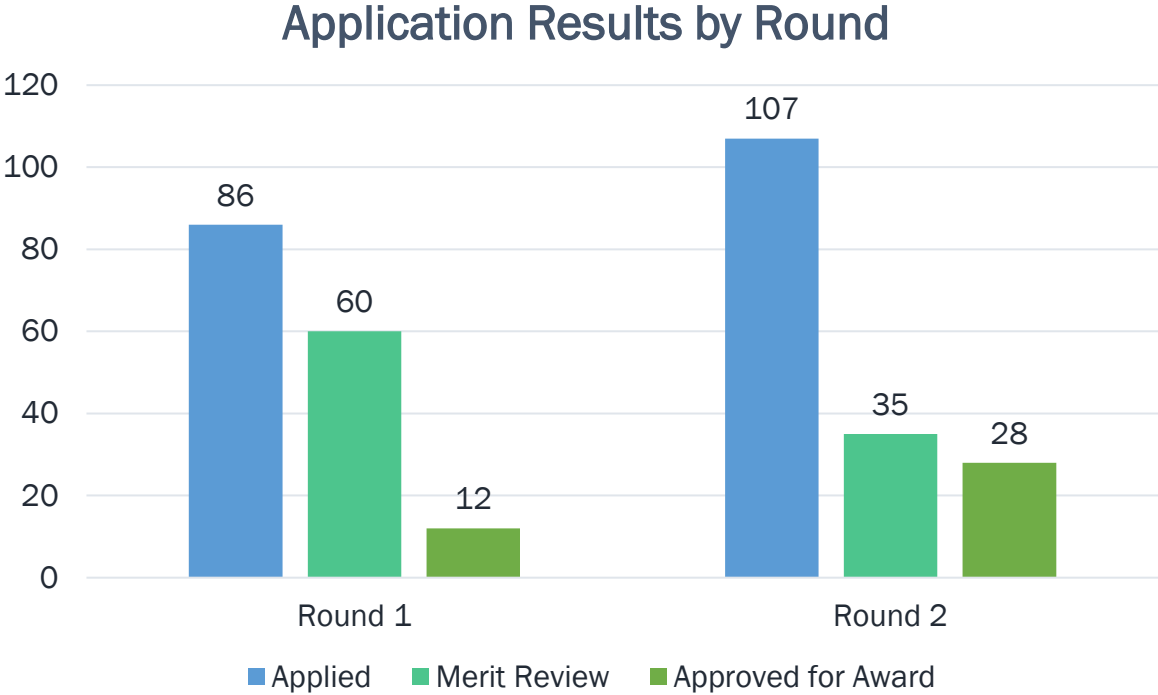
Workforce
Development

Allowable costs include but are not limited to the items above.



**Grant opportunity is open now
until 12/31/25**

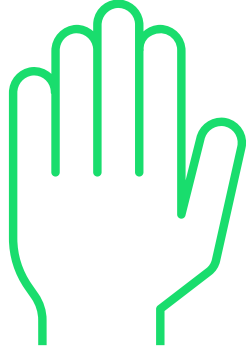
Equitable Energy Future – Grant Results



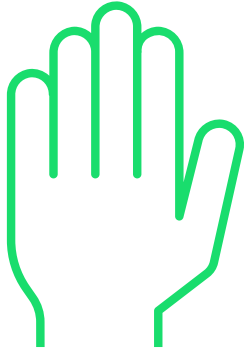
Breakdown of Application Denials Round 2

Total Amount Awarded (as of 7/2025) **\$33,767,380.49**

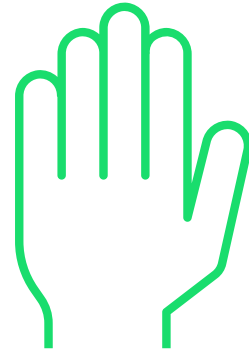
**Equitable Energy Future Round 2 is currently being processed. Round 2 numbers are as of 7/2025.*



Raise your hand if.....



**You work on or are
interested in working on
community solar
projects**



Community Solar Energy Sovereignty Grant Program (CSES)

Award Information

\$8.5 million annually in pre-development funding for community solar energy projects. Awards range \$50k - \$1 million.

Eligible Applicants:

- Community-based Organizations (CBOs)
- A public entity (if no CBO in the surrounding community has the ability/capacity)
- Technical service provider in partnership with a CBO



