



Arizona Clean Energy Plan Benefits

Arizona faces dire consequences from climate change, including extreme heat, drought, and wildfires. Federal climate action, including funding from the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) and Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL), is helping Arizona minimize these impacts and prepare for a clean energy future. The majority (60%) of Arizona voters [support](#) the Clean Energy Plan after learning more about its policies, and as of December 2023, Arizona has [received](#) over \$3.5 billion in funding from the Clean Energy Plan. Clean energy investments have already [created](#) 13,570 good-paying clean energy jobs and expanded opportunities for households to save money in the Copper State. Funding is currently going to local communities across the state to promote drought and climate resiliency, reduce pollution, and advance climate-smart agriculture.

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Key Talking Points:

- New clean energy projects announced since the Inflation Reduction Act passed have spurred [\\$10.01 billion](#) in new investment and helped create or move forward over 13,570 good-paying clean energy jobs in Arizona.
 - Rep. Andy Biggs's (AZ-5) and Rep. Paul Gosar's (AZ-9) districts [benefited](#) from new clean energy projects, yet they all [voted against](#) the Inflation Reduction Act in August 2022.
- The Inflation Reduction Act includes \$4 billion for the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, which will help Arizona and other Colorado River basin states [mitigate](#) climate-driven drought. Thanks to this funding, the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation

[created](#) a Lower Colorado River Basin System Conservation and Efficiency Program to improve and protect the long-term sustainability of the Colorado River.

- This funding and project will benefit Arizona because [36% of the state's water supply](#) comes from the Colorado River.
- As part of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law's Clean School Bus Rebate Program, eight Arizona school districts [received](#) over \$10 million in federal funds to purchase low- and zero-emission school buses in 2022.
 - In Arizona's 9th Congressional District, the Mohave Valley Elementary District will receive seven electric school buses. This district is represented by Rep. Paul Gosar, who [voted against](#) the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law.
- In November 2023, over 14 farms and businesses in Arizona were [awarded](#) Rural Energy for America Program (REAP) grants, which received a \$2 billion boost through the Inflation Reduction Act.
 - Farms and agricultural businesses in Arizona's 9th Congressional District benefited from the REAP grants, yet Rep. Paul Gosar (AZ-9) [voted against](#) the Inflation Reduction Act.

Arizonans Are Benefitting From The Clean Energy Plan's Expanded Funding For Energy Efficiency:

- [New rebates](#) of 50 to 100% on new energy-efficient electric appliances will help Arizona families save on their energy bills.
- According to the U.S. Department of Energy, families who install an efficient electric heat pump for heating and cooling can [receive](#) a [tax credit](#) of up to \$2,000 and save [an average of over \\$500](#) per year on energy bills. Families who make other energy efficiency improvements can [receive tax credits](#) worth up to \$500 for doors, \$600 for windows, \$150 for a [home energy audit](#), and up to 30% off the cost of new insulation — a total of up to \$1,200 per year in tax credits.
- In November 2022, the Biden administration [announced](#) Arizona would receive over \$153 million for consumer home energy rebate programs under the Inflation Reduction Act. This funding will [help](#) low-income households in Arizona save an average of 27% on their home energy bills when they upgrade their appliances and improve energy efficiency.
- Families who install [rooftop solar or battery storage](#) in their homes can save up to 30% of the cost of installation via a [tax credit](#), saving nearly [\\$400](#) per year on their energy bills. Arizona is one of the sunniest states in the nation and [ranks second](#) in solar energy potential. These new tax credits from the Inflation Reduction Act will

allow more than [150,000 Arizona households](#) to install rooftop solar panels and lower their utility bills.

