

GFO-26-302 Pre-Application Workshop

GFO-26-302 Pre-Application Workshop

California Energy Commission
Energy Research and Development Division
Food Production Unit
September 2026





Workshop Agenda

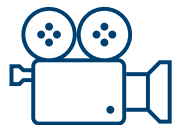
Food Production Investment Program

1. Housekeeping & Welcome
 2. Section I – Program & Solicitation Overview
 3. Section II - Eligibility Requirements
 4. Section III – Application Submission Instructions
 5. Section IV – Evaluation and Award Process
 6. Section V – Questions & Answers
- Adjourn

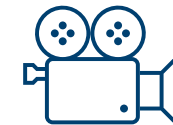




Housekeeping



This workshop is being recorded!



The recording will be posted on the Grant Funding Opportunity Webpage:

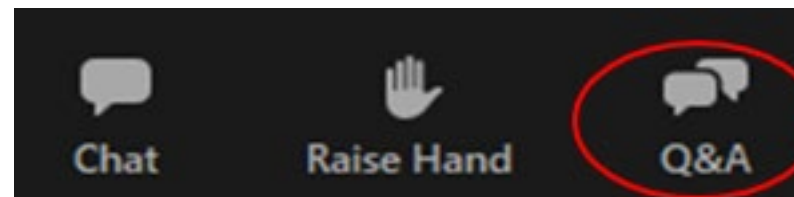
<https://www.energy.ca.gov/solicitations/2026-09/gfo-26-302-food-production-investment-program-2026>



Attendees will be **muted** during the presentation.



- Virtual participation via Q&A window or telephone during Q&A period.
- Written questions to Commission Agreement Officer:
 - Subject: GFO-26-302
 - Name: Eilene Cary
 - Email: Eilene.Cary@energy.ca.gov



Q&A deadline: Monday, October 5, 2026, by 5:00 PM



Commitment to Diversity

The Energy Commission (CEC) adopted a resolution to strengthen its commitment to diversity in its funding programs. The CEC continues to encourage disadvantaged and underrepresented businesses and communities to engage in and benefit from our many programs.

To meet this commitment, Energy Commission staff conducts outreach efforts and activities to:

- Engage with disadvantaged and underrepresented groups throughout the state.
- Notify potential new applicants about the Energy Commission's funding opportunities.
- Assist applicants in understanding how to apply for funding from the Energy Commission's programs.
- Survey participants to measure progress in diversity outreach efforts.



Diversity Survey (One-minute)

We Want to Hear From You!

- The information supplied will be used for public reporting purposes to display anonymous overall attendance of diverse groups.
- Zoom Participants, please use the link in the chat to access the survey.
- The survey will be closed at the end of the day.



Survey Link:

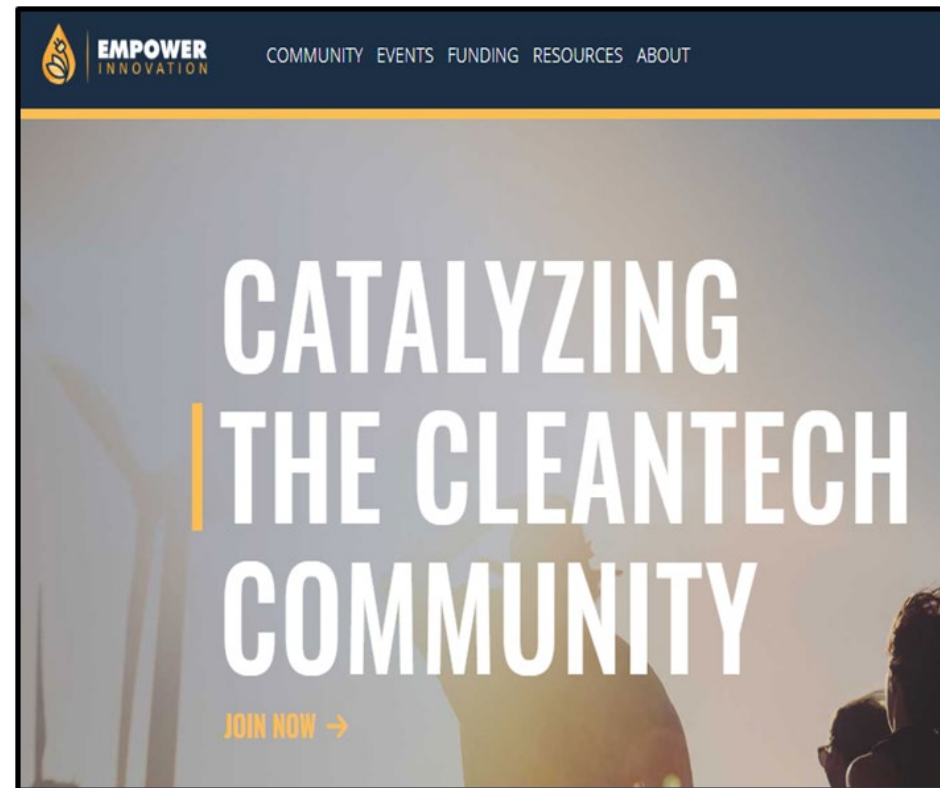
https://forms.cloud.microsoft/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=RBI6rPQT9k6NG7qicUgZTmZQQhVkOulBuu_RhfhezOlUMzE5QVA0WVFYR0MxVII5WFdSVjVRVjFYVC4u&route=shorturl



Connect With Us & Find a Partner!