**Grant opportunity is open now
until 12/31/25**



**Marketing &
Outreach**



**Purchase/
Lease Land**



Financing



**Community
Ownership Model
Development**



**Staff &
Operations**



**Site Identification
& Assessments**



**Interconnection
Costs**



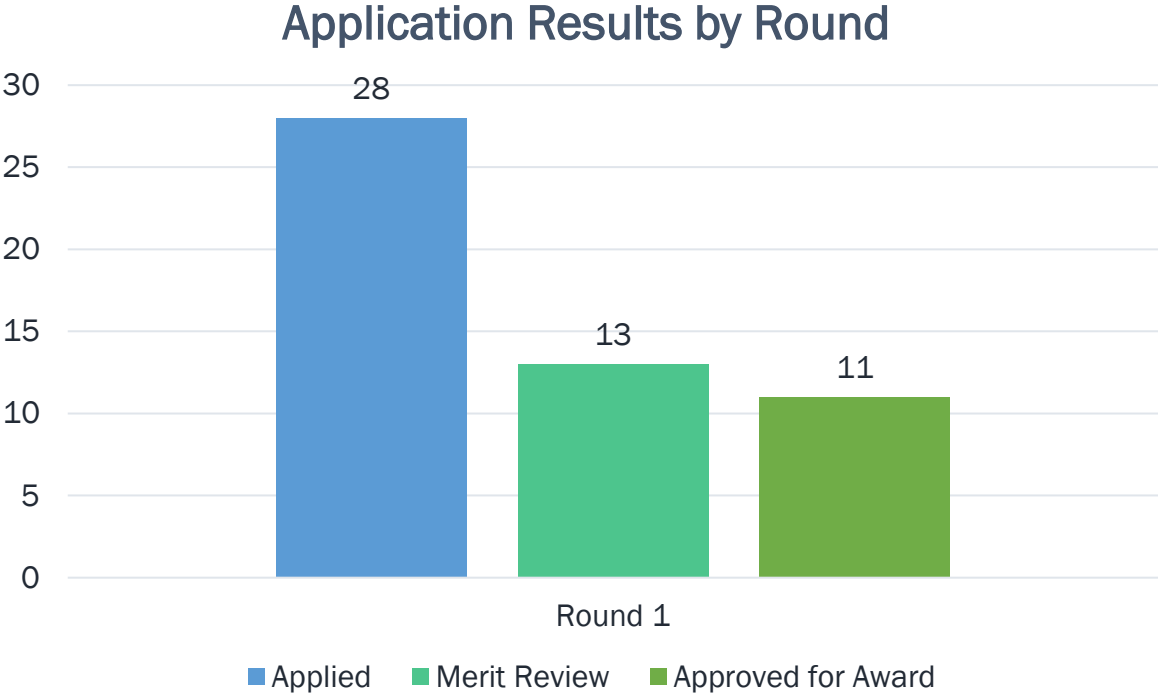
**Permits,
Zoning, Fixing
Code Violations**



