

**Addendum to the FY 2020 Public Works and Economic Adjustment Assistance  
Notice of Funding Opportunity (FY20 PWEAA NOFO)  
for the Economic Development Administration’s (EDA)’s Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic  
Security Act (CARES Act) Recovery Assistance**

EDA’s CARES Act Recovery Assistance is an agency effort to assist communities impacted by the coronavirus pandemic.<sup>1</sup> The pandemic has caused, and will continue to cause, economic injury to U.S. regions and communities in devastating and unprecedented ways.

EDA’s CARES Act Recovery Assistance is designed to provide a wide-range of financial assistance to communities and regions as they respond to, and recover from, the impacts of the coronavirus pandemic. Under this announcement, EDA solicits applications under the authority of its Economic Adjustment Assistance (EAA) program, which is intended to be flexible and responsive to the economic development needs and priorities of local and regional stakeholders.

Through the EAA program, EDA provides investments that support a wide range of non-construction and construction activities, including Revolving Loan Funds, in regions experiencing severe economic dislocations, such as those brought about by the coronavirus pandemic. As part of CARES Act Recovery Assistance, EDA will also fund projects that qualify for EAA funding but are similar to the kinds of projects funded under other EDA programs, such as Public Works, Research and National Technical Assistance, Planning, Local Technical Assistance, University Centers, and Build to Scale (formerly Regional Innovation Strategies (RIS)).<sup>2</sup> In addition to projects with a regional focus, EDA anticipates making awards for projects of national scope as part of this funding opportunity.

In general, except as discussed below, EDA’s CARES Act Recovery Assistance serves as an addendum to and follows the same rules as the FY 2020 Public Works and Economic Adjustment Assistance Notice of Funding Opportunity (FY20 PWEAA NOFO) (link below). For more information, please see EDA’s website at <https://www.eda.gov/programs/eda-programs/> or contact the EDA representative for your region who can be found at <https://www.eda.gov/contact/>.

**Funding Availability**

The CARES Act (P.L. 116-136) provided EDA with \$1,500,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2022, to “prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus, ... including for necessary expenses for responding to economic injury as a result of coronavirus.” EDA intends to make these funds available through the EAA program using the existing procedures specified in the FY20 PWEAA NOFO (link below).<sup>3</sup> Under the EDA’s CARES Act Recovery Assistance addendum, EDA expects on a case-by-case basis to receive applications that exceed the historical averages described in section B.1 of the FY20 PWEAA NOFO.

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<sup>1</sup> Section 23005 of the CARES Act, Pub. L. 116-136 (March 27, 2020), defines “coronavirus” as “SARS-CoV-2 or another coronavirus with pandemic potential.”

<sup>2</sup> Only applicants who are eligible to receive funding under the Economic Adjustment Assistance program are eligible to receive grants under EDA’s CARES Act Recovery Assistance. EDA will work to ensure that its funding is not duplicative of other Federal assistance through grant conditions and certifications by applicants as well as recipients of RLF loans.

<sup>3</sup> To expedite funding to affected communities and regions, EDA may invite existing or past grantees, such as Economic Development Districts currently in receipt of Partnership Planning awards, operators of existing EDA-funded Revolving Loan Funds, and EDA-funded University Centers, to apply using specific procedures. EDA will independently contact such grantees with instructions.

EDA has allocated \$1,467,000,000<sup>4</sup> in supplemental program funds among its offices as follows:

Atlanta Regional Office – \$248,000,000  
Austin Regional Office – \$236,000,000  
Chicago Regional Office – \$225,000,000  
Denver Regional Office – \$193,000,000  
Philadelphia Regional Office – \$259,000,000  
Seattle Regional Office – \$266,000,000  
Headquarters – \$40,000,000

**Note: When appropriate, EDA may exercise its discretion to adjust the allocations to its offices based on its experience in administering the supplemental appropriations to ensure funds are used to maximum effect, or to adjust to unforeseen changes in recovery efforts.**

### **Eligible Applicants**

Eligible applicants under the EAA program include a(n):

- a. District Organization;
- b. Indian Tribe or a consortium of Indian Tribes;
- c. State, county, city, or other political subdivision of a State, including a special purpose unit of a State or local government engaged in economic or infrastructure development activities, or a consortium of political subdivisions;
- d. Institution of higher education or a consortium of institutions of higher education; or
- e. Public or private non-profit organization or association acting in cooperation with officials of a political subdivision of a State.