Connect with the CEC at
<https://www.energy.ca.gov/newsroom>



Find a partner on Empower Innovation:
<https://www.empowerinnovation.net/en/custom/funding/view/55860#>



Food Production Investment Program

Program Snapshot



Policy Drivers: AB 109, SB 856 & AB 209

- Provide financial incentives for food production/processing facilities to implement energy-efficiency and decarbonization technologies

FPIP by the Numbers

\$137M funds awarded

178k MTCO₂e annual emissions reduction

\$42/MTCO₂e cost per ton of GHG reduction

85% located in priority population areas

63 Project Sites



1 Cold Storage



4 Animal Feed & Ethanol



7 Meat & Rendering



8 Prepared Food Producers



10 Beverage, Breweries, & Wineries



12 Dairy Processing



21 Fruits, Nuts & Vegetables



Solicitation Overview

GFO-26-302

Food Production Investment Program (FPIP) 2026



Purpose of Solicitation



This solicitation will:

- Help California food processors work towards a low-carbon future;
- Demonstrate the reliability and effectiveness of advanced energy and decarbonization technologies and electrification strategies;
- Enhance and benefit the electrical grid, especially during net peak periods; and
- Benefit or improve public health and the environment, particularly in priority populations.

Competitive Grant Solicitation!



Available Funding



Available Funding	Minimum Award Amount	Maximum Award Amount	Minimum Match Funding (% of FPIP funds requested)
\$5,000,000	\$2,500,000	\$5,000,000	25%

Eligible food processors can submit multiple applications:

- Each application must be for a distinct project with no overlap.
- Bundling technologies within the same facility and bundling multiple facilities under the same ownership is allowed.

Match-funding contributors must submit match-funding commitment letters in accordance with solicitation requirements (Attachment 7).

- Failure to do so will disqualify the match-funding commitment from consideration.

FPIP Funding Requested	Minimum Match Amount (25%)
\$2,500,000	\$625,000
\$5,000,000	\$1,250,000



Eligible Technologies



MICROGRIDS

System includes solar PV, battery or thermal storage, and control technologies to operate as a single unit. It functions either connected to the larger grid or independently in island mode while supporting critical loads and providing essential services to the site and grid operators.

ELECTRIFICATION

Projects involving the replacement of existing fossil-fueled equipment with electric-powered equipment (e.g., conversion of gas dryers to electric dryers).

INDUSTRIAL HEAT PUMPS

Installation of industrial heat pumps that recycle otherwise wasted thermal energy for reuse in the facility



Eligible Costs



Eligible costs for FPIP's grant funding are limited to the following areas:

(1) Equipment costs

- Equipment must result in reductions in GHG emissions and/or benefit to the electrical grid

(2) Third-party subrecipient costs for

- Project-related design and engineering (D&E) efforts
- Project-related measurement and verification (M&V) of project performance efforts
- The grant will reimburse subrecipients' costs up to a maximum of \$99,999 per entity with FPIP funds
 - If a single subrecipient entity performs both M&V and D&E tasks, that entity is limited to a total of \$99,999 in FPIP reimbursement, regardless of how the costs are distributed between the two tasks.



Examples of Ineligible and Eligible Costs

Ineligible Costs

- Installation costs (labor)
- Equipment warranty
- Solely software
- Grant writing and/or management
- M&V collection required for applications
- Rental equipment

Eligible Costs

- Equipment delivery
- Equipment tax
- Permanent M&V equipment
- Software related to eligible technologies

