Fiscal Year 2023 Energizing Insular Communities Grants Funded for the Territories through the Office of Insular Affairs

The Energizing Insular Communities (EIC) program provides grant funding to the U.S. territories for energy strategies that reduce the cost of electricity and reduce dependence on foreign fuels. This program is intended to support the Department priority to utilize our natural resources by ensuring American energy is available to meet security and economic needs. A total of $15,935,439, in EIC funds were awarded in fiscal year 2023 as follows:

American Samoa - $4,193,840 total

- $3,523,840 – American Samoa Power Authority (ASPA) for two projects:
  - $1,903,840 for phase I of replacement of 5,500 and 750 three-phase meters install grid routers and to set up a resource implementation plan.
  - $1,620,000 for the procurement of 20 electric pickup trucks, 6 fast chargers, power supply and installation of chargers.
- $670,000 – American Samoa Telecommunications Authority (ASTCA) for the design, build, and installation of a chilled water HVAC system at the Fagatogo Central Office Building.
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CNMI - $4,391,599 total

- $909,291.00 – Phase III of the Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation's design and installation of a 176 kW Solar PV system.
- $646,891.00 – Procure and install a rooftop 186.4kW solar PV system at the CNMI Governor's Office building.
- $363,061.00 – Phase III of Energy Efficiency/Energy Star Rebate Program to provide residential households with in-store instant rebate vouchers to purchase energy-efficient and/or energy star-rated appliances and AC systems.
- $450,200.00 – Northern Marianas Technical Institute, for the upgrade of HVAC systems and installation of a 52.8kW DC Solar PV system.
- $443,691.00 – Installation of a 285.6kW solar PV system at the CNMI Department of Corrections Vicente T. Seman Memorial Building.
- $262,907.00 – To design, build, and install a 26.4kW solar PV system at the Rota Office of Aging Center.
- $316,005.00 – Phase II of the CNMI Energy Task Force Planning and Coordinating Technical Assistance.
- $315,176.00 – For administrative support of Commonwealth Assistance for Renewable Energy Solutions with 504kW Capital Outlay.
- $232,718.00 – Installation of a 48kW solar PV system at the Tinian Public Library.

- $211,727.00 – Installation of solar powered LED streetlights throughout the island of Rota.
- $174,291.00 – To design, build, and install a 40.8kW Solar PV system at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center.
- $65,641.00 – To install a 4.8kW Solar PV system at the Saipan and Northern Islands Municipal Council and Kiosku Buildings.

Guam - $3,055,000 total

- $3,000,000 – Guam Power Authority for the Guam100 project.
- $55,000 – Hagatna Restoration and Redevelopment Authority for the procurement of an EV for official use.

U.S. Virgin Islands - $4,295,000 total

- $3,935,000 to the Office of the Governor, Virgin Islands Energy Office:
  - $1,200,000 – for the GO FLEET Procurement & Installation of five 12kW Solar Canopies co-located with battery coupled DC Fast chargers and 5 battery storage coupled DC fast chargers.
  - $825,000 – for the Government Operations Fleet Efficiency & Electrification Transformation (GO FLEET) Procurement of 15 Battery EVs for the Government of the Virgin Islands Fleet.
  - $795,000 – for the Site evaluation, system design, permitting development, to procure and install a ground-mounted 100kW solar PV array and 300 kW BESS to meet the loads of the at the VIPBS Mountain Top Facility that serves critical communications systems.
  - $575,000 – for the GO FLEET procurement of two all-electric marine vessels for the Division of Fish & Wildlife fleet and marine-based level 2 DC chargers.
  - $540,000 – for the reestablishment of the VIEnergize energy services division within the Virgin Islands Water and Power Authority (VI WAPA).
- $360,000 – VI WAPA for the procurement of six hybrid vehicles for the Revenue Assurance Department fleet, to manage the backlog of work orders related to the prevention and detection of unauthorized electricity and water use throughout the USVI

For more information about the EIC program, please contact Krystina_Alfano@ios.doi.gov.