### **EAA Program and Application Requirements for EDA’s CARES Act Recovery Assistance**

The following EAA program requirements are specific to EDA’s CARES Act Recovery Assistance. This is an addendum to the FY20 PWEAA NOFO (link below), and unless otherwise stated below, the requirements of the FY20 PWEAA NOFO apply. Please see the FY20 PWEAA NOFO for information on other EAA program requirements, award information, and the content and form of application submissions.

#### CARES Act Recovery Assistance Projects

Successful applications will enable affected communities to respond to the impacts of the coronavirus pandemic by supporting affected businesses and communities, including by providing technical assistance to retain existing and hire new employees; by providing a range of skills-training and workforce development projects to help employees compete for high-quality jobs; and by developing and implementing strategies to diversify regional economies to create jobs in new or existing industries. EAA investments are designed to help communities catalyze public-private partnerships to foster collaboration, attract investment, create jobs, and foster economic resiliency and prosperity. Examples of projects that may be funded through CARES Act Recovery Assistance include economic recovery planning and preparing technical strategies to address economic dislocations caused by the coronavirus pandemic,

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<sup>4</sup> Congress authorized up to \$30,000,000 to cover EDA’s administrative and oversight activities related to these awards and a transfer of \$3,000,000 to the Department of Commerce’s Office of the Inspector General for related investigations and audits.

preparing or updating resiliency plans to respond to future pandemics, implementing entrepreneurial support programs to diversify economies, and constructing public works and facilities that will support economic recovery, including the deployment of broadband for purposes including supporting telehealth and remote learning for job skills.

#### Economic Distress Criteria and Special Need; Pandemic Response Requirement

Section C.3. of the FY20 PWEAA NOFO (starting on pg. 13) sets out the economic distress criteria for the EAA program, including “Special Need” criteria. EDA has determined that economic injury from the coronavirus pandemic constitutes a “Special Need,” and eligibility may be established on that basis without reference to the other economic distress criteria specified in the FY20 PWEAA NOFO. This determination of nationwide eligibility for these funds is consistent with the President’s March 13, 2020 [\*Proclamation on Declaring a National Emergency Concerning the Novel Coronavirus Disease \(COVID-19\) Outbreak\*](#) that established a national emergency for all states, tribes, territories, local governments, and the District of Columbia (<https://www.fema.gov/news-release/2020/03/13/covid-19-emergency-declaration>).

To be eligible for funding under EDA’s CARES Act Recovery Assistance, applicants must explain clearly in their application how the proposed project would “prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus” or respond to “economic injury as a result of coronavirus.” This explanation is required to assist reviewers in understanding how a proposed project aligns with the goals of EDA’s CARES Act Recovery Assistance. For example, if Smith County has experienced significant small business closures as a result of the pandemic, Smith County must demonstrate how the project addresses small business recovery and resilience priorities and objectives established under a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) or other strategy acceptable to EDA (see below for information on strategy requirements). Projects that consider economic recovery in general must address the direct consequences of the coronavirus pandemic itself and how the project will contribute the community’s recovery and resiliency. **The extent to which a proposed project responds to needs caused by the coronavirus pandemic is one factor that EDA will consider when evaluating applications for funding.**

