

Solar for All Federal Funding

**Melissa Bailey, State Energy Office Director
Vermont Department of Public Service**

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Vermont State Energy Office

Authority	Program	Fed Agency	Amount	Conditional	Planned Use	Start	End	Status
BIL	Grid Funds	DOE	\$ 8,404,471	No	Grants to DUs and partners for projects to reduce outages	7/14/2023	4/30/2032	RFP live through April
	Municipal Energy Revolving Fund (MERF)	DOE	\$ 690,050	No	Municipal Revolving Loan Fund by BGS	6/1/2024	5/31/2029	MOU with BGS in progress
	Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant	DOE	\$ 1,594,420	No	Grants to Municipalities for Efficiency Planning and Projects	3/1/2024	2/28/2027	Grants issues to 6 Municipalities. 3rd round proposals under review.
	Bipartisan Infrastructure Law - SEP Allocation	DOE	\$ 3,000,090	No	\$900K for workforce development Contract to support Solar for All Planning Remaining funds for PSD Staffing	7/1/2022	6/30/2028	WFD RFP drafted
IRA	VT Solar for All	EPA	\$62,050,000	No	3 distinct subprograms for single family, multifamily, and community solar	9/1/2024	8/31/2029	Planning efforts underway
	HOMES Program	DOE	\$ 29,303,666	No	Supplemental funding for the low-income Weatherization Assitance Program through Office of Economic Opportunity	9/1/2024	8/31/2026	MOU with OEO in progress
	HEAR Program	DOE	\$ 29,192,160	Yes	Funding for heat pumps to OEO and Efficiency Vermont	1/1/2025	12/31/2029	Planninng work on hold
	TREC (Contractor Training Grant Program)	DOE	\$ 1,048,680	Yes	Contractor training for Weatherization and Heat Pump installs	1/1/2025	12/31/2026	Coupled with SEP/BIL WFD RFP
	Bldg. Energy Code & Zero Energy Code Project	DOE	\$ 4,484,570	Yes	Staffing and support for increasing Code Compliance in VT	1/1/2025	12/31/2025	Intend to deploy in 2026
Other	Sustainable Energy in Schools and Public Buildings	DOE	\$ 1,000,000	No	Renewable heating for schools and municipalities.	7/1/2023	10/31/2025	Executing grant agreements.
	SEP-Formula Grant	DOE	\$ 1,223,650	No	Building Energy Code support and staffing	7/1/2022	6/30/2025	implementing
	ARPA/General Fund	N/A	\$61,000,000	No	Weatherization, Flood Recovery, Panel Upgrades, Load Management, HPWH, Community Solar, Renewable Heating	6/1/2022	12/31/2026	implementing

Totals \$202,991,757.00

Solar for All Vermont

\$62.5 million over 5 yrs. At least \$46.5M of incentives for low-income Vermonters to receive financial benefits via solar power

PSD Solar for All VT Program
\$2.84 M

Solar Workforce Development
\$1.71 M

MASH

On- and off-site solar for affordable housing tenants, through VHFA
\$22.34 M

ACRE

MW sized community solar for renters, through utilities
\$20.5 M

RAISE

5kW on-site solar for homeowners, through PV Installers & financial partner(s)
\$14.61 M

EPA Solar for All Requirements

- Inflation Reduction Act (IRA), **Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund**, \$7 Billion EPA Program
- 60 Grant Recipients – States, Nonprofits, Tribes, Coalitions
- Program focused on low-income **80% Average Median Income** (AMI) communities
- Household savings requirement of **20% utility bill reduction** for participants
- Add “Good paying/high quality” jobs via workforce development component
- Comply with Build America, Buy America, Davis Bacon, NEPA, etc.
- Must comply with EPA Quality Assurance & Reporting Requirements

Federal Funding Takes Time



(And more time)

**July 15,
2024**

EPA
Obligates
Funds via
Initial
Award

**Dec 18,
2024**

Final EPA
Award
issued
12/18/24

**March
2025**

Quality
Assurance
& Reporting
Deadlines
Met

**Jan 2026 –
Sep 2029**

Deployment
of SFA
Programs:
RAISE,
MASH, ACRE

Sep 1, 2024

Performanc
e Period
Begins/
Workplan
refinement

**Jan – Dec
2025**

Planning
Period for
Program
Design*

Spring 2025
Outreach
and
Engagement

PSD is here

* Note: Subprograms may begin operation during Planning Period when finalized.