- The Inflation Reduction Act includes grants for state and local governments to adopt the latest building energy codes, [saving](#) the average new homeowner in Arizona 18.1% on their utility bills, or \$446 annually.
- As part of the Inflation Reduction Act, the Department of Energy's Office of State and Community Energy Programs has up to \$225 million to grant to Tribal governments and Alaska Native entities for Home Electrification and Appliance Rebates. Through the Tribal Home Electrification and Appliance Rebates Program, 20 tribes in Arizona [received](#) over \$31 million in funding for energy efficiency and electrification home upgrades, which will help households reduce energy bills, increase home comfort, and improve indoor air quality.
- Drivers who buy qualifying clean vehicles can [receive](#) a tax credit of up to \$7,500 for a new vehicle and up to \$4,000 for a used vehicle.
- The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law includes \$623 million in grants to help build out an electric vehicle (EV) charging network across the U.S. In January 2024, the Federal Highway Administration [announced](#) over \$12.8 million in funding for Arizona to expand its electric vehicle charging infrastructure.
 - Mesa [received](#) over \$11 million to build 48 electric vehicle chargers for a variety of vehicle sizes, charging docks for e-bikes and e-scooters, and solar canopies to support electricity generation at the stations.
 - Cochise County [received](#) \$500,000 for its Cochise County, Arizona CFI – Community Program.
 - The San Carlos Apache Tribal Council [received](#) \$500,000 for its EV Charging Port and Infrastructure Project.

The Clean Energy Plan Is Spearheading New Clean Energy Investments In Arizona:

- The Inflation Reduction Act will bring a further [\\$4.1 billion](#) in investment in large-scale clean power generation and storage to Arizona by 2030.
- New clean energy projects announced since the Inflation Reduction Act passed have spurred [\\$10.01 billion](#) in new investment and helped create or move forward over 13,570 good-paying clean energy jobs in Arizona.
- Arizona ranks [second in the nation for solar energy potential](#), and the industry is ramping up in the state.

- New solar and wind energy investments will help reduce energy costs in Arizona, as the costs of solar and wind power in the state are projected to drop by [22% and 34%](#), respectively, over the next 30 years.

Arizonans Are Benefiting From The Clean Energy Plan's Funding In Sustainable And Resilient Infrastructure:

- Funded by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, nine projects in Arizona [received](#) over \$136 million from the Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE) program.
 - In 2023, five projects in Arizona [received](#) over \$60 million in funding from the RAISE program.
 - Pima County [received](#) \$20 million to improve 1.3 miles of West Valencia Road from Camino de la Tierra to Mission Road. The improvements will include sidewalks, buffered bike lanes, lighting, sheltered bus stops, landscaping (including shade trees), additional travel lanes, intersection improvements, drainage improvements, and public art.
 - The Navajo Nation [received](#) \$20 million to reconstruct 7.1 miles of BIA Route N15 from Sunrise Springs to Cornfields by widening the roadway, adding a shoulder, elevating the roadway, improving drainage structures, and installing livestock underpasses.
 - Phoenix [received](#) \$10.2 million to add 3.3 miles of American Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant sidewalks and improve the roadway between Downtown Phoenix and the Airport with enhanced pedestrian and bicycle facilities, wayfinding signage, and pavement markings.
 - The Yuma Metropolitan Planning Organization [received](#) \$8.5 million to complete the final design and environmental clearance for 9 miles of safety improvements on US Highway 95.
 - Cochise County [received](#) over \$2 million to complete the preliminary engineering and National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) planning for a 22-mile segment of Davis Road, a major East-West connector between SR-80 and US-191.
 - In 2022, four projects in Arizona [received](#) over \$75 million in funding from the RAISE program.
 - The Southern Navajo County Regional Multimodal Planning Study [received](#) \$261,000 to improve pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure.

- The Rio Reimagined: 3rd Street Rio Salado Bicycle/Pedestrian Bridge project [received](#) \$25 million to construct a bicycle and pedestrian bridge across the Rio Salado River and add low-emitting solar pedestrian-scale lighting and pathway amenities.
- The 22nd Street Revitalization Project [received](#) \$25 million to replace an existing 1960s-era bridge in poor condition with a new bridge, expand a street from four lanes to six lanes, and construct a separate bicycle and pedestrian bridge.
- The Mohave Road Reconstruction Project [received](#) \$24.98 million to reconstruct Mohave Road by including asphalt pavement and shoulders, intersection turn lane improvements, street lighting, and signage.
- In 2022, the Nationally Significant Multimodal Freight & Highway Projects program (INFRA) [awarded](#) \$32.4 million to Flagstaff’s Downtown Mile Safety and Connectivity Improvement Project. The INFRA program [received](#) \$7.2 billion from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law.