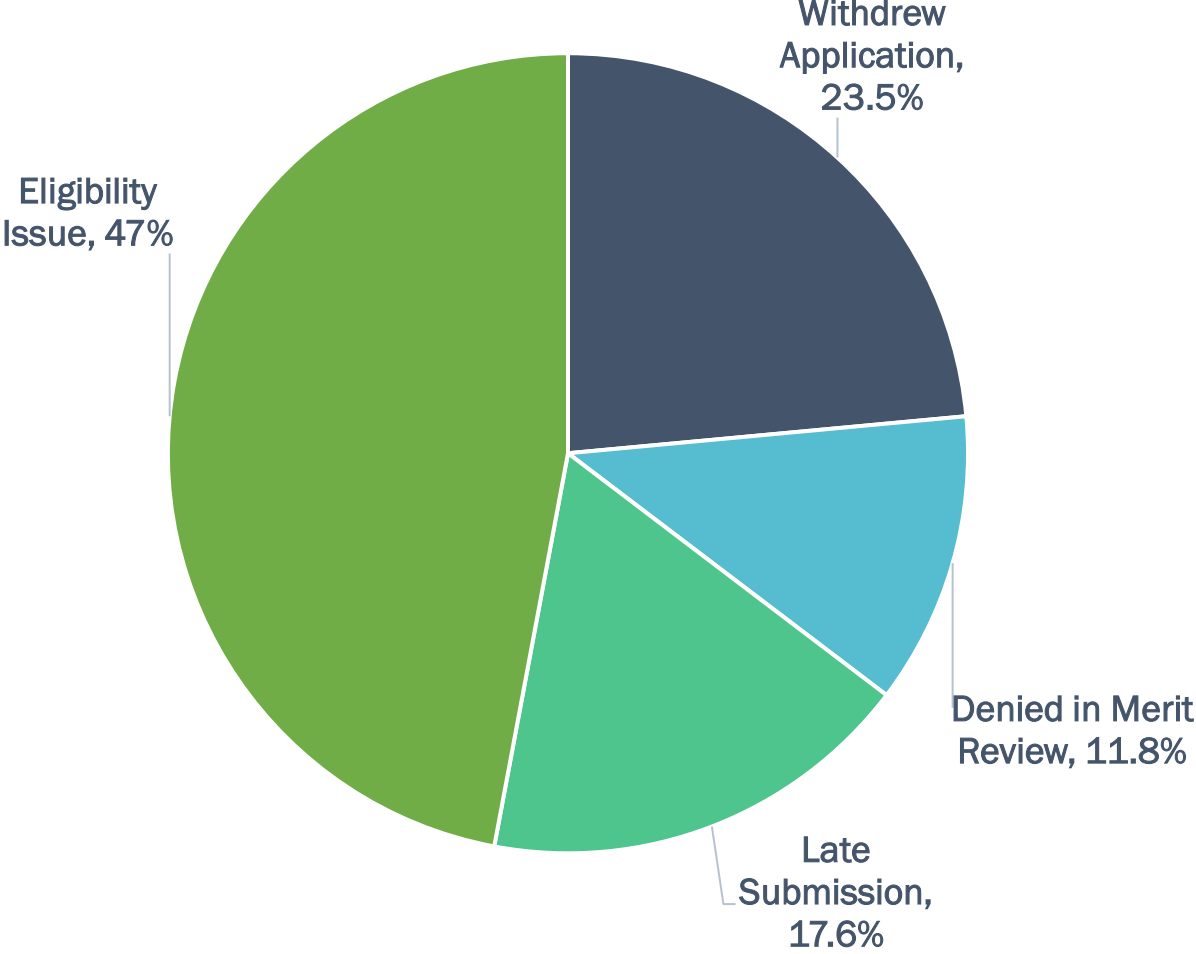
**Equipment &
Supplies**

*Allowable costs include but are
not limited to the items above.*

Community Solar Energy Sovereignty Grant Results



Total
Amount
Awarded **\$7,667,625**



Breakdown of Application Denials



Raise your hand if.....

**You represent a
municipality or
taxing body**



Energy Transition Community Grant (ETCG)

Award Information

Minimum of \$50,000 per grantee, plus additional funds based on a grant formula that considers job and revenue loss.

Eligible Applicants:

- Local units of government within 30 miles of a closed or closing fossil fuel, nuclear, or coal mine /mine. Including municipalities, counties, school districts, or other taxing districts.

Opens annually. Closed June 2025.



**Workforce
Development**



**Financial
Assistance**



**Public
Infrastructure**



**Environmental
Clean Up**



**Grants &
Investment**



**Affordable
Housing**



**Community
Health**



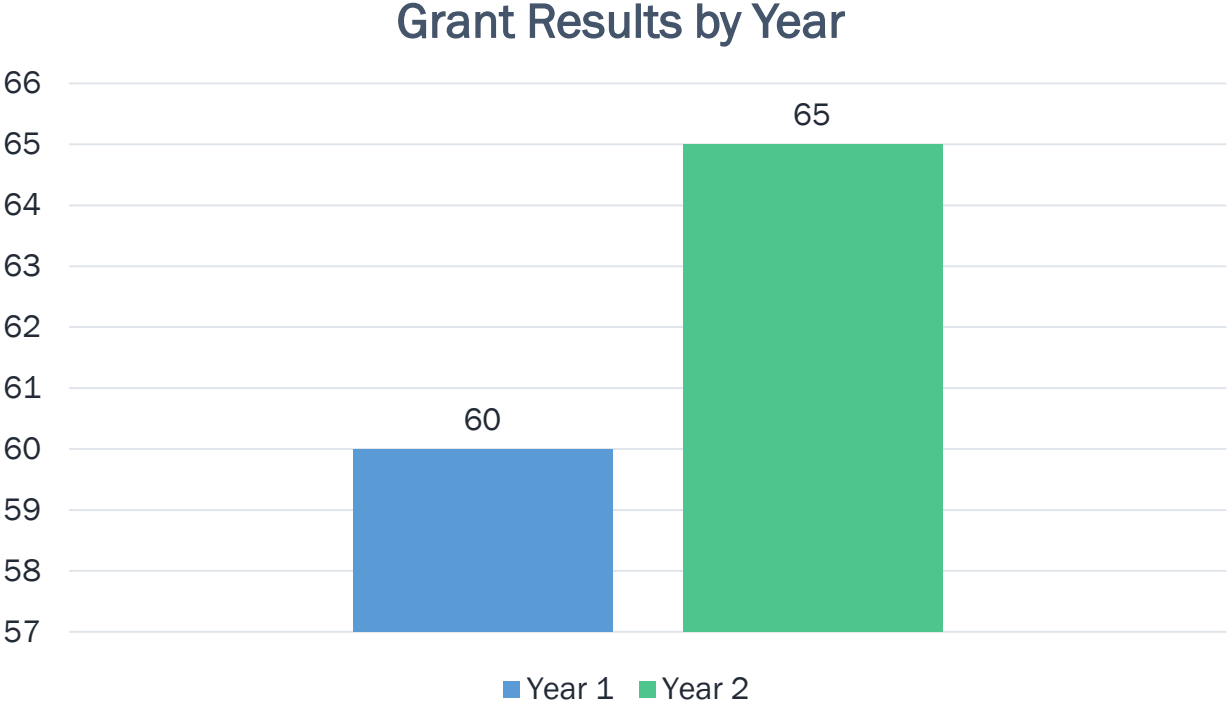
**Commercial
Redevelopment**



**Community
Planning**

Allowable costs include but are not limited to the items above.

Energy Transition Community Grant



Total Amount Awarded \$80,000,000.05

ETCG Year 3 Phase 1
Application Closed
6/30/25

109

Applicants invite to
submit final project
information



Raise your hand if.....



**You have a question for
us!**





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