

Resources and Assistance for State Energy Offices and Regulators:

APPLICATION FORM INSTRUCTIONS

BACKGROUND

The U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy and the Office of Electricity are jointly funding the Resources and Assistance for State Energy Offices and Regulators program. The program is offered in conjunction with Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory (LBNL), Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL), and the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL). The goal of the program is to provide high-impact technical assistance to help state public utility regulators and energy offices address a wide variety of challenges facing the electricity industry.

This program augments and complements current technical assistance activities offered by various DOE program offices and consists of three distinct TA offerings: help desk, expert match, and deep dive technical assistance (TA). More information on each type of TA can be found at <https://statetaprogram.lbl.gov>. This application form is specific to Deep Dive TA, which is exclusively for problems and issues that are likely to require 6-18 months' worth of subject-matter expert assistance.

DOE intends to fund selected technical assistance project proposals submitted by state public utility commissions and energy offices. Although there is no constraint on what DOE will consider for technical assistance, priority areas for DOE include:

- Load forecasting, especially for electric vehicles, data centers, artificial intelligence, and other new load-intensive technologies.
- Regional coordination with bulk power system operators, especially related to FERC Order 1920.
- Resilience to extreme weather, with considerations for the implications of increased reliance on the electric grid due to electrification.

The types of technical assistance offered and activities supported include: technical analysis through the use of National Laboratory staff and their modeling capabilities; reports or white papers; stakeholder-convened discussions; education and training through workshops and webinars; and consultations with topical experts. Technical assistance can be provided for 6-24 months, depending on the request.

If interested, states can apply for technical assistance in more than one subject area. However, States should submit a separate application for each unrelated area of interest.

APPLICATION REVIEW AND SELECTION PROCESS

Each application will be scored according to the review criteria and the program policy factors provided below. The final selection will depend upon the availability of funds.

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Review Criteria:

1. Merit of the application, including:
 - Issues to be addressed are important.
 - Application is focused on a specific issue rather than requesting a broad range of support.
 - Requestor is in a position to act on the TA being requested.
 - The requested TA is likely to make a significant impact for the state.
2. Significance of the issue with regard to state or national interests, including:
 - Issues needing to be addressed are significant among states or across the nation.
3. Timeliness, including:
 - Requestor has shown a near-term need to act on the TA being requested (e.g. through dockets or special investigations).
 - Proposed schedule allows for sufficient time to address the request.
4. Alignment with DOE interests and National Lab capabilities.

Additional Review Factors:

1. Projects may be selected to best represent a range of issues.
2. Projects may be selected to support geographic diversity.
3. Projects may be selected that favor providing awards to PUCs with limited resources.

APPLICATION SUBMITTAL PROCESS & INSTRUCTIONS

More information about the technical assistance program can be found at <https://statetaprogram.lbl.gov>.

Applications will be accepted beginning November 1st, 2024 and must be submitted by January 17th, 2025 in order to be considered.

Two public webinars will be held to provide details about the program and the application process as well as to answer any questions potential applicants may have.

- The first webinar will occur on November 14th at 2 PM EST focusing on the unique needs of state energy offices. Register for this webinar [here](#).
- The second will occur on November 22nd at 3 PM EST focusing on the unique needs of state public utility commissions. Register for this webinar [here](#).

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There will also be virtual office hours where applicants can get answers to more specific questions concerning their unique proposals. Applicants will need to reserve a 30-minute time slot during one of the dates listed below via <https://calendar.app.google/G3g3TDbKt4hNsf2f7>. Please note that virtual office hours are reserved on a first-come-first-served basis.

1. November 18: 1:00-3:00 PM EDT
2. November 25: 1:30-3:30 PM EDT
3. December 4: 12:00-2:00 PM EDT
4. December 12: 11:00-1:00 PM EDT
5. December 17: 2:00-4:00 PM EDT
6. January 8: 4:00-6:00 PM EDT
7. January 17: 1:00-3:00 PM EDT

Any inquiries about the technical assistance program and the application process can be directed to the program's dedicated email account (StateTAPProgram@lbl.gov) or to any of the National Laboratory contacts listed below:

Peter Cappers PACappers@lbl.gov (315) 637-0513
Jessica Shipley Jessica.shipley@pnnl.gov (509) 371-7540
Michael Ingram Michael.ingram@nrel.gov (303) 275-4281

The editable form shown below will help your organization develop the necessary responses which can then be transferred into the official online application form located at <https://statetaprogram.lbl.gov> for submittal. **The official online application form must be completed and submitted by January 17th, 2025 for consideration.** Organizations will be notified within 8 weeks whether it has been selected to receive technical assistance. DOE envisions, subject to appropriations, another round of applications for technical assistance will be accepted in May/June 2025.

Contact Information for TA Deep Dive Application

Organization Requesting Technical Assistance

Name:

Address:

Point of Contact – Provide information about key personnel that will participate

Primary Senior Official (e.g., Lead Commissioner, Director or Staff Director)

Name:

Title:

Phone Number:

Email Address:

Primary Point of Contact

Name:

Title:

Phone Number:

Email Address:

Please provide 2-3 paragraphs that discuss and respond to the following questions.

1. What is the issue/question/task for which you are seeking support? What challenges have you identified that DOE's technical assistance can help address?

2. What is your organization's role in addressing that issue/question/task? If there are others involved in decision-making on this issue, please indicate their role and how you would work with them if this request for technical assistance is approved.

3. Explain what you hope to learn or accomplish through the requested technical assistance (e.g., a short list of desired outcomes)

4. Please provide details regarding the timing of the need described above or other events that may impact it, if known