#### Cost Sharing or Matching

Section C.2. of the FY20 PWEAA NOFO (starting on pg. 11) sets out the cost sharing requirements for EDA projects. For EDA’s CARES Act Recovery Assistance, given the extent of the economic impact and in accordance with the agency’s statutory authority under Section 703 of the Public Works and Economic Development Act of 1965 (PWEDA) (42 U.S.C. § 3233), EDA generally expects to fund at least 80%, and up to 100%, of eligible project costs. In determining whether to fund a project’s Federal share above 80%, EDA’s Grants Officers in the applicable Regional Office will consider on a case-by-case basis whether the circumstances of the proposed project warrant a Federal share in excess of 80%, including whether the applicant has exhausted its effective taxing or borrowing capacity, the extent of the impact of the coronavirus pandemic on the region, or whether the region meets other thresholds for elevated need based on the relative economic distress of the region. Additionally, EDA may establish a maximum investment rate of up to 100% for projects of Indian Tribes. Any portion of the costs for the EDA scope of work funded below 100% must be borne by the recipient or provided to the recipient by a third party as a contribution for the purposes of and subject to the terms of the award.

The applicant is responsible for demonstrating to EDA that a grant rate above 80% is justified by providing statistics and other appropriate information on the nature and level of economic distress in the

region, including information regarding other recovery-related needs facing the region and the level of resources available to address those needs.

#### Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Requirements

Except for a “Strategy Grant” to develop, update, or refine a CEDS, each project must be consistent with the region’s current CEDS or equivalent EDA-accepted regional economic development strategy that meets EDA’s CEDS or strategy requirements. Please see Section A.3. of the FY20 PWEAA NOFO (starting on pg. 5) for more information on CEDS requirements. In addition, in accordance with 13 CFR § 303.7(c)(1), in certain circumstances EDA may accept a non-EDA-funded CEDS that does not contain all the elements EDA requires of a CEDS.<sup>5</sup>

#### Application Information, Review and Selection Process, and Link to FY20 PWEAA NOFO

**Applications are accepted on a rolling basis.** Unless otherwise directed by EDA, all applicants for CARES Act Recovery Assistance must follow instructions included within the FY20 PWEAA NOFO, which can be found on:

<https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=321695>. As necessary, each EDA Regional Office will periodically convene investment review committees (IRCs) that consist of at least three EDA staff members. After EDA determines an application is complete, it will be reviewed by the IRC, which will make a recommendation to the Grants Officer regarding funding.<sup>6</sup>

Along with other controlling law, EDA’s CARES Act Recovery Assistance awards will be governed by the Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements as set forth in 2 C.F.R. part 200. For additional information, please contact the EDA representative for your region who can be found at <https://www.eda.gov/contact/>. Applicants should note that the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) has provided flexibility with respect to System of Award Management (SAM) registration at the time of application; however, at the time of award, the requirements of 2 C.F.R. § 200.205, *Federal awarding agency review of risk posed by applicants*, will continue to apply, including the requirement for SAM registration. In addition, current registrants in SAM with active registrations that expire before May 16, 2020 will be afforded an automatic one-time extension of 60 days.

#### **Instructions for Applicants:**

- Download the FY20 PWEAA Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) and application package from <https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppId=321695>.
- In Form ED-900, section B.3.b., include a description of the economic impacts in the region from the coronavirus pandemic and describe how the proposed project scope of work will respond to those impacts and support pandemic recovery and resilience efforts. Applicants may also provide a separate narrative statement, not to exceed one page in length, of the economic impacts in the region from the coronavirus pandemic and how the proposed project scope of work responds to those impacts.
- Additionally, in Form ED-900, section B.6, explain how the proposed project would meet EDA’s Recovery and Resilience investment priority, which all CARES Act Recovery Assistance projects are expected to meet. You may also explain in this space how the proposed projects will meet any of EDA’s other investment priorities.

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<sup>5</sup> In doing so, EDA shall consider the circumstances surrounding the application for Investment Assistance, including emergencies or natural disasters and the fulfillment of the requirements of section 302 of PWEDA.

<sup>6</sup> See 13 C.F.R. § 302.2 (“When non-statutory EDA administrative or procedural conditions for Investment Assistance awards under PWEDA cannot be met by an Eligible Applicant as the result of a disaster, EDA may waive such conditions.”).

