

A stylized illustration of a sustainable landscape. In the foreground, a green hill slopes down towards a blue body of water. On the hill, there are orange houses, green trees, a green car, a green bus, and a green train. In the water, there is a white boat and a blue bicycle. In the background, there is a blue city skyline with a blue airplane flying above it.

EV Charging Development Tools and Resources: Navigating the Next NEVI & More

August 12, 2026



Agenda

- Minnesota Clean Cities Coalition Introduction
- MnDOT - NEVI overview
- MnCIFA – financing
- Great River Energy – working with utilities
- Minnesota Chamber Environmental Sustainability Foundation – application support
- Additional resources
- Q&A

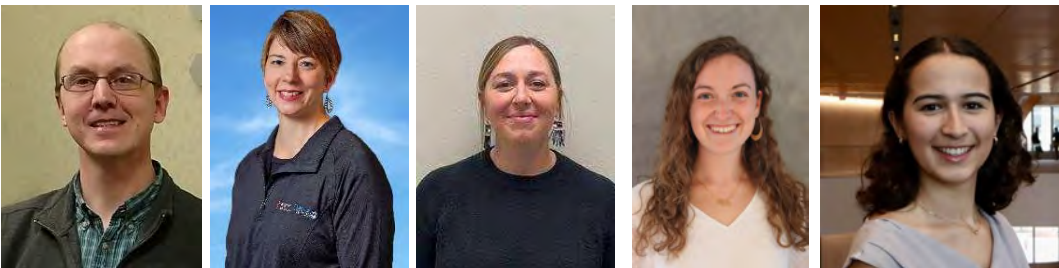


About Us

American Lung Association

Mission: To save lives by improving lung health and preventing lung disease.

Strategic Imperative: Champion clean air for all.



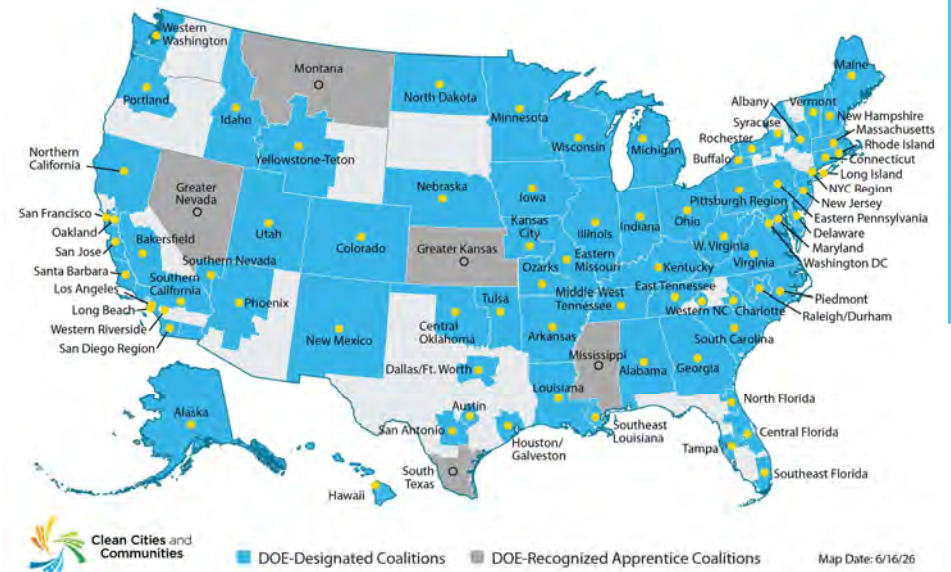
Jon Hunter, Senior Director, Healthy Air Solutions

Lisa Thurstin, Director, Healthy Air Solutions and
Minnesota Clean Cities Coalition

Heather Betts, Manager, Healthy Air Solutions and
North Dakota Clean Cities Coalition

Emma Nisley, Specialist | Healthy Air Solutions

Isabella Kunc, Intern | Minnesota Clean Cities Coalition



- Clean Cities and Communities is a U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) partnership to advance clean transportation nationwide.
- More than 75 DOE-designated Clean Cities and Communities coalitions work locally in urban, suburban, and rural communities to strengthen the nation's environment, energy security, and economic prosperity.