The Office of Insular Affairs (OIA) carries out the Secretary of the Interior's responsibilities for the U.S. territories of American Samoa, Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. Additionally, OIA administers and oversees federal assistance under the Compacts of Free Association to the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the Republic of Palau. OIA also administers a discretionary Technical Assistance Program for all the Insular Areas. Find information about OIA and its work on www.doi.gov/oia, Facebook, X, formerly Twitter, and YouTube.

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U.S. Department of the Interior

Interior's Office of Insular Affairs Awards $8.5 Million for Energy Initiatives in the U.S. Territories

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WASHINGTON – The U.S. Department of the Interior's Office of Insular Affairs (OIA) announced $8,500,000 in grant awards provided through the U.S. Department of the Interior's Office of Insular Affairs' Energizing Insular Communities program to support energy initiatives in the U.S. territories.

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The Energizing Insular Communities grants for fiscal year 2021 total $8,500,000 and have been awarded to various projects in each of the U.S. territories as follows:

American Samoa

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    - American Samoa Shipyard Services Authority - **$360,000** for solar photovoltaic (PV) and battery energy storage system
    - American Samoa Telecommunications Authority - **$670,000** for an energy-efficient chilled water HVAC system at the central office
    - American Samoa Medical Center Authority - **$1,000,000** for microgrid, cooling tower, and LED lighting retrofit projects

Guam

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    - Guam Power Authority (GPA) - **$154,526** for LED lighting upgrades at the Tamuning Elementary School
    - GPA - **$1,291,938** for LED lighting upgrades, HVAC central control upgrades, and a solar PV system at the University of Guam
    - University of Guam - **$274,587** for 2023 Guam Strategy Energy and Action Plan
    - Guam Community College - **$475,200** for a 100-kW solar panel system

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI)

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    - CNMI Department of Public Works, Division of Energy - **$215,336** for the residential rebate program for Energy Efficient/Energy Star appliances in the CNMI, second year of program
    - CNMI Ports Authority - **$260,500** for cool roof and LED lighting upgrades at the Saipan International Airport
    - Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) - **$299,996** for a pilot project exploring automated electrical power distribution
    - CNMI, Tinian local government - **$328,236** for the installation of solar-powered light systems on public buildings and pathways
    - CNMI Energy Task Force - **$370,680** for planning and coordinating technical assistance
    - CUC - **$645,000** for a 2.5MW solar PV and battery storage integrated facility design

U.S. Virgin Islands (USVI)

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    - Virgin Islands Water and Power Authority - **$1,000,000** for the procurement of hybrid and electric utility fleet vehicles and equipment.
    - Virgin Islands Energy Office - **$1,154,000** for the Government Operations Fleet Electrification and Energy Efficient Transition project

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U.S. Department of the Interior

Trump Administration Awards $6,800,000 to Promote Lower Consumer Costs and Greater Energy Efficiency in the U.S. Territories

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WASHINGTON – The Trump Administration announced $6,800,000 in grant awards provided through the U.S. Department of the Interior's Office of Insular Affairs' Energizing Insular Communities program to support energy initiatives in the U.S. territories.

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Fiscal year 2020 Energizing Insular Communities grant funding and prior-year, re-directed funds totaling $6,800,000 is provided to each of the U.S. territories as follow:

American Samoa

- **American Samoa Power Authority (ASPA) - $1,947,400** will be used for two different initiatives to be conducted by ASPA. Under the first initiative, funds will be used to install a solar photovoltaic (PV) and battery storage system on the island of Aunu'u to become 100% powered by renewable energy, as envisioned in the American Samoa Renewable Energy Committee Energy Action Plan. Two existing 100 kW diesel Caterpillar generators will be used for back-up power. Under the second initiative, funds will be used to purchase and install two 5-ton small-scale fuel distillation units that will convert waste oil into diesel fuel for use at ASPA's diesel power plants that distribute electricity to island residents. Following recommended goals in the American Samoa Energy Action Plan, ASPA will use these distillation units to recycle and repurpose waste oil from vehicles, power plants, shipping vessels, and other uses on-island, at a 90% rate of conversion efficiency, to re-use in diesel-powered power plants.