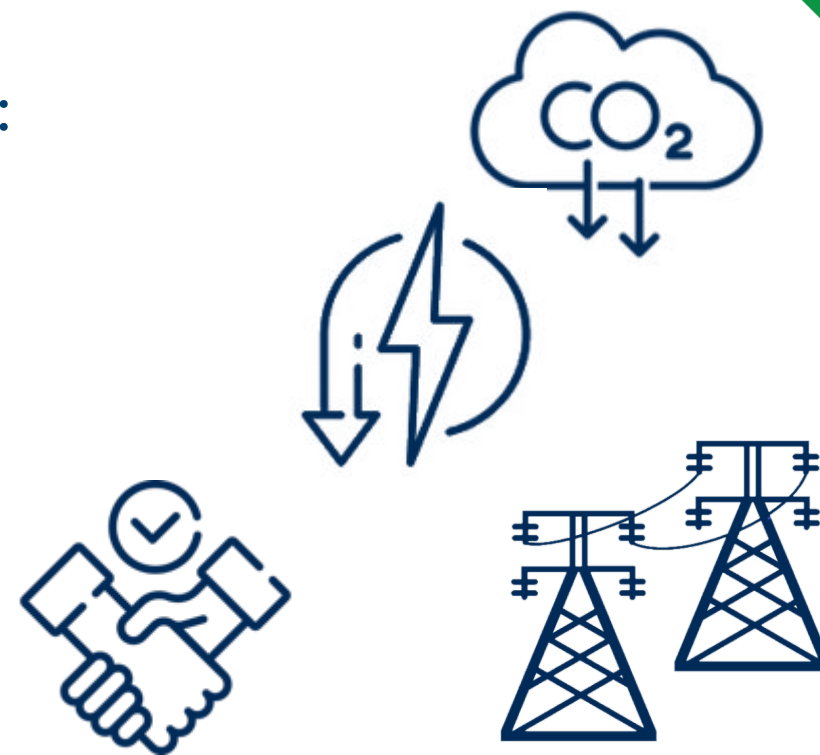


Project Focus



Projects must include **two or more** of these goals to:

- Electrify some or all food-related processes
- Maximize GHG emissions reductions
- Maximize energy reductions
- Provide benefits to support grid reliability
- Provide benefits to priority populations



Looking for applicants with clear intentions **and** a build-ready path forward to implementing the eligible technologies.



Project Requirements



Project must install and demonstrate the reliability of

- Commercially available technologies:
 - drop-in replacement or addition(s) to current systems
 - have higher efficiencies than current best practices and industry standards
- Cutting-edge emerging technologies:
 - with a minimum technology readiness level (TRL) 8
 - not widely used in California
 - commercially proven elsewhere in food processing applications



Equipment Ownership



Under this solicitation, equipment paid for with grant funds must be under the sole ownership of the applicant.

- FPIP's Terms and Conditions, Section 14, states, "*[T]itle to equipment acquired by the Recipient with grant funds will vest in the Recipient.*"
- Third-party financing and ownership of eligible equipment are not allowed under this solicitation.

Facilities that fail to successfully complete the project due to unforeseen circumstances (e.g., workforce shortages, unsustainable capitalization, company consolidation or dissolution, updated requirements directed by local or federal jurisdiction, facility relocation outside of California) may be required to pay back the CEC's portion of funds or relinquish ownership of the equipment to the CEC.



Eligibility Overview



To be eligible for funding, Applicants must:

- Be an existing food or beverage processing facility
 - Must be located in California
- Accept the FPIP terms and conditions without negotiation:
https://www.energy.ca.gov/sites/default/files/2025-05/CEC_Standard_Grant_Ex_C_FPIP_5-2-25_ada.pdf
- Meet all eligibility and other criteria specified in the solicitation



Eligibility Overview (Continued)



All recipients and subcontractors must be registered and in good standing with the California Secretary of State to enter into an agreement with the CEC:

<https://bizfileonline.sos.ca.gov/search/business>



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Access records for California Corporations, Limited Liability Companies (LLCs), and Limited Partnerships (LPs). Quickly retrieve public filings with free PDF copies of over **17 million** business documents.

Important Notes

- **Disclaimer:** All information provided "as is." The data provided is not a complete or certified record. The California Secretary of State's office is not responsible for any loss, consequence, or damage resulting directly or indirectly from reliance on the accuracy, reliability, or timeliness of the information provided.
- **Need help?** For more information, select [Forms](#) on the menu, view the [Help Guide](#) or [Video Library](#). To contact the California Secretary of State's office, view the [Contact Information](#).
- **User Access Required:** To file a Statement of Information online, your online business entity account **must have user access** established. **Accounts without user access established will not see the option to file a Statement of Information online.** For assistance obtaining user access, visit our [Video Resources Library](#) to view the [bizfile Online User Access Control Video](#).

Advanced ▾



Eligible Applicants



Eligible Applicants are existing food processing facilities located in California.

Food processing facilities are those defined by the North American Industry Classification System codes*:

- 311 (Food Manufacturing)
- 3121 (Beverage Manufacturing)
- 493120 (Refrigerated Warehousing and Storage)
- 115114 (Postharvest Crop Activities [except Cotton Ginning])
- Additional food processing support facilities may be considered

*Check your North American Industry Classification System code at <https://www.census.gov/naics/?input=31&chart=2022>

Applicants that are receiving funding for the same project or portions of the same project from the CEC's Industrial Decarbonization and Improvement of Grid Operations (INDIGO) Program are ineligible for funding from FPIP.



Application Overview

GFO-26-302

Food Production Investment Program (FPIP) 2026



Application Requirements

Proposal Attachments



Each Applicant must complete and include the following:

1. Project Overview Form (.docx)	6. CEQA Compliance Form (.docx)
2. Project Narrative (.docx)	7. Commitment and Support Letters (.pdf)
3. Scope of Work (.docx)	8. FPIP Benefits Calculator (.xlsx)
4. Project Schedule (.xlsx)	9. Applicant Declaration (.docx)
5. Budget Form (.xlsx)	

*Attachment A, Applicant Submittal Checklist is optional and **not** required to be submitted.