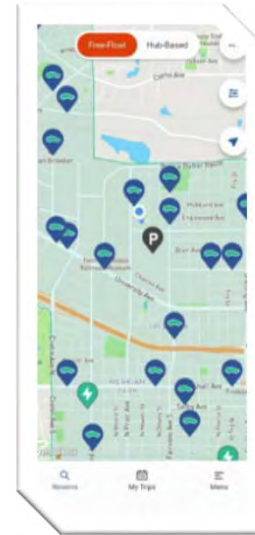
Minnesota-led with national support

Clean Cities coalitions are locally based with the ability to tap national resources

Focus:

- Provide education showing how fuel and energy choices affect air quality and human health
- Help retailers, fleets, and partners promote Clean Air Choice fuel options through customized education and outreach programs in collaboration with public and private partners





Minnesota Department of Transportation



NEVI Round 3a RFP

EV Charging Development Tools and Resources: Navigating the Next NEVI & More
August 12, 2026





Today We'll Cover

- What is NEVI?
- Status of projects
- Next round of funding
- Eligibility
- Benefits of participating
- Timeline & staying informed



Overview of National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Program

Federal formula
funds to states for
EV charging
network



Focus on long-
distance travel
starting on
Alternative Fuel
Corridors (I-35, I-90,
I-94) then moving
to other roads

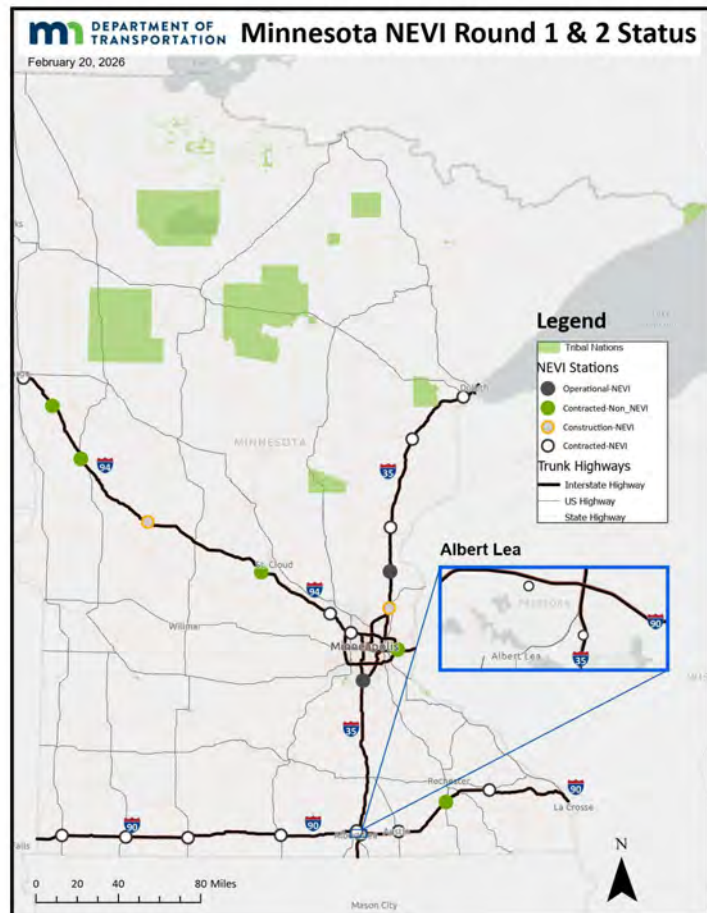


Minnesota received
\$53 Million of funds
FFY 22-25
(originally was \$68
Million thru 2026)



Direct Current Fast
Chargers (DCFC)
with 150 kW
minimum per port
(4 ports minimum)