### Consultation with Regional Office

As with all EDA funding opportunities, prospective applicants are strongly encouraged to contact their applicable EDA Regional Office representatives to discuss their needs and project plans to help further refine the scope and intended outcomes of proposed projects. Prospective applicants can find current contact information for EDA Regional Office staff at <https://www.eda.gov/contact/>.

projects: (i) of a State (or political subdivision of a State) that the Assistant Secretary for Economic Development determines has exhausted its effective taxing and borrowing capacity or (ii) of a non-profit organization that the Assistant Secretary for Economic Development determines has exhausted its effective borrowing capacity.<sup>11</sup> Additionally, EDA’s regulations provide discretion to establish a maximum EDA investment rate of up to 100 percent for projects of Indian Tribes.<sup>12</sup>

Potential applicants should contact the EDA representative listed for their State in Section G of this PWEAA NOFO to obtain additional information regarding these EDA investment rate determinations.

The applicant must document that the matching share will: (i) be committed to the project for the period of performance, (ii) be available as needed, and (iii) not be conditioned or encumbered in any way that may preclude its use consistent with the requirements of EDA investment assistance.<sup>13</sup> In order to meet these requirements, applicants should submit for each source of the matching share a commitment letter or equivalent document signed by an authorized representative of the organization providing the matching funds.

Additional documentation may be requested by EDA in order to substantiate the availability of the matching funds. For example, if bonds are contemplated as match, counsel opinion of the applicant’s bonding authority and eligibility of the bonds for use as match, along with full disclosure of the type of bonds and the schedule of the applicant’s intended bond issue, are required. Please contact the appropriate EDA representative listed in Section G of this PWEAA NOFO with questions regarding EDA’s matching share requirements.

Documented in-kind contributions may provide the required non-Federal Share of the total project cost, but they must be eligible project costs and meet applicable Federal cost principles and uniform administrative requirements. Examples of in-kind contributions can include space, equipment, services, or forgiveness or assumptions of debt.<sup>14</sup> Funds from other Federal financial assistance awards may be considered matching share funds only if authorized by statute, which may be determined by EDA’s reasonable interpretation of the statute.<sup>15</sup> To allow EDA to verify the value of in-kind matching share, the applicant should document the value of in-kind contributions in a matching share commitment letter and/or the budget narrative and also provide supporting documentation as appropriate.

Applicants are *strongly encouraged* to work with the appropriate EDA representative listed in Section G of this PWEAA NOFO to determine how in-kind contributions may be utilized to satisfy the matching share requirement for their application.

### **3. Economic Distress Criteria**

In order to be eligible for funding under this PWEAA NOFO, an applicant must propose a project that meets EDA’s distress criteria. Applicants must self-define the appropriate region geographically. The geographic area comprising a region need not be contiguous or defined by

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<sup>11</sup> See Sections 204(c)(1) and (2) of PWEDA (42 U.S.C. § 3144) and 13 C.F.R. § 301.4(b)(5).

<sup>12</sup> See 13 C.F.R. § 301.4(b)(5).

<sup>13</sup> See 13 C.F.R. § 301.5.

<sup>14</sup> See Section 204(b) of PWEDA (42 U.S.C. § 3144) and the definition of “In-Kind Contribution” at 13 C.F.R. § 300.3.

<sup>15</sup> See the definition of “Local Share or Matching Share” at 13 C.F.R. § 300.3. See also 2 C.F.R. § 200.306.

political boundaries but should constitute a cohesive area capable of undertaking self-sustained economic development. Applicants must provide third-party data that clearly indicate that the relevant region is subject to one (or more) of the following economic distress criteria: (i) an unemployment rate that is, for the most recent 24-month period for which data are available, at least one percentage point greater than the national average unemployment rate; (ii) per capita income that is, for the most recent period for which data are available, 80 percent or less of the national average per capita income; or (iii) a “Special Need,” as determined by EDA.<sup>16</sup>

EDA will review and evaluate documentation submitted by the applicant to determine eligibility. EDA will reject any documentation of eligibility that the agency determines is inaccurate or incomplete, which may cause the application to be rejected. **EDA reserves the right to request additional documentation or information from the applicant to make an eligibility determination.** The proposed project must meet EDA’s distress criteria as of the date EDA receives a complete application. However, if an award has not been made within six months of that date, EDA will then re-evaluate the project to determine continued eligibility for investment assistance. If the project no longer meets EDA’s distress criteria, the project will no longer be considered.