Project Overview Form

Attachment 1



The Project Overview Form requests basic information about the applicant and the project:

- Application Identification Information
 - Must be registered with the California Secretary of State and in good standing
- Project Manager
- Project Details
- Eligible Technologies
- Project Location
 - Demonstration Site Electrical description
 - Connecting Utility & infrastructure needs
- Estimated emissions & energy savings that must match the savings stated in the Project Narrative and FPIP Benefits Calculator

Applicant Identification Information
Legal Business Name:
Federal Tax ID #:
Project Manager <i>The Project Manager serves as the point of contact for communications with the CEC.</i>
Name:
Email Address:
Phone Number/s:
Project Details
Proposed Project Title:
Proposed Agreement Term <i>(must fall within the dates specified in the "Key Activities Schedule" in Part I.E of the solicitation manual)</i>
Start Date <i>(cannot be earlier than 05/01/2027):</i>
End Date <i>(cannot be past 03/31/2031):</i>
Eligible Technologies <i>Place a check in the box(es) applicable to the technologies proposed. See Section II.B. of the grant solicitation manual and subsequent addendum(s) for a list of eligible technologies.</i>
☐ Microgrids ☐ Electrification ☐ Industrial heat pumps ☐ Other as identified in the addendum:
Project Location <i>List all facilities included in this application in the succeeding boxes.</i>
Demo Site 1
Name of Facility:
Street Address:
City, State, and Zip Code:
NAICS Code <i>(at least first 5 digits)</i> and Title:
Electric Utility Serving This Facility:
Will electrical infrastructure need to be modified, upgraded, or added for this project (y/n):
If "Yes" is marked, please explain:



Project Narrative

Attachment 2



The Project Narrative form follows the Scoring Criteria defined in Section IV of the Solicitation Manual.

Provide a detailed description of the proposed project and provide the information requested in each of the following areas:

- **Technical Merit and Need** - Justifies the need for the project.
- **Technical Approach** - Describes the project approach, risks, M&V plan, and team qualifications.
- **Impacts and Benefits** - Provides quantitative estimates of GHG emission & energy reductions and other benefits, cost-benefit to the state, assumptions.
- **Market Potential and Information Sharing** – Identify other markets for the technology and information sharing with others.
- **California-Based Vendor**– Identify the percentage of equipment that will be purchased from a California based vendor.
- **Preference Points:** Separate criterion for evaluation of priority populations and electrical grid benefits.

The information in the Project Narrative will be used to score your proposal.

Provide enough details so that reviewers can evaluate the proposal against each scoring criterion.



Scope of Work

Attachment 3



The Scope of Work tells exactly what tasks are proposed for the project. All of the following tasks are mandatory:

Administrative Task – Do not revise the description.

- **Task 1** – General Project Tasks

Technical Tasks – Provide information in the “Recipient Shall” section on how you’ll implement the following and the resulting products

- **Task 2** – Project Engineering Design
- **Task 3** – Site Preparation and Equipment Procurement
- **Task 4** – Equipment Installation
- **Task 5** – Measurement and Verification
- **Task 6** – Technology/Knowledge Transfer Activities

“*Products*” are major documents, plans, and reports. Tangible items that can be submitted.

“*Products*” are not equipment and other items that cannot be delivered and stored.



Project Schedule

Attachment 4



The Project Schedule must be included in the application and must list all products, meetings, and due dates

- All work must be scheduled for completion by the anticipated agreement end date
- FPIP is looking for shovel-ready projects that will be completed in about 3 years

Technical Tasks				
Task #	Task Name	Meeting Name	Product(s)	Due Date
2	Project Engineering Design		Project Design Memo	12/30/2027
3	Site Preparation and Equipment Procurement		Site Preparation and Equipment Procurement Memo	6/15/2028
4	Equipment Installation	CPR Meeting #1	Draft Equipment Installation Memo	10/19/2029
			Final Equipment Installation Memo	10/26/2029
5	Measurement and Verification		Draft M&V Plan	7/14/2028
			Final M&V Plan	7/21/2028
			Draft Pre-Installation M&V Findings Report	10/20/2028
			Final Pre-Installation M&V Findings Report	10/27/2028
			Draft Post-Installation M&V Findings Report	1/17/2031
			Final Post-Installation M&V Findings Report	1/24/2031
6	Technology/Knowledge Transfer Activities		Draft Presentation Materials	2/14/2031
			Final Presentation Materials	2/27/2031
			High Quality Digital Photographs	2/27/2031



Budget

Attachment 5



The budget identifies how the CEC funds and match funds will be spent to complete the project. Applicants are allowed to procure a third-party subcontractor or utilize in-house staff for M&V and design engineering. Use of in-house staff is **NOT** reimbursable.

- If there is a third-party subcontractor for M&V, the budget cannot exceed \$99,999.
- If there is a third-party subcontractor for design & engineering, the budget cannot exceed \$99,999.
- Only complete the white cells, and do not delete sheets or rows.

