



Energizing Rural Communities Prize

Introductory Webinar – Phase 2

August 2023

AMERICAN
MADE
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY



OCED
Office of Clean Energy Demonstrations

Agenda

1. Welcome
2. Competitor Support
3. Track Expectations
4. Breakout Discussions & Introductions
5. Final Questions

Energizing Rural Communities Prize at OCED

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Background: DOE, OCED, and ERA

DOE is pursuing efforts to enable an **inclusive and just entrepreneurial innovation ecosystem** in climate and energy technologies

Within DOE, the Office of Clean Energy Demonstrations (OCED)'s mission is to **deliver clean energy demonstration projects** at scale in partnership with the private sector to **accelerate deployment, market adoption, and the equitable transition to a decarbonized energy system.**

At OCED, the Energy Improvements in Rural or Remote Areas (ERA) Program is designed to provide financial assistance to improve, in **rural or remote areas of the United States**, the resilience, safety, reliability, and availability of energy and environmental protection from adverse impacts of energy generation.

Through workshops and community input, ERA has found that two of the biggest barriers to improving energy systems in rural or remote areas are developing the necessary partnerships and securing financing.

Contact Information



Email: ruralenergyprize@nrel.gov



American Made: americanmadechallenges.org/challenges/rural-energy



HeroX Forum: www.herox.com/rural-energy

Competitor Support

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Competitor Support

Engagement and Team-Specific Support

- Peer-to-Peer Workshops
- Managing Prize Expectations and Project Management
- Outreach Material Development, individualized to the team
- Regional Connections and Support Network Development, individualized to the team

Training Topics

- Regulatory Training
- Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency: Tools, technology-specific trainings, and planning best practices
- Introduction to Workforce and Certification Programs
- Grant Writing: Best Practices, Finding Relevant Programs, Developing a Sustainable Strategy
- Writing, Reviewing, and Negotiating Requests for Proposals
- Best Practices in Stakeholder Engagement