For construction projects (including design and engineering) the project must be located within an eligible region. For non-construction projects, the investment’s scope of work must primarily benefit an eligible region and stakeholders from that eligible area must be directly engaged. EDA suggests that applicants work closely with the EDA representative listed for their State as they define an eligible project in their region.

A proposed project may meet the regional eligibility criteria in one of the following three ways:

1. The proposed project will be located in a region that meets EDA’s economic distress criteria;
2. The proposed project is located in an Economic Development District (EDD) that is located in a region that does not meet EDA’s economic distress criteria, and EDA determines the proposed project will be of substantial direct benefit to a geographic area within the EDD that meets EDA’s economic distress criteria; or
3. The proposed project will be located in a geographic area of poverty or high unemployment that meets EDA’s economic distress criteria, but which is located in a region that overall does not meet EDA’s distress criteria.

Below are further details on economic distress criteria. See also 13 C.F.R. § 301.3(a).

**a) Unemployment Rate & Per Capita Income**

For economic distress levels based upon per capita income requirements, EDA will base its determination upon the most recent American Community Survey (ACS) published by the U.S. Census Bureau. For economic distress levels based upon the unemployment rate, EDA will base its determination upon the most recent data published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), within the U.S. Department of Labor. For eligibility based upon either per capita income

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<sup>16</sup> See Section 301(a)(3) of PWEDA (42 U.S.C. § 3161(a)(3)) and 13 C.F.R. § 301.3.

requirements or the unemployment rate, when the ACS or BLS data, as applicable, are not the most recent Federal data available, EDA will base its decision upon the most recent Federal data from other sources (including data available from the Census Bureau and the Bureaus of Economic Analysis, Labor Statistics, Indian Affairs, or any other Federal source determined by EDA to be appropriate). If no Federal data are available, an applicant must submit to EDA the most recent data available from the State. The required State data must be for the region where the project will be located, the geographic area where substantial direct project benefits will occur, or the geographic area of poverty or high unemployment, as applicable.<sup>17</sup>

**b) “Special Need” Criteria**

For the purposes of determining eligibility based on a “Special Need”, an applicant must provide current and appropriate economic and demographic statistics for the applicable region to support the identified Special Need. EDA will base its Special Need eligibility determination on whether the proposed project meets the specific requirements outlined below or, in cases where specific thresholds are not identified, on whether the data and information provided by the applicant presents a compelling case that the region meets the Special Need criteria, as defined by EDA.

A project may be eligible pursuant to a Special Need if the project is located in a region that meets one or more of the criteria described below:<sup>18</sup>

- a. Closure or restructuring of industries or the loss of a major employer essential to the regional economy as defined by:
  - i. a public announcement of an impending closure or restructuring of a firm expected to occur within four (4) years of review of an application submission; or
  - ii. an actual closure or restructuring of a firm within the 24 months prior to submission of an application, resulting in sudden job losses; AND
  - iii. such threatened or actual closure results in sudden job losses meeting the following dislocation criteria:
    1. For regions with a population of at least 100,000, the threatened or actual dislocation is 500 jobs, or one percent of the civilian labor force (CLF), whichever is less.
    2. For regions with a population up to 100,000, the threatened or actual dislocation is 200 jobs, or one percent of the CLF, whichever is less.
- b. Substantial out-migration or population loss.
- c. Underemployment, meaning employment of workers at less than full-time or at less skilled tasks than their training or abilities permit.
- d. Military base closures or realignments, defense contractor reductions-in-force, or Department of Energy defense-related funding reductions.

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<sup>17</sup> See Section 301 of PWEDA (42 U.S.C. § 3161) and 13 C.F.R § 301.3.