Grant Funding Number	GFO-26-302		
Name of Organization	Clean Energy Inc.		
Cost Category	CEC Share	Match Share	Total
Equipment	\$ 4,800,002	\$ 950,000	\$ 5,750,002
Subrecipients	\$ 199,998	\$ 300,000	\$ 499,998
Grand Totals	\$ 5,000,000	\$ 1,250,000	\$ 6,250,000
Total CEC Reimbursable Funds Spent on California-Based Equipment Vendors	\$ 4,800,002		
Percentage of CEC Reimbursable Funds Spent on California-Based Equipment Vendors	100.00%		



CEQA Compliance

Attachment 6



- The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Compliance form facilitates the CEC's evaluation of proposed activities under CEQA.
- Requires state and local agencies in California to assess the potential environmental impacts of their proposed actions.
- This form must be completed because FPIP projects are considered “projects” under CEQA.
- Failure to complete the CEQA process in a timely manner after the CEC's Notice of Proposed Award may result in the cancellation of a proposed award.



Commitment Letters

Attachment 7



Commitment Letters are mandatory and will be used for the application screening:

- A commitment letter commits an entity or individual to provide the match funding described in the letter – even the **applicant**.
- Letters that are not submitted by the deadline will not be reviewed and counted towards meeting the requirement specified.
- Applicants must submit a match funding commitment letter signed by each representative of the entity or individual that is committing to providing match funding.

All letters must total the required match amount. Letter(s) must:

1. Identify sources of funds
2. Justify the dollar value claimed
3. Guarantee the availability of the funds for the project
4. Identify a strategy for replacing the funds if they are significantly reduced or lost



Support Letters

Attachment 7



Support Letters are optional and may be used for scoring:

- A support letter details an entity or individual's support for the project.
- Letters that are not submitted by the application deadline will not be reviewed and counted towards meeting the requirement specified.

Applicants may include support letters from project stakeholders (i.e., an entity or individual that will benefit from or be involved in the project) that:

1. Describes the stakeholder's interest or involvement in the project;
2. Indicates the extent to which the project has the support of the relevant industry and/or community-based organizations; and
3. Describes any support it intends (but does not necessarily commit) to provide for the project.



FPIP Benefits Calculator

Attachment 8



The FPIP Benefits Calculator Tool uses inputs such as energy use and project lifetime to estimate benefits for each project.

- MEASUR and AIRMaster+ provide the inputs for most project types.
- Motor and low-GWP refrigerant projects have their own input tabs.
- Outputs include GHG emission reductions, energy savings, and criteria pollutant emission reductions.



California Air Resources Board

**Benefits Calculator Tool for the
Food Production Investment Program**

California Climate Investments

ABOUT:

For the California Energy Commission (CEC) Food Production Investment Program (FPIP), California Air Resources Board (CARB) staff developed this FPIP Benefits Calculator Tool to estimate the greenhouse (GHG) emission reductions and selected co-benefits of each proposed project type. In an effort to enhance the analysis, provide greater transparency, and assist in project-level reporting, CARB has included an output tab in this Benefits Calculator Tool for selected co-benefits and key variables. The FPIP Benefits Calculator Tool and FPIP Quantification Methodology are available for download at: <http://www.arb.ca.gov/cc-resources>.

CARB released the Draft FPIP Benefits Calculator Tool and Draft FPIP Quantification Methodology for public comment on December 11, 2023. This FPIP Benefits Calculator Tool and accompanying FPIP Quantification Methodology have been updated to address public comments, where appropriate, and for



Measurement and Verification (M&V)

Awarded projects are required to perform M&V as follows:

Pre-Installation:

- All facilities: 3 months of pre-installation M&V on the equipment or systems to be retrofitted/replaced.

Post-Installation:

- Year-round facilities: 12 months of post-installation M&V on the equipment/systems installed.
- Seasonal Facilities: Two complete seasons with a minimum of 6 months total of post-installation M&V on the equipment/systems installed

Consider the M&V requirements when creating proposed budgets and schedules.



Application Submission Process



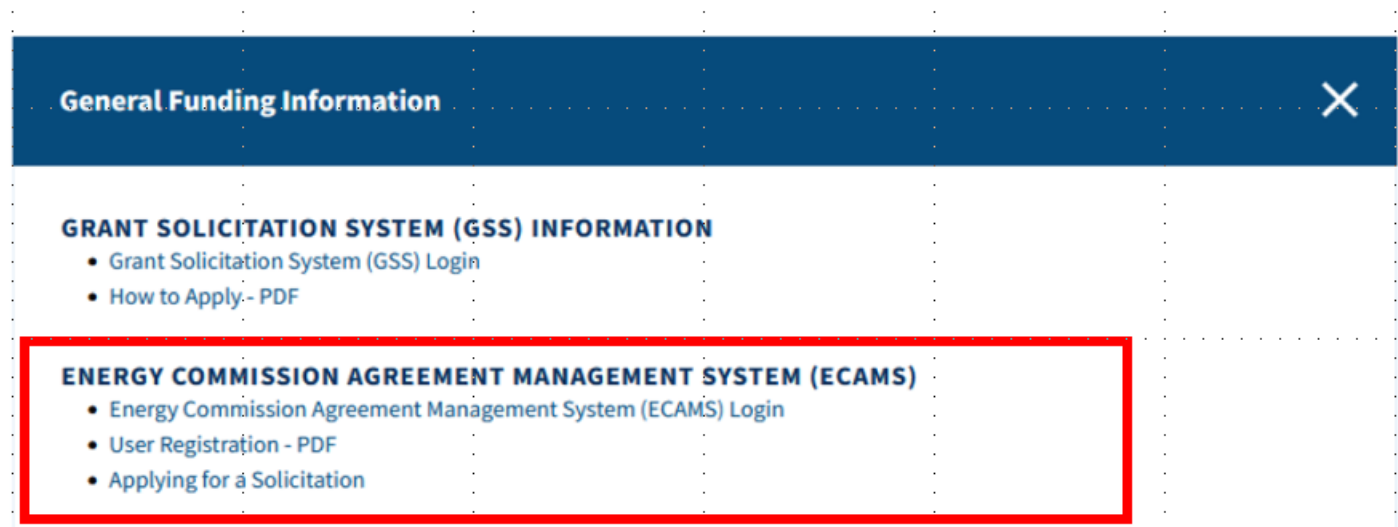
- Applications will be submitted through the Energy Commission Agreement Management System (ECAMS) at:
<https://ecams.energy.ca.gov/>
- **Applicants must have or create a user account to submit a solicitation application.** To create an account, please see the guidance User Registration Instructions at:
<https://www.energy.ca.gov/media/7893>