Federal Funding: Obstacles in 2025

- EPA paused all communications with grantees from Jan 28th to Feb 26th
 - The Federal Treasury Portal (ASAP) was inactive during this period
- EPA has resumed communication with Grantees
- PSD has made successful draws for SFA funding in Feb/Mar of 2025
- EPA reduced GGRF/SFA staff and increased audit/compliance efforts
 - EPA's Inspector General announced an audit of *Solar for All* Program last week

\$22 million for Managed Affordable Housing Projects

Sole-Source Grant to *Vermont Housing & Finance Agency*

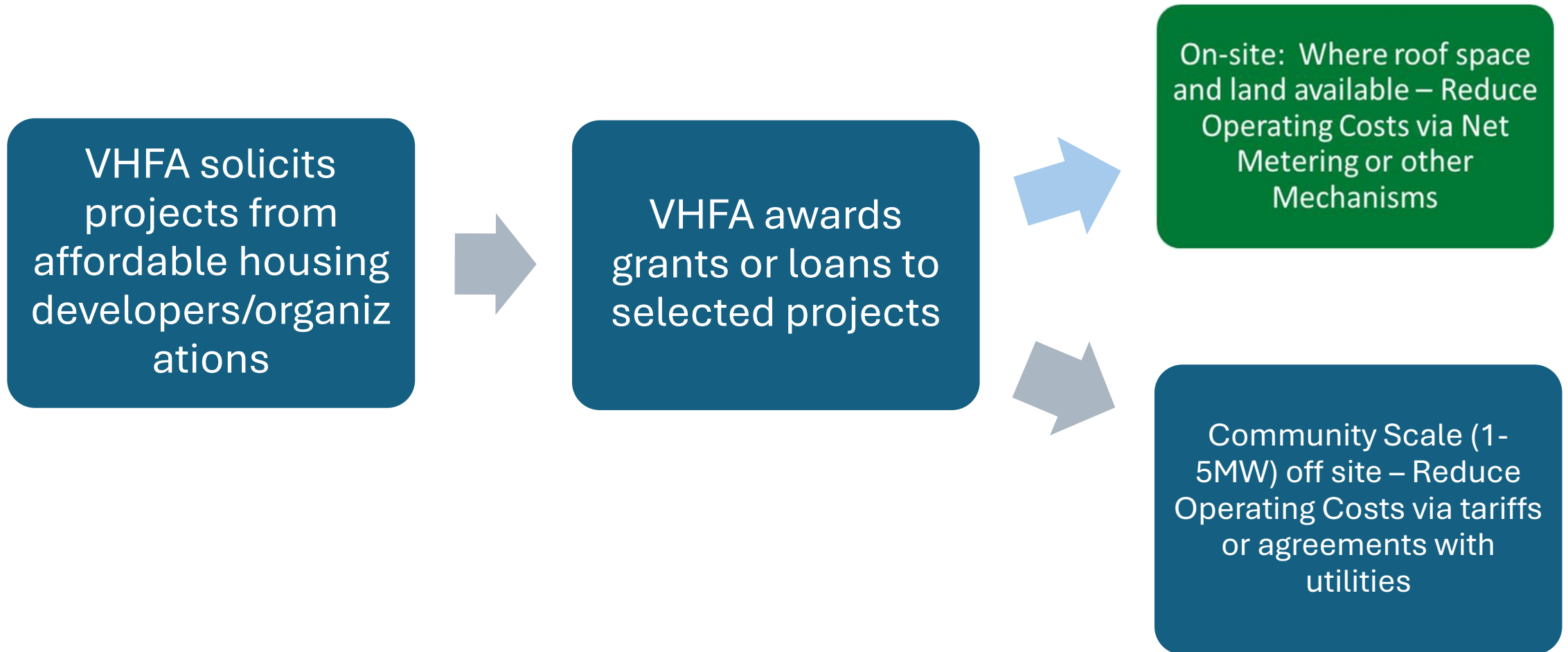
Managed Affordable Solar Housing (MASH)

- **Improve access** to clean distributed energy for Vermonters living in affordable housing
- **Reduce energy burden** of most vulnerable
- **Reduce operating costs** of housing
- **Promote electrification** of heating and transportation
- **Avoid cost-shifts** and cross-subsidization where possible

- *Projected to serve ~3,000 HH*



MASH: How will it work?