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI)

- **Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) - $1,377,200** will be used for three separate projects being conducted by the CUC. Funds will be used to 1) purchase and install 1,600 pre-pay electrical meters on Saipan and Rota, 2) employ a solar-energy systems engineer to provide the technical professional capacity to make on-site technical and electrical decisions in the field of solar photovoltaic and renewables technologies, and 3) acquire a Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) system for each of the engines at Power Plant 1, Lower Base, Saipan.

- **Department of Public Works - $212,920** will be used to increase the amount of Energy Star/Energy Efficiency Rebates being offered by the State Energy Program as an incentive for residents to replace old and inefficient appliances and reduce overall energy and utility costs.
- **Office of the Governor - $77,530** will be used to apply a cool roof system to three facilities at the Juan A. Sablan Memorial Building, the CNMI Government complex on Capitol Hill.
- **Office of Women's Affairs - $38,425** will be used to install several energy efficiency measures, including a cool roof system, LED lighting, and window reflective film.

Guam

- **Guam Contractors Association Trades Academy - $2,248,010** will be used at the trade academy to design and construct a full-size commercial solar photovoltaic (PV) panels **array** and storage facility. This is expected to reduce operational costs and provide a real-life laboratory to train technicians in PV installation and maintenance.

U.S. Virgin Islands

- **University of the Virgin Islands (UVI) - $323,515** will be used by UVI for a variety of energy efficiency projects and initiatives as follows: 1) conduct an ASHRAE Level 2 audit of all UVI facilities in order to inform and develop short- and long-term energy management strategies, 2) procure and install eight solar charging stations for use on the two UVI campuses at St. Thomas and St. Croix, and 3) procure and install a Zero-Energy Laboratory on the St. Croix campus.
- **Virgin Islands Water and Power Authority (WAPA) - $575,000** will be used for two initiatives at WAPA. The first will be a cost-of-service study to determine the revenue requirement of the utility and serve as a foundation for developing a new rate structure. The second will be to conduct a comprehensive personnel review to identify redundancies in business operations and evaluate the organization for workforce rightsizing and support WAPA's existing financial recovery plan.

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U.S. Department of the Interior

Interior Announces $5 Million to Support Cost-Saving Energy Projects in the U.S. Territories

11/1/2019

WASHINGTON – U.S. Department of the Interior Assistant Secretary, Insular and International Affairs, Doug Domenech announced $5,017,021 in fiscal year (FY) 2019 funding under the Energizing Insular Communities (EIC) program to support a variety of energy retrofitting and efficiency projects that are estimated to provide thousands in savings for the residents of the U.S. territories of American Samoa, Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

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The Energizing Insular Communities grants, totaling $5,017,021 for (FY) 2019, and broken down by area are as follow:

American Samoa Power Authority – $1,876,325

- The American Samoa Power Authority will use the $1,876,325 EIC grant to conduct a retrofit and replacement of all 5,792 high pressure sodium street lights in the territory with light-emitting diode (LED) fixtures over the next two years. This effort is expected to result in an estimated 50 percent savings of $347,233.26 in electricity costs per year.

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) – $785,381

- $250,000 was made available to provide solar-powered LED light systems on public buildings and pathways on the island of Tinian. The government of Tinian currently spends between $4,800 and $6,000 annually in utility costs for public lighting fixtures, and walkways.
- $222,988 to conduct a feasibility study for the Rota-Commonwealth Utility Corporation Power Plant on the potential usage of a 2-Megawatt Battery Energy Storage System for the island of Rota. The plan is to capture excess energy, an estimated 0.6MW to 0.8MW of power, from the diesel-powered generators currently operated around the clock to be stored and redistributed as needed. For example, rather than using full diesel-powered generators on a full-time basis, using a battery storage system at night when the demand is lower could result in an estimated savings of over $900,000 per year.