A screenshot of the Energy Commission Agreement Management System (ECAMS) login page. The page features a blue header with the California Energy Commission logo and social media icons. Below the header, the title "Energy Commission Agreement Management System" is displayed. The login form includes two input fields: "Username" and "Password", each with a small icon to its left. A blue "Login" button is positioned below the password field. At the bottom of the form, there are two links: "Forgot your password?" and "New User Sign Up?".



Application Submission Process (con't)

- For detailed instructions on application submittal, please see the *Applying for a Solicitation* at: <https://www.energy.ca.gov/media/7956>
- Both referenced guidance documents are available at: <https://www.energy.ca.gov/funding-opportunities/funding-resources> under General Funding Information.
- Questions about the ECAMS system should be directed to: ECAMS.SalesforceSupport@Energy.ca.gov

A screenshot of a web page titled "General Funding Information" with a close button (X) in the top right corner. The page is divided into two main sections. The first section is titled "GRANT SOLICITATION SYSTEM (GSS) INFORMATION" and contains two bullet points: "Grant Solicitation System (GSS) Login" and "How to Apply - PDF". The second section is titled "ENERGY COMMISSION AGREEMENT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (ECAMS)" and is highlighted with a red rectangular border. It contains three bullet points: "Energy Commission Agreement Management System (ECAMS) Login", "User Registration - PDF", and "Applying for a Solicitation".

General Funding Information X

GRANT SOLICITATION SYSTEM (GSS) INFORMATION

- Grant Solicitation System (GSS) Login
- How to Apply - PDF

ENERGY COMMISSION AGREEMENT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (ECAMS)

- Energy Commission Agreement Management System (ECAMS) Login
- User Registration - PDF
- Applying for a Solicitation



Application Submission Process (con't)



- Electronic files, other than those requiring signatures, must be consistent with the specific file format provided in the solicitation.
- Application documents should meet formatting requirements, and page recommendations as specified in the solicitation manual.
- Attachments requiring signatures may be signed, scanned, and submitted in PDF format.

The screenshot displays a web application interface for submitting files. At the top, there are tabs for 'Details', 'Attachments', 'Post Agreements', 'Budget Summary', 'Direct Labor', 'Fringe Benefits', 'Travel', 'Equipment', 'Materials & Miscellaneous', and 'More'. The 'Attachments' tab is selected, showing a section titled 'Solicitation Files (18)'.

NAME	FILE EXTENSION	SUBMISSION	DOWNLOAD TEMPLATE
3-Other Document	docx	Required	Download Upload File
0-Solicitation Manual	docx	No response needed	Download Upload File
1-Applicant Form	docx	Required	Download Upload File
10-Contact List	docx	Required	Download Upload File
2-Executive Summary Form	docx	No response needed	Download Upload File
4-Project Narrative	docx	Required	Download Upload File
6-Project Schedule	docx	Required	Download Upload File
6-Scope of Work	docx	Required	Download Upload File
15-Commitment and Support Letters	docx	Required	Download Upload File
8-CEQA Compliance	docx	Required	Download Upload File

Below the table, there is a pagination control showing 'Page 1' and 'Page Size 10'. Below that, there is a section titled 'Uploaded Files (0)' with a table that has columns for 'NAME', 'FILE EXTENSION', 'SUBMISSION', 'SIZE', and 'DOWNLOAD'. The table currently shows 'No data returned'. To the right of this section is a button labeled 'Upload New File'.



Submission Warning

START THE PROCESS EARLY!

- Applications must be fully submitted **BEFORE** the deadline listed in the solicitation manual.
- The ECAMS system will reject applications submitted after the deadline.
- Applications in the process of being submitted prior to the deadline will **NOT** be accepted after the deadline.
- ECAMS support is **ONLY** available from 8am – 5pm Monday-Friday.