<sup>18</sup> The following criteria are published in accordance with 13 C.F.R. § 301.3(a)(1)(iii) and define what may constitute a “Special Need” (as defined in 13 C.F.R. § 300.3) sufficient to make a project eligible for Public Works or EAA investment assistance, as described in Section C.3 of this announcement.

- i. A military base closure refers to a military base that was closed or is scheduled for closure, realignment, or growth pursuant to the base closure and realignment process or other Department of Defense (DOD) process. Unless further extended by the Assistant Secretary for Economic Development, the region is eligible from the date of DOD's recommendation for closure, realignment, or growth until five years after the actual date of closing of the installation or five years after the announced realignment or growth actually occurs.
  - ii. A defense contractor reduction-in-force refers to a defense contractor(s) experiencing defense contract cancellations or reductions resulting from official DOD announcements that have aggregate value of at least \$10 million per year. Actual dislocations must have occurred within one year of the date an application is submitted to EDA for and threatened dislocations must be anticipated to occur within two years of submittal of an application to EDA. Defense contracts that expire in the normal course of business will not be considered to meet this criterion.
  - iii. A Department of Energy defense-related funding reduction refers to a Department of Energy facility that has experienced or will experience a reduction of employment resulting from its defense mission change. The region is eligible from the date of the Department of Energy announcement of reductions until five years after the actual date of reduced operations at the installation.
- e. Natural or other major disasters or emergencies. A region that has received one of the following disaster declarations is eligible:
- i. A Presidentially declared disaster (declared under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, as amended (42 U.S.C. § 5121 *et seq.*)); or
  - ii. A Federally declared disaster (pursuant to the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. § 1861a(a)); the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act, as amended (7 U.S.C. § 1961); or the Small Business Act, as amended (Pub. L. No. 85-536, 15 U.S.C. § 631 *et seq.*, 72 Stat. 384 (1958)).
- Applicants must demonstrate a clear nexus between the needs created by the declared disaster and the proposed project.
- f. Extraordinary depletion of natural resources or other impact attributable to a new or revised Federal regulation or policy that will have a significant impact on a community's ability to prevent an extraordinary depletion of natural resources. For example, in the case of a Federal fishing regulation designed to promote and sustain a community and its fishery in the long-term, EDA could quickly help a coastal community respond to any short-term economic dislocations.
  - g. Communities undergoing transition of their economic base as a result of changing trade patterns.
  - h. A project located in a persistent poverty county is eligible. For purposes of determining Special Need, the term "persistent poverty county" means any county that has had 20 percent or more of its population living in poverty over the past 30 years, as measured by the 1990 and 2000 decennial censuses and the most recent Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates.

- i. The project i) is located in or ii) is proximate to and intended to directly and substantially benefit a designated “Qualified Opportunity Zone.” A current list of Qualified Opportunity Zones designated by the U.S. Department of the Treasury can be found at <https://www.cdfifund.gov/pages/Opportunity-Zones.aspx>.
- j. For ACC applications only, communities or regions that have been impacted,<sup>19</sup> or can reasonably demonstrate that they will be impacted, by coal mining or coal power plant employment loss, or employment loss in the supply chain industries<sup>20</sup> of either. Applications seeking ACC funding must provide appropriate third party economic and demographic statistics for the applicable community or region in order to document the extent to which contractions in the coal economy have negatively impacted the community or region.<sup>21</sup> Applicants are encouraged to cite federal data resources that may include, but are not limited to: (i) U.S. Department of Commerce (Bureau of Economic Analysis, <http://www.bea.gov/>; U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey (ACS), <https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/>); (ii) U.S. Department of Labor (Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), <http://www.bls.gov/>); (iii) U.S. Department of Energy (Energy Information Administration (EIA), <https://www.eia.gov/>); (iv) U.S. Department of Labor (Mine Safety Health Administration, <https://arlweb.msha.gov/OpenGovernmentData/OGIMSHA.asp>; Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA)- American Indian Population and Labor Force Reports, <http://www.bia.gov/WhatWeDo/Knowledge/Reports/index.htm>).
- k. For NCC applicants only, regions that have been impacted, or can reasonably demonstrate that they will be impacted, by NPP closure(s). Applicants must demonstrate the manner and extent to which a region has been impacted or will be impacted by NPP closure(s). Geographic proximity to an NPP closure is by itself insufficient to demonstrate eligibility for NCC funds.
  - i. Applicants seeking NCC funding in regions that have been impacted by NPP closure(s) must provide appropriate third-party economic and/or demographic data for the applicable region to document the extent to which NPP closure(s) have negatively impacted the region. Such applicants are encouraged to cite federal data resources that may include, but are not limited to: (i) U.S. Department of Commerce (Bureau of Economic Analysis, <http://www.bea.gov/>; U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey (ACS), <https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/acs/>); (ii) U.S. Department of Labor (Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), <http://www.bls.gov/>); (iii) U.S. Department of Energy (Energy