- $160,000 to provide a photovoltaic system that can fully power the Rota aquaponics program site and provide solar-powered lighting. Previously developed using OIA Technical Assistance funding, the site was established to raise Tilapia, shrimp, plants, and vegetables for local sale and consumption.
- $152,393 will be used to contract professional services to provide an update to the CNMI's Strategic Energy Plan, last published in 2013. The Strategic Energy Plan, once updated, will continue to guide CNMI's overall efforts to reduce costs of energy in the territory and explore the best options for energy production in the territory.

Guam Power Authority - $1,729,815

- $620,428 to install solar panels on three parking lot canopies at the Guam Power Authority. The solar arrays will be tied to the grid and help off-set the cost of day-to-day operations. The panels are estimated to produce 93,072 kilowatt hours per year, which represents four percent of GPA's annual energy consumption, and roughly $36,000 in annual savings.
- $586,771 to fund the Bringing Energy Savings To (BEST) schools program for an LED lighting retrofit at the Agueda I. Johnston Middle School. The BEST program is a collaborative effort between the Guam Power Authority and the Guam Department of Education to find ways to reduce costs of energy consumption at Guam's public schools. Once the retrofit is completed, Johnston Middle School is expected to realize an annual savings of $49,763 in utility costs.
- $522,616 to fund a BEST schools program LED lighting retrofit at the Maria A. Ulloa Elementary School which is expected to contribute to $38,946 in annual savings for the school.

U.S. Virgin Islands Energy Office - $625,500

- $625,500 to the Virgin Islands Energy Office for the design, material procurement, and installation of a solar plus storage micro-grid pilot project to be integrated into the St. Croix Educational Complex's emergency hurricane shelter, so that the shelter may operate independently of the utility during emergencies. The proposed grid is expected to provide 12,500 kWh of energy, translating to an average of $5,875 in savings per month based on normal usage.

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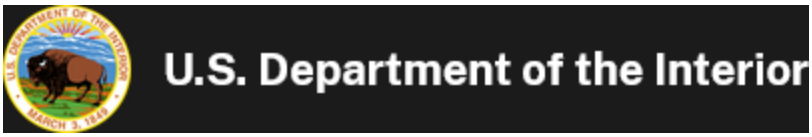

Interior Approves $250,000 Energy Grant for U.S. Virgin Islands Water and Power Authority

4/9/2019

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WASHINGTON – U.S. Department of the Interior Assistant Secretary, Insular and International Affairs, Doug Domenech today announced the approval of a $250,000 grant to fund an Integrated Resource Plan for the U.S. Virgin Islands Water and Power Authority (WAPA).

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U.S. Department of the Interior

Interior Approves $250,000 Energy Grant for U.S. Virgin Islands Water and Power Authority

06/27/2017

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WHITEFISH, MT (June 27, 2017) – U.S. Secretary of the Interior Ryan Zinke today informed American Samoa Governor Lolo Moliga, Guam Governor Eddie Calvo, and Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) Governor Ralph DLG Torres that he has approved a total of $3,489,427 in energy grants for their respective territories.

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American Samoa will receive $1,163,228, Guam $1,072,827, the Northern Mariana Islands $658,692, and the U.S. Virgin Islands $594,680 for a variety of projects across the territories that will create immediate energy efficiencies, reduce high costs of fossil-fuel dependency, and explore other alternatives towards energy self-sufficiency.

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AMERICAN SAMOA ($1,163,228) three projects

$817,528 to the American Samoa Power Authority to purchase and install additional photovoltaic panels and battery storage on Ofu/Olosega in the Manu'a Islands to increase solar energy production to meet the community's present demand for energy. With this grant funding, ASPA will add additional 150kW photovoltaic panels and 500 kWh of battery storage, significantly reducing the need for diesel generators, and bringing the Manu'a Islands closer to their goal of 100% Renewable Energy.