Application Submission



- Register as a New User (if applicable)
- Log In
- 4-Step Application Submittal Process:
 1. Select Solicitation
 2. Enter Application Information
 3. Upload Files
 - Select documents for upload
 - Tag files with document type
 - Designate confidential documents (if applicable)
 4. Review and Submit
 - Confirmation from ECAMS system that submission was successful

All steps must be complete BEFORE the submission deadline.



Application Reminders



We recommend you carefully review your application before submission.

- ☐ Verify that all necessary documents have been uploaded.
- ☐ Verify that all documents uploaded are the accurate versions you intend to submit as your final.
- ☐ Verify that your documents are not marked "confidential." This solicitation does not allow submission of confidential information.
- ☐ Verify that your match commitment letters accurately reflect the match amounts included in your budgets, including the match provided by the prime applicant.
- ☐ Verify that amounts entered within the system's budget (if any) concur with information included on uploaded budget worksheets.



How will my Application be Evaluated?

Application Screening

Admin Screening Process

- ☐ Energy Commission staff screens applications per criteria in Section IV.E.
- ☐ Criteria are evaluated on a pass/fail basis.
- ☐ Applicants must pass all screening criteria, or the application will be disqualified.

Some Reasons for Disqualification

- ☐ Application is not submitted by the specified due date and time.
- ☐ Application does not include one or more commitment letters.
- ☐ Application contains confidential material.



How will my Application be Evaluated?

Application Scoring



- **Evaluation Committee applies the scoring scale to the scoring criteria.**
- Applications must obtain a minimum passing score of 70 points for Criteria 1-5 in order to be considered for funding.
- All passing applications will be considered for preference points. Criteria for preference points include:
 - Priority Populations
 - Electric Grid Benefits
- Review Section IV of the manual and ensure the application provides a clear and complete response to each scoring criteria.

Scoring Criteria	Maximum Points
1. Technical Merit	20
2. Technical Approach	25
3. Impacts and Benefits	40
4. Market Potential and Information Sharing	10
5. California-Based Vendor	5
Total	100
Minimum Points to Pass	70
Preference Points	Maximum Points
6. Priority Populations	10
7. Electric Grid Benefits	10
Total Bonus Points	20



California-Based Vendors

Scoring Criteria 5



Points will be provided for equipment purchased from California-based vendors, defined as: *“A vendor that has the equipment manufactured in California or has a distribution center in California.”*

Points are to be awarded based on the following formula:

$$\frac{\text{CEC Funds towards California Based Vendors for Equipment}}{\text{Total CEC Funds for Equipment}} \times 5 \text{ points} = \text{Total Points}$$

For example, if the total CEC-funded equipment amount is \$1,000,000 and \$500,000 is purchased from California vendors, then the points will be 50% of the total points possible for this criterion.

$$\frac{500,000}{1,000,000} \times 5 = 2.5 \text{ points}$$



Priority Populations

Scoring Criteria 6



Preference points will be provided for projects located in and benefiting priority populations as indicated in Section II.A.5.

The applicant must show efforts to provide direct and meaningful benefits and address important community needs using the following approach:

- 1. Identify the priority population:** Priority populations include residents of: (1) census tracts identified as disadvantaged by the California Environmental Protection Agency per SB 535; (2) census tracts identified as low-income per AB 1550; or (3) a low-income household per AB 1550.
- 2. Address a Need:** Approach for determining community need and documentation of broad support from local community-based organizations and/or residents.
- 3. Provide a Benefit:** Identify at least one direct, meaningful, and assured benefit that the project provides to priority populations. Must meet at least one benefit listed in Scoring Criteria (6. Priority Population Step 3, page 37)

Refer to the Priority Populations Benefit Assessments Tool located here: https://ww2.arb.ca.gov/sites/default/files/auction-proceeds/energy_bat.pdf

Preference points will be awarded based on if the project meets CARB requirements: <https://www.caclimateinvestments.ca.gov/benefit-assessment-guide>.

If multiple facilities are bundled under one application, the above areas must be addressed for each location to get preference points. No portion of points will be awarded if some facilities meet the requirement and others do not.



Electric Grid Benefits

Scoring Criteria 7

Preference points will be provided to facilities that reduce overall electric usage (kWh) during their facility’s utility rate peak periods.

If multiple facilities are bundled under one application, an analysis must be provided for each individual facility.

- Preference points will be awarded based on the table below using the facility with the highest percentage reduction:

$$\frac{\text{Electrical energy } \left(\frac{kWh}{yr}\right) \text{ Reduced} + \text{Electrical Energy } \left(\frac{kWh}{yr}\right) \text{ Generated}}{\text{Total Facility Energy Usage } \left(\frac{kWh}{yr}\right)} \times 100 =$$

Facility Electrical Usage Reduction Percentage During Facility's Utility Rate Peak Periods

Facility Electrical Usage Reduction Percentage During the Facility's Utility Rate Peak Periods	Percentage of Possible Points (10)
≥15%	100%
≥10% to <15%	80%
≥5% to <10%	60%
≥1% to <5%	40%