The Clean Energy Plan Is Helping Arizona Become Resilient To Drought Conditions:

- As part of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, the Colorado River Drought Contingency Plan [received](#) \$300 million for water reclamation operations. Of this funding, \$250 million is for the Bureau of Reclamation to create or conserve 100,000 acre-feet of water annually for the Lower Colorado River Basin at Lake Mead.
- The Inflation Reduction Act includes \$4 billion for the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, which will help Arizona and Colorado River basin states [mitigate](#) climate-driven drought. From this funding, the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation [created](#) a Lower Colorado River Basin System Conservation and Efficiency Program to improve and protect the long-term sustainability of the Colorado River.
- As part of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, Arizona is [receiving](#) \$27.7 million for four projects to increase drought resilience and improve water delivery systems.
 - The Colorado River Front Work and Levee System: Arizona Palo Verde Division Bankline Road Repair project [received](#) \$7.04 million to rehabilitate approximately 4 miles of gravel road with a new aggregate base from the Cibola Oxbow Bridge to Farmers Bridge.
 - \$4 million will [fund](#) partial dredging of the Laguna Dam Settling Basin.

- The Colorado River Front Work and Levee System: Brock Reservoir Forebay/Afterbay Inlet Gates Rehabilitation/Replacement [received](#) \$10.2 million.
- The Yuma County project [received](#) \$6.5 million to fund all or part of the replacement of the aging and failed High-Density Polyethylene Advanced Drainage System pipe.
- As part of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, Maricopa-Stanfield Irrigation and Drainage District [received](#) \$5 million for its Drought Resiliency Water Augmentation Program.
- As part of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, Sonora Environmental Research Institute Inc. [received](#) \$40,000 for its Increasing Rainwater Harvesting Capacity in Low-Income Neighborhoods project.
- As part of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, the Town of Chino Valley [received](#) \$44,120 for its water demand rate study to analyze, develop, and deploy new rate structures.

The Clean Energy Plan Is Helping Reduce Pollution In Communities Across Arizona:

- In March 2023, the Biden-Harris Administration [announced](#) a \$3 million grant for Arizona to develop innovative strategies to cut climate pollution and build clean energy economies. The funding, which comes from the Climate Pollution Reduction Grant program created by the Inflation Reduction Act, was allocated to the Executive Office of The State of Arizona.
 - In March 2023, the Biden-Harris Administration [announced](#) the Phoenix- Mesa- Chandler Metro Area and the Tucson Metro Area would each receive a \$1 million grant to tackle climate pollution. The funding, which comes from the Climate Pollution Reduction Grant program created by the Inflation Reduction Act, was [allocated](#) to the Maricopa Association of Governments and Pima County.
 - Five tribal governments in Arizona, the Gila River Indian Community, Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community, Hopi Tribe, Navajo Nation, and San Carlos Apache Tribe, were [awarded](#) funding from the Climate Pollution Reduction Grant program.
- Funded by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, four projects in Arizona [received](#) over \$63 million from the Federal Transit Administration's Low- and No-Emission Vehicle Program.

- As part of the Clean School Bus Rebate Program that was created by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, eight Arizona school districts [received](#) over \$10 million in federal funds to purchase low- and zero-emission school buses in 2022.
 - The Cedar Unified District, Paloma School District, and Liberty Traditional Charter School each [received](#) one electric school bus, Red Mesa Unified District received three, Isaac Elementary District and Somerton Elementary District each received six, and Mohave Valley Elementary District received seven.
- In January 2023, the EPA [announced](#) the selection of 280 school districts nationwide to receive nearly \$1 billion through the first Clean School Bus Program Grants Competition. 25 Arizona school districts [received](#) a total of over \$55.8 million in funding.