$312,000 for the American Samoa Power Authority (ASPA) to further upgrade its Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition system for water distribution on the capital island of Tutuila, reducing energy consumption and waste. Funds will be used to purchase, install and commission Remote Terminal Units at 38 of ASPA's water wells and 2 Booster Stations. ASPA estimates the overall project will result in a reduction of non-revenue water from 60% to 50%, which equals a total cost saving of $760,000 to the territory.

$33,700 for the American Samoa Renewable Energy Committee (ASREC) to fund a coordinator and public education projects focused on reducing fuel imports. The ASREC has been successful

in developing the territory's vision and meeting its goals for reducing dependence on imported fossil fuels, one example of which is the Manu'a Islands 100% Renewable Energy Initiative (see first project). The coordinator will further the mission by also assisting the Territorial Energy Office, the American Samoa Power Authority, the Department of Public Works and other offices as needed. Public education and outreach will be coordinated with the American Samoa 350 Environmental Club composed of high school honor students directly involved in environmental and energy education through small energy projects, STEM conferences, and renewable energy mini-courses.

GUAM ($1,072,827) three projects

$548,827 for Guam Department of Public Works (DPW) to install roof-mounted photovoltaic systems (169 kW size) on three of its buildings. DPW expects to realize a cost savings of $76,451 per year with an estimated 52% reduction in energy consumption. The project will assist the Government of Guam, which is experiencing financial shortfalls, in meeting daily operations and reducing its dependence on imported fossil fuels in response to Governor Calvo's Executive Order No. 2012-01 calling for fiscal stabilization, deficit reduction and cost containment.

$40,000 to the Guam Regional Transit Authority to purchase and install 20 LED street-light solar panel systems for 20 individual bus-stop locations throughout the island. Currently, the bus stops have little or no lighting, raising safety concerns. The solar panel systems will light bus stops in Dededo, Tamuning, Harmon, Mangilao, Agat, Maite, Merizo, and Yigo at schools, public tourist locations, the hospital, shopping malls, the Guam Retirement Office, and other high use public areas.

$484,000 to the Guam General Services Agency (GSA) for the two-fold purpose to: 1) conduct an American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers Level III energy audit to identify ways to cut energy costs; and 2) carryout immediate energy efficiency measures by replacing air-conditioning and lighting units, and installing a roof-mounted photovoltaic system on the GSA warehouse facility. Efficiencies were identified previously for this project by the National Renewable Energy Laboratory and funded by the Department of the Interior with guidance and cooperation of the Guam Energy Task Force.

NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS ($658,692) two projects

$489,807 for the Northern Marianas College (NMC) to install roof-mounted photovoltaic (PV) systems (139 kW size) on three campus buildings, reducing energy costs and dependence on fossil fuels. The PV systems will be installed on three buildings that have been demonstrated to take up 30% of the college's energy consumption. NMC expects to realize an annual cost

savings of $37,764 at an estimated 70% reduction in energy costs for the three buildings. This proposal is identified and supported in the CNMI strategic energy plan.

$168,885 to the CNMI Government to acquire professional expertise and create a feasibility study on the potential for extraction of methane gas from the Marpi Landfill and the Eloy S. Inos Peace Park, formerly known as the Puerto Rico Dump on Saipan. The study will be used to quantify the approximate amount of gas produced and the amount to be extracted over time, and provide a database for future reference, providing CNMI leaders with viable information and a cost-benefit analysis to determine the advantage of potentially using methane biogas fuel to reduce reliance on imported fuel.

U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS ($594,680) two projects

$594,680 to the University of the Virgin Islands (UVI) to fund two separate but related energy projects. The first is to upgrade eleven of its oldest and least efficient HVAC units with newer cooling technology and the second is to install Smart Meters on all buildings for more effective accounting of the university's energy use and informed crafting of energy policy. The newer HVAC units will be installed on the School of Nursing Building, and Sports and Fitness Center among other academic and administrative buildings with an estimated annual cost savings of $904,000. The UVI estimates the new smart meters installed throughout campus will reduce energy consumption by 10% which translates into approximately $290,000 in annual savings. Combined energy savings for the University are projected to be over one million dollars per year.

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