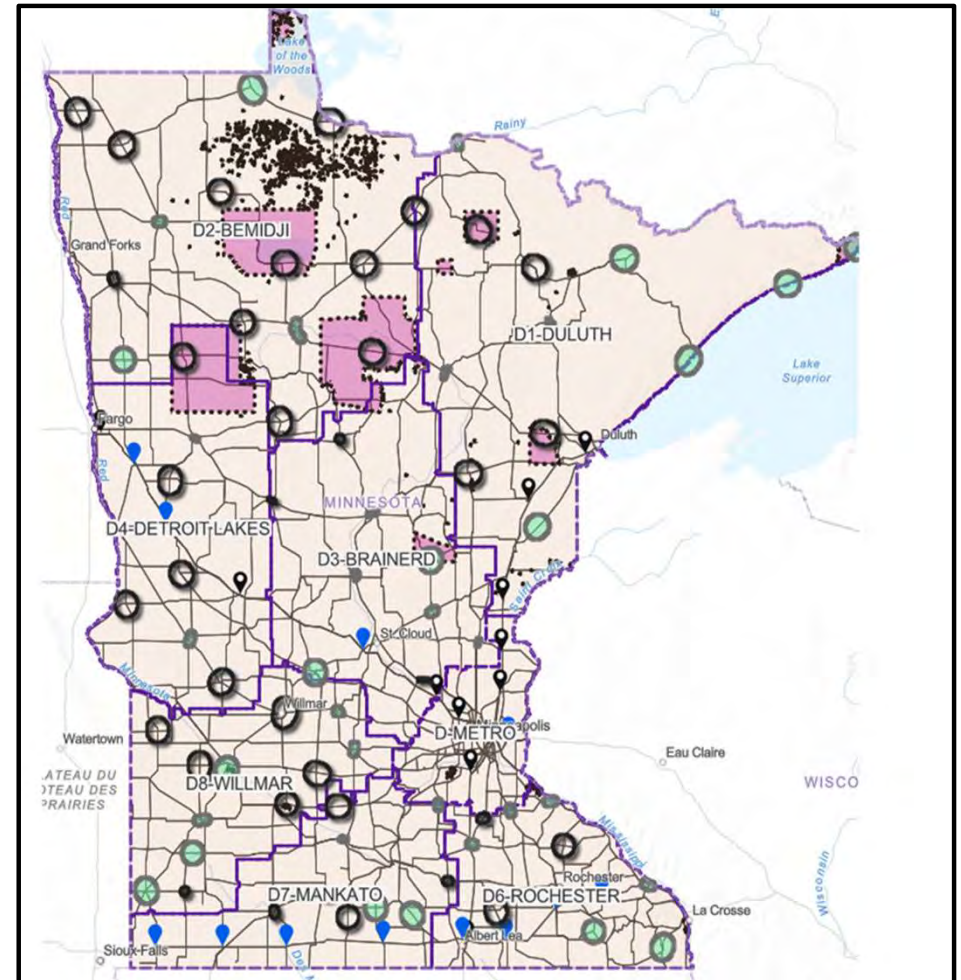
NEVI Formula Funds Status



- Round 1 & 2
 - 24 locations on I-90, I-94 and I-35
- 7 stations operational –as of July 3, 2026
- 17 locations in planning or construction

Round 3a RFP

- 74 eligible clusters, off US and State Highways
- \$41.18 Million total in obligated federal funds available, split into MnDOT Districts
- No locations in Metropolitan Planning Organization areas
- Plan to fund up to 40 locations this round
- 150 kW+ fast chargers, 4 ports minimum
- Up to 80% federal funds, applicants provide match (min of 20%)
- Multi-step review process – primary and secondary clusters, districts, etc.
- Open estimated late August



MnDOT District Breakout for Funds and Why This Matters for Applicants

MnDOT District	Maximum Number of Projects	Total Project Funds	80% Federal (authorized and obligate)
1	15	\$9,157,500	\$7,326,000
2	12	\$6,682,500	\$5,346,000
3	9	\$9,405,000	\$7,524,000
4	8	\$5,197,500	\$4,158,000
6	9	\$6,435,000	\$5,148,000
7	9	\$7,425,000	\$5,940,000
8	12	\$7,177,500	\$5,742,000
Total		\$51,480,000	\$41,184,000

Who can apply?