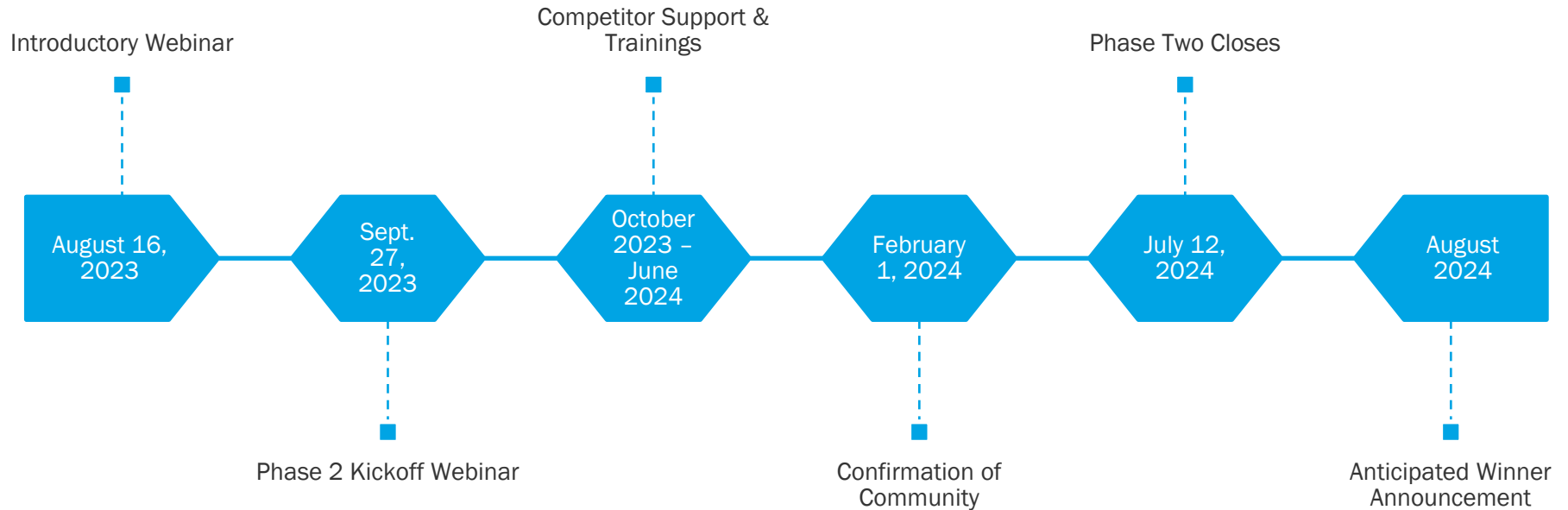
PARTNER Track

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Timeline



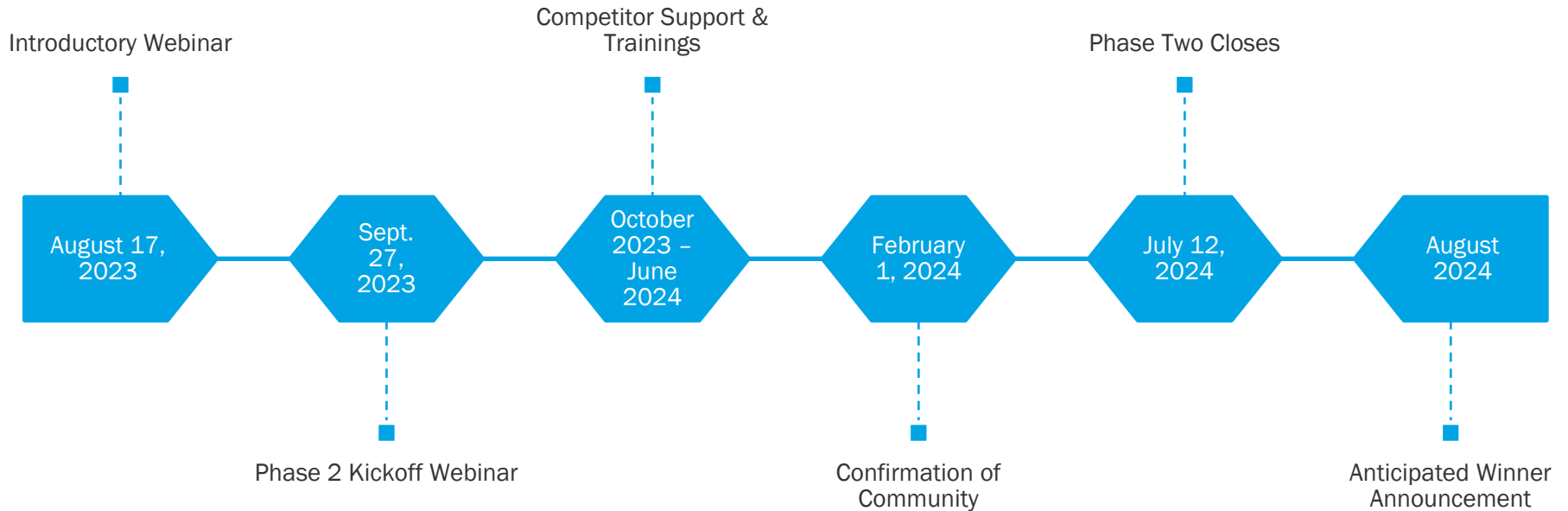
FINANCE Track

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Timeline



Submitted Questions

I have a tax related question....

We cannot answer tax questions. Some of the power connectors may be able to answer these questions, but we recommend asking a tax professional.

What are the reporting requirements for the Prize award?

Easy, none. Prizes do not require additional reporting. Prize competitors should refer to the official rules document for eligibility, however.

Do you anticipate another Phase One round in FY24?

We cannot speak to the potential for any future funding opportunities.

In general however, the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, commonly referred to as the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL), directs DOE's Office of Clean Energy Demonstrations (OCED) to invest \$1 billion in energy improvements in rural or remote areas. OCED's Energy Improvements in Rural or Remote Areas (ERA) Program will provide financial investment, technical assistance, and other resources to advance clean energy demonstrations and energy solutions that are replicable and scalable. This program has \$200,000,000 appropriated annually for fiscal years 2022 through 2026.

Submitted Questions

What is the process for qualifying or applying for the \$200k Phase Two prize? What is the timeline for Phase Two? What should we expect with regards to the process of working with advisors, meeting frequency, etc?

Hopefully these were covered today :)

What time is the meeting on 9/27/23?

2:00pm MDT

(11:00am HST/12:00pm AKDT/1:00pm PDT/2:00pm

MDT/3:00pm CDT/4:00pm EDT&AST)

What kinds of questions can be answered by power connectors but not by the prize administration team?

- What broad strategic process can you recommend for our teams to follow?
- What do we need to demonstrate for Phase Two?
- Which specific metrics do we have to hit for Phase Two?
- Are there any additional financial resources the city can leverage to take the project to completion beyond Phase Two of the prize?