The Clean Energy Plan Is Advancing Climate Resilience, Conservation, And Equity In Arizona:

- In September 2023, Arizona [received](#) a total of \$22 million from the Urban and Community Forestry Grants to support seven projects to combat climate change, expand access to green spaces, and create healthier communities. The Urban and Community Forestry Grants Program is funded by the Inflation Reduction Act.
- In September 2023, the National Parks Service [announced](#) that Arizona would receive over \$7 million from the Inflation Reduction Act to address critical ecosystem resilience, restoration, and environmental planning needs. Some projects include:
 - Arizona and three other states [received](#) a total of \$799,000 in funding to enhance and promote the resilience of riparian ecosystems across 17 arid land parks.
 - The Remove Invasives: Colorado River Climate Resilience, Restoration, and Response project in Arizona [received](#) \$258,000.
 - Arizona and New Mexico [received](#) a total of \$481,000 in funding for the Control Invasive Bullfrogs and Restore Native Amphibians in Imperiled Wetlands of 8 Southwest Parks project.
 - Arizona and four other states [received](#) a total of \$1 million in funding for the Restore Shortgrass Prairie, Sagebrush, & Mesquite Bosque Ecosystems in 8 Intermountain Region and Pacific West Region Parks project.
- In March 2023, the Department of the Interior [announced](#) \$7 million, which comes from the Inflation Reduction Act, for nature-based solutions to support the endangered Yaqui fish species in the San Bernardino National Wildlife Refuge.

- The Inflation Reduction Act [awarded](#) \$30 million to the EPA's Environmental Justice Collaborative Problem Solving (EJCPS) Program. In 2023, four projects in Arizona [received](#) funding from the EJCPS Program to address environmental justice inequities.
 - The Red Feather Healthy Heating Education and Access Program for Hopi and Navajo Communities [received](#) \$500,000 to reduce environmental health disparities, increase climate resilience and efficiency, increase the number of Indigenous trade professionals providing quality housing and energy services, and reduce the energy burdens experienced by these communities.
 - In Superior, Rebuild Superior, Inc. [received](#) \$500,000 to fund the Rebuild Superior Blight Reduction Program.
 - In Tucson, Amistades Inc. [received](#) \$500,000 for the Justicia Juntos project to engage and inform Latino residents about the urban heat island effect, build capacity to respond to extreme heat events and advocate for environmental justice issues specific to their neighborhoods, and create access to resources and adaptive strategies that help them stay safe, cool, and bring temperatures down.
 - The Bisbee Science Exploration & Research Center's (BSERC) Community Environmental Field Station Design Project [received](#) \$500,000 to reimagine eight unused acres at a decommissioned middle school into an outdoor educational facility that is focused on education, environment, engagement, and exercise.
- The Environmental Justice Government-to-Government (EJG2G) program [received](#) a total of \$84.1 million in the Inflation Reduction Act and annual appropriations funding. In 2023, two projects in Arizona [received](#) funding from this program to support projects that lead to measurable environmental or public health impacts in communities disproportionately burdened by environmental harms.
 - In 2023, Flagstaff [received](#) \$1 million to create three Resilience Hubs, two physical spaces in underserved neighborhoods, and one mobile hub serving unsheltered residents that will provide resources to meet community-identified needs.
 - In 2023, Gila County [received](#) \$1 million to fund the Copper Corridor Blight Reduction Program.
- Funding from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and Inflation Reduction Act supported the Voluntary Community-Driven Relocation program, which [awarded](#)

the Havasupai Tribe in Arizona \$5 million to prepare for relocation or increase climate resilience measures.

The Clean Energy Plan Is Investing In Climate-Smart Agriculture – Benefiting Arizona Farmers, Ranchers, And Agricultural Businesses:

- The ongoing megadrought, worsening fire seasons, temperature swings, and monsoons [impact](#) Arizona agricultural businesses, food production, utility costs, and livelihoods.
- The Inflation Reduction Act included an additional \$2 billion for the USDA's Rural Energy for America Program (REAP). In November 2023, over \$3.8 million in grant funding was [awarded](#) to 14 Arizona farmers, ranchers, and businesses to invest in renewable energy, upgrade to energy-efficient equipment, and cut their energy costs.
- Under the Increasing Land, Capital, and Market Access Program, Southwest Indian Agricultural Association, Inc. [received](#) funding for its Painted Desert Increasing Land, Capital, and Market Access Program for Native American and Veteran Farmers and Ranchers in Arizona.
 - The project is to work closely with the USDA Farm Service Agency to develop and deliver wraparound outreach and technical assistance for Native American and Veteran farmers and ranchers in Arizona to increase their access to land, capital, and markets. The Increasing Land, Capital, and Market Access Program is funded by the IRA.