Electric Grid Benefits Example

For example: A facility wants to reduce the electrical consumption during its utility rate peak period by 200,000 kWh/yr by installing new energy-efficient packaging equipment. Additionally, the facility also plans to build a small battery storage system that can offset peak hours by another 50,000 kWh/yr. Prior to any of the upgrades, the facility consumes ~2,500,000 kWh during peak hours. Using the Criteria 7 formula and table, the facility would qualify for 8 preference points:

$$\frac{200,000 + 50,000}{2,500,000} \times 100 = 10\% \text{ Reduction during utility rate peak periods.}$$

Facility Electrical Usage Reduction Percentage During the Facility's Utility Rate Peak Periods	Percentage of Possible Points (10)
≥15%	100%
≥10% to <15%	80%
≥5% to <10%	60%
≥1% to <5%	40%



Next Steps After Grant Award

Notice of Proposed Award: Shows total proposed funding amounts, rank order of applicants by project group, and the amount of each proposed award.

Applicant Debriefings: Applicants may request a debrief of their application evaluation within 30 days of the NOPA posting.

Agreement Development: Proposal documents will be processed into a legal agreement.

Failure to Execute: The Energy Commission reserves the right to cancel the pending award if an agreement cannot be successfully executed with an applicant.

Project Start: Recipients may begin work on the project **only** after the agreement is fully executed (approved at an Energy Commission business meeting and signed by the Recipient and the Energy Commission).



Key Dates

Activities Schedule



Activity	Date
Solicitation Release	September 14, 2026
Pre-Application Workshop	September 28, 2026 at 10:00 am
Deadline for Written Questions	October 5, 2026 at 5:00 pm
Anticipated Distribution of Questions and Answers	Week of October 19, 2026
Deadline for ECAMS Submission Support	Ongoing until December 16, 2026 at 5:00 pm
Deadline to Submit Applications	December 17, 2026 at 11:59 pm
Anticipated Notice of Proposed Award Posting	Week of February 1, 2027
Anticipated Energy Commission Business Meeting	May 19, 2027
Anticipated Agreement Start Date	June 01, 2027
Anticipated Agreement End Date	March 31, 2031



Stay Up-To-Date!

- Visit the FPIP webpage at: <https://www.energy.ca.gov/programs-and-topics/programs/food-production-program>
- Please subscribe to the “Food Production” listserv to keep up to date!
- Important updates are sent via email and posted to the FPIP docket.

Food Production Investment Program

The California Energy Commission's Food Production Investment Program (FPIP) provides grants to help food processors accelerate the adoption of advanced energy and decarbonization technologies to support electrical grid reliability and reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.

The Food Production Investment Program (FPIP), originally established in 2018 under California Climate Investments (CCI), has provided up to \$117.8 million in grants to help food producers reduce GHG emissions through the adoption of advanced energy technologies. In 2022, Assembly Bill (AB) 209 (Chapter 251, Statutes of 2021) provided funding to continue the program with \$6.2 million in the fiscal year 2022-2023 from General Funds and an additional \$20 million from Greenhouse Gas Reduction Funds through the Budget Act of 2023, as amended by Ting (Chapter 38, Statutes 2023) in the fiscal year 2023-2024 under CCI.

CCI puts billions of dollars of Cap-and-Trade auction proceeds to work reducing greenhouse gas emissions, strengthening the economy, improving public health and the environment, and providing meaningful benefits to the most disadvantaged communities and low-income communities and households.

FPIP will continue to encourage California food producers to invest in new advanced technologies and equipment that provide significant benefits to the electrical grid, maximize the reduction of GHG emissions, and/or reduce air pollution in under-resourced communities.

The food processing industry is one of California's largest energy users and a significant producer of GHG emissions. FPIP strives to:

- Help California food processors work towards a low-carbon future,
- Demonstrate reliability and effectiveness of advanced energy and decarbonization technologies and strategies,
- Enhance and benefit the electrical grid, especially during net peak periods, and
- Benefit or improve public health and the environment, particularly in priority populations.

FUNDING OPPORTUNITY



Food Production Investment Program (FPIP) 2025

The goals of the program are to accelerate the adoption

PROCEEDINGS

Docket Log (23 ERD-05) [df](#)

Submit a Comment (23 ERD-05) [df](#)

Funding Opportunities

CONTACT

Energy Research and Development Division
ERD@energy.ca.gov #8

Join our [LinkedIn Network](#) [df](#) Hub to form partnerships for funding opportunities.

RELATED LINKS

All 209 Clean Energy Letter and Report

RESOURCES

on Application Workshop GFD 22 805 - Zoom Video [df](#)

SUBSCRIBE

Food Production Investment Program

Email ^{*}

SUBSCRIBE

CATEGORIES

Topic

Energy Efficiency and Decarbonization



Additional Questions

Please send all questions related to GFO-26-302 to:

Eilene Cary

Commission Agreement Officer

715 P Street

Sacramento, CA 95814

Eilene.Cary@energy.ca.gov

Deadline to submit questions:

Monday, October 5, 2026 @ 5:00 PM



A large wind turbine stands prominently on a grassy hill. In the background, several other wind turbines are visible on rolling hills under a cloudy sky. A small town is nestled in the valley to the right. The foreground shows a dirt path and a fence line.

Thank You!