MASH: Benefits to Tenants

- Expected to be described in proposals for funding by affordable houser/developer
- Can be financial or non-financial benefit
 - Rent reductions
 - “Plug-load” bill reductions
 - Other HUD approved non-financial benefits

Residential Assistance in Solar Energy (RAISE) – *Tentative Design*

\$14.6 million directed to rooftop solar array to **low-income homeowners**

Participant works with Financial Institution (FI) and solar installers through Program Administrator

FI takes Investment Tax Credit (30%+) through IRA *Elective Pay* provisions

Installer takes incentive from VT Solar For All Program to reduce portion of project cost to be financed

Participant pays for the remaining cost of project over 6-year term of financial agreement with FI and owns the system upon final payment

Participant receives benefit of the solar installation for the life of the system – 20+ yrs.

RAISE Program Elements

- Competitive Contract for a **Financial Institution**
- Competitive Contract for **Program Implementation Contractor**
- Direct Grant to Subsidize VT Electrical **Apprenticeship Programs**
- Competitive Contracts to **Expand Solar Workforce Training**
 - Career Training Centers, Community Workforce Partners, Employers, etc.
 - *Projected to serve ~1,000 HH*

Affordable Community Renewable Energy (ACRE)

- Based on ACRE Program developed under ARPA
- Benefits to participants through memberships in “community-scale solar projects”
 - Projects 2-5 MW
- Membership delivers a monthly bill credit evenly across billing cycles
 - 20% bill savings equating to ~\$25 savings/bill
- Memberships likely to be 10 years but may be longer depending on feedback from outreach efforts
- Membership eligibility based on one-time income verification check
 - parity with participants who receive installations
- Expected to be Administered by VEPP Inc.

- *Projected to serve ~4,200 HH*

Engagement Efforts to Inform Program Design

RAISE

5kW on-site solar for homeowners, through PV Installers & financial partner(s)

ACRE

MW sized community solar for renters, through utilities

MASH

On- and off-site solar for affordable housing tenants, through VHFA

Primary focus of engagement efforts Spring '25.

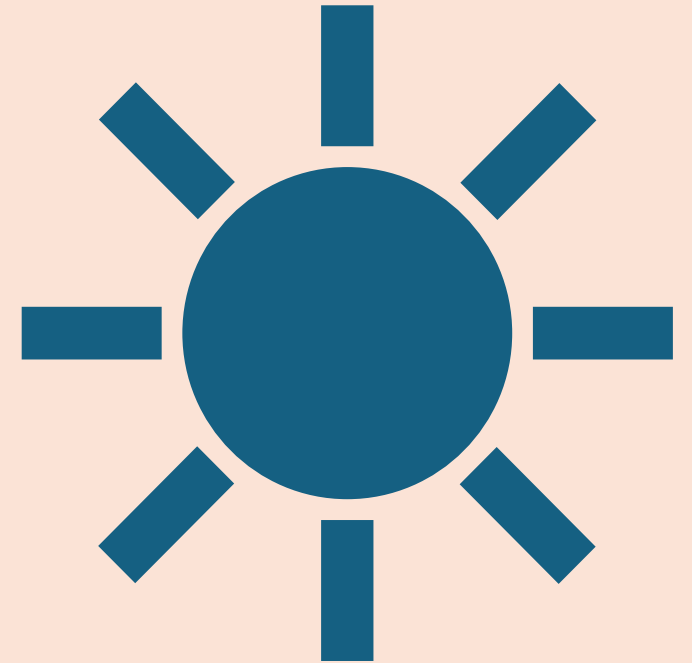
- Focus group discussions in April with:
- Community-based organizations
 - (1 virtual)
- Potential program participants
 - (4 events; 1 virtual and 3 in-person)
- Will inform how best to engage with other program partners (financial institutions, developers, utilities, etc.) on core program questions (*targeting May*)

Currently engaging with utilities and VEPP, Inc. on broad program parameters.

Will evaluate additional engagement needs once program parameters finalized and after RAISE engagement concludes.

VHFA will lead engagement efforts as deemed necessary to support program design.

Questions?



Melissa Bailey, State Energy Office Director, Melissa.Bailey@Vermont.gov

Andrew Perchlik, Solar for All Program Manager, Andrew.Perchlik@Vermont.gov

Randy Brittingham, Grant Program Manager, Randy.Brittingham@Vermont.gov