Stories To Uplift

Clean Energy Investments Are A Boon To Communities Across Arizona:

- Since the passage of the Inflation Reduction Act, over [13,570 good-paying clean energy jobs](#) were created or moved forward in Arizona.
- High unemployment remains an issue in Yuma. The Yuma Metropolitan Statistical Area has a [high unemployment rate of 12.3%](#), compared to 3-4% seen in other MSAs in Arizona, the state's rate of 3.5%, and the national rate of 3.6%. Yuma also has a [17.3% poverty rate](#). Yuma's economy is [driven by](#) agriculture and the military. However, manufacturing is an emerging sector that is continuing to grow thanks to clean energy investments.
 - EVelocity is opening a cobalt sulfate production facility to produce a vital input for battery EVs in Yuma, creating more than [360 good-paying jobs](#) in the area. The company is [partnering](#) with Arizona Western College to establish a worker training program. EVelocity Energy EV Battery Facility:

The EV battery materials processing company is [investing](#) \$200 million in a solar-powered cobalt sulfate production facility, the first in the U.S. The new facility will make elements for 470,000 electric cars yearly, [creating](#) more than 360 good-paying jobs in the area. Construction of the facility is estimated to bring in over 1,229 jobs and \$55 million in income, and overall, the facility is projected to generate an estimated \$330 million in positive economic impact in the county. The company will also provide free worker training programs at the Arizona Western College campus in Wellton.

- Pinal County's economy was traditionally focused on mining and agriculture, but new semiconductor and EV investments have helped [diversify the economy](#). New clean energy projects, including LG Energy Solutions' Queen Creek gigafactory, are creating much-needed local jobs, as [80%](#) of Pinal County's workforce commutes outside the county for work.
 - Ecobat is opening its first U.S. facility in Casa Grande, Arizona. The recycling facility, which will produce an estimated 10,000 tons of recycled lithium-ion battery material annually, will create [60 new jobs](#) in the area.
 - In March 2023, LGES [announced](#) it would invest \$5.6 billion in a [previously paused](#) gigafactory in Queen Creek, Arizona. The project was [first announced](#) as a \$1.4 billion investment in March 2022 but was [put on hold](#) in June 2022 because of inflation-driven cost increases. The gigafactory, which will [produce](#) two types of batteries — one for cylindrical batteries for electric vehicles and another for lithium iron phosphate batteries for energy storage systems, will create 2,800 clean energy jobs. Production is [expected](#) to start in 2025.
 - In January 2023, an LGES [executive said](#) the company was adjusting plans for the project to meet increasing demand driven by the IRA. In the expansion announcement, an LGES spokesperson said its decision to increase investment was driven by [higher demand](#) for batteries that qualify for IRA tax credits.
- La Paz is one of Arizona's most rural, remote communities, with a [20.3% poverty rate](#). The county is also 17.5% Native American and [27.6% Hispanic/Latino](#).
 - The Department of the Interior reported that the Ten West Link project would [create](#) 365 union construction jobs. The project is [projected](#) to not only modernize the energy infrastructure in the area but also strengthen grid reliability, improve efficiency, and potentially lower energy costs for consumers.

The Clean Energy Plan Is Helping Arizona Farmers, Ranchers, and Agricultural Businesses:

- In November 2023, 14 farms and businesses in Arizona were [awarded](#) Rural Energy for America Program (REAP) grants, which received a \$2 billion boost through the Inflation Reduction Act.
 - Settlin Inn LLC, a rural RV park, [received](#) \$250,000 to install solar shade canopies on a small portion of the park. This project is expected to save \$107,547 per year.
 - Solar Gain Inc. [received](#) \$925,148 to install a solar panel system to offset the electricity use for an RV park.
 - The Pines Motel Inc. [received](#) \$31,934 to install a solar panel system. This project is expected to save this business \$7,917 annually.