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<sup>19</sup> In general, EDA will consider applications for projects in communities and regions where the primary coal economy contraction “event” (e.g., closure of a coal mine or a coal-fired power plant, closure of various coal economy supply chain businesses, etc.) took place within 1-15 years prior to the application submission date.

<sup>20</sup> Examples of supply chain industries include, but are not necessarily limited to, manufacturers of mining equipment and parts for coal-fired power plants and transportation companies that carry coal. Note, this timeframe is a range during which projects will generally be eligible; applicants may propose projects outside this timeframe, but should take special care to demonstrate that the primary coal economy contraction “event” continues to tangibly impact the community.

<sup>21</sup> Examples of the types of acceptable data that applicants can use to demonstrate the negative impacts of local and/or regional coal industry contractions include (and are not limited to) economic indicators, labor market analyses, official announcements made by local and regional industries and firms, demographic, and industry data.

Information Administration (EIA), <https://www.eia.gov/>); (iv) U.S. Department of Labor (Mine Safety Health Administration, <https://arlweb.msha.gov/OpenGovernmentData/OGIMSHA.asp>); (v) Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA)-American Indian Population and Labor Force Reports, <http://www.bia.gov/WhatWeDo/Knowledge/Reports/index.htm>); (vi) StatsAmerica, <http://www.statsamerica.org>; and (vii) US Nuclear Regulatory Commission, <http://www.nrc.gov>. If federal data is not available, applicants may consider demonstrating the negative impacts of nuclear power plant closure(s) using data including but not limited to local/regional economic indicators, labor market analyses, official announcements made by local and regional industries and firms, and demographic and industry data.

- ii. Applicants seeking NCC funding in regions that will be impacted in the future by NPP closure(s) must provide documentation demonstrating that the region will be negatively impacted in the future by NPP closure(s). Such documentation may, but is not required to, take the form of an announcement of future NPP closure and should be substantiated to the extent possible by third-party data sources as listed in above in Section C.3.b.k.i.
1. Other Special Need. The area is experiencing other special or extraordinary economic adjustment needs, as determined by the Assistant Secretary for Economic Development.

In addition to the above, all applications for funding based on Special Need must demonstrate how the project will address the economic development needs of the region resulting from that Special Need.

#### **D. Application Submission Information**

An applicant **must submit a complete application**, as detailed in Section D.2.a of this PWEAA NOFO, to be considered for funding. EDA intends to review an application within 60 days of EDA's receipt of the **complete application**. EDA may seek additional information or documentation from the applicant to clarify information presented in the application. Please see Section E of this PWEAA NOFO for more information on EDA's review and selection process.

EDA strongly encourages applicants to consult with the EDA representative for their State to discuss whether their project is in alignment with EDA's Investment Priorities, eligibility requirements, cost-sharing requirements, property standards, or other requirements outlined in this PWEAA NOFO. This consultation is limited to clarification of technical matters involving their proposed project, project alignment with EDA's mission and Investment Priorities, and all other relevant and publicly available information relating to general technical matters.

##### **1. Address to Request an Application**

An applicant may obtain the appropriate application electronically at Grants.gov. Applicants may search for this funding opportunity on Grants.gov using Funding Opportunity Number "PWEAA2020". All components of the appropriate application may be accessed and