



Biden-Harris Administration Announces \$12 Million to Support Hydropower Facilities Across the Country

Incentive Payments to 39 Projects Ensure Generators continue to provide clean, affordable electricity.

[Grid Deployment Office](#)

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WASHINGTON, D.C. — In support of the Biden-Harris Administration’s Investing in America agenda, today the U.S. Department of Energy’s (DOE) Grid Deployment Office (GDO) announced 39 hydropower facilities throughout the country will receive more than \$12 million in incentive payments for electricity

generated and sold in calendar year 2023. Funded by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, with consideration of facilities located in communities with inadequate electric service, the payments provide funding for electricity generated and sold from dams and other water infrastructure that add or expand hydroelectric power generating capabilities. This funding will help ensure hydroelectric generators continue to provide clean, affordable electricity.

“Hydropower is one of the nation’s original sources of renewable energy and is an integral tool to providing reliable, affordable power to communities across the country,” said Maria Robinson, Director, Grid Deployment Office, U.S. Department of Energy. “The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law is providing transformative funding to help maintain and improve existing hydropower infrastructure. Today’s announcement supports waterpower’s continued growth while maintaining and expanding good-paying jobs and increasing access to affordable, clean electricity where it is needed most.”

Hydropower currently provides 5.7% of all electricity in the United States and accounts for nearly 27% of renewable electricity generation, as well as 96% of all utility-scale energy storage in the United States. However, the fleet is aging with many facilities in need of repair and upgrades. Hydroelectric facility owners and operators use incentive payments under this program to support operations and maintenance activities, stabilize and decrease rates to ratepayers, and explore other small hydropower opportunities.

In this round of incentives, DOE selected 39 facilities across 16 states. Eight of the selected facilities were eligible under the inadequate electric service criterion, all of which are located in Alaska. [A full list of selected entities is available here.](#)

[The Hydroelectric Production Incentive](#) is part of a comprehensive program funded by a \$750 million investment from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law to support the continued operation of the U.S. hydropower fleet and ensure a more reliable and resilient electric grid system. Other program offerings are the [Hydroelectric Efficiency Improvement Incentive](#) and [Maintaining and Enhancing Hydroelectricity Incentive](#).

The Hydroelectric Production Incentive was enacted under the Energy Policy Act of 2005. In 2021 the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law authorized DOE to provide \$125 million in incentive payments for the program, which is available

until spent. DOE anticipates announcing a solicitation in 2025 for electricity generated and sold in calendar year 2024.

Learn more about the [Grid Deployment Office](#).

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HYDROPOWER

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