Eligible Applicants include, but are not limited to:

- Tribal Nations
- For-profit businesses
- Nonprofit organizations
- Governmental entities
- Utilities

Ineligible Applicants include entities or individuals that are currently suspended or debarred by the state of Minnesota or the federal government

Teaming partnerships that include eligible entities with a clear Primary Applicant and point of contact

Funding Eligibility (part 1)

Development (Preconstruction Phase)

- Starts after executed contract
- Feasibility analysis and design work
- Environmental review related work – National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), MnDOT is paying for NEPA consultant support
- Planning and permitting

Acquisition and Installation (Construction Phase)

- Installation of new chargers
- Upgrade of existing chargers
- On-site distributed energy resource equipment (e.g., stationary batteries) that is directly related to the charging on a vehicle
- On-site electric service equipment
- Site construction

REMINDER: Build America, Buy America compliance for all equipment used as part of the project

Funding Eligibility (part 2)

Operations & Maintenance

- Full extended warranties per charging port
- Site maintenance
- General inspections
- Electricity & demand charges
- Miscellaneous operations – software fees, communications fees, insurance, customer service line, etc.
- 5-years

Administration

- Staff costs directly related to the project
- Cybersecurity and audit fees
- Letter of Credit fees

REMINDER: This is a reimbursement grant. MnDOT will reimburse for 80% of eligible expenses (per quarter and task) after the contract is executed.

No reimbursement for work completed before the contract is executed

What are the benefits?

- Attract EV drivers to your location
- Average charging session 30 minutes people are looking for food and other options to spend time
- Revenue stream as either site host or project applicant
- Grant funds cover up to 80% of project costs
- Show customers you care about sustainability/environment
- Improve air quality



Key Considerations

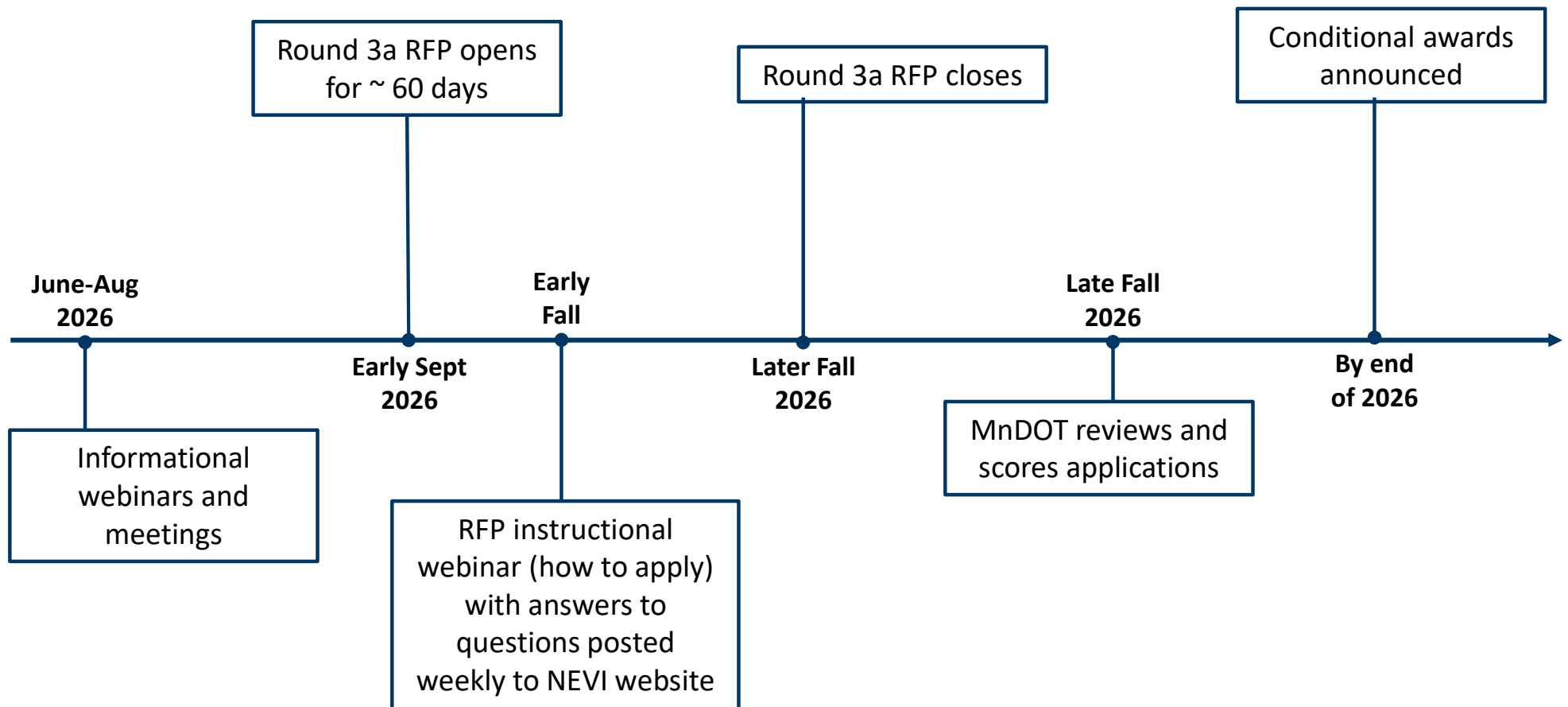


Reporting

**Federal &
State
Requirements**

New
Market, Still
Growing

Formula Funds Timeline (subject to change)



Getting Ready

Find your team

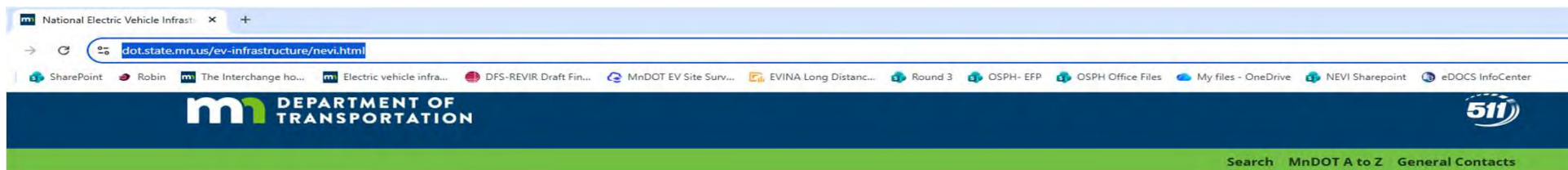
- [Fast-Charging Interested Partners List](#) on MnDOT NEVI webpage
- Existing EV chargers
 - [Alternative Fuels Data Center Station Locator](#)
 - [Plug Share](#)
 - [DCFC Tracker](#)
- Talk to Utility & municipality (permitting)
- Review [23 CFR 680](#) requirements (NEVI rule)



Example Team

- Primary Applicant (responsible for project/grant agreement)
- Site Host (could be same as applicant)
- Hardware Supplier
- Network Operator
- Construction Contractors

NEVI Program in Minnesota Webpage



Electric vehicle infrastructure

[Electric vehicle infrastructure](#)

National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Program in Minnesota

The [National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure \(NEVI\) Formula Program](#) provides funds to states to build a convenient, affordable, reliable, and equitable fast charging network for EVs across the United States. Program funds must first be used to install direct current fast chargers (DCFC) along any alternative fuel corridors (AFCs) for EV charging that had been designated by the states. After states complete the AFC build-out, they can use the remaining funds on other roadways within the state.

NEVI funding round 3a request for proposals

MnDOT is working on putting all the pieces into place to open Round 3a of NEVI funding with a request for proposal (RFP) planned for late August.

There will be up to \$41.8 Million in funding for up to 74 eligible clusters. While you wait there are some things you can do to get ready.

- Review the [Base Coverage tab](#) on the Long-Distance Charging Needs Analysis map for the potential clusters
- Find your team – check out the [Fast-Charging Interested Partners List](#). If you aren't already on it, [add your information to the list](#).
 - An example team might include: primary applicant, site host (could be the same as applicant), hardware supplier, network operator, construction contractor.
- Read the federal rule, [23 CFR 680](#) that applies to the program and get a sense of what will be required.
- Talk to the [electric utility](#) that serves your location and the municipality that manages permitting for the location.
 - Work with the electric utility to start getting answers to the [Utility Coordination Form](#).

Connect with us

 [Sign up for NEVI email updates](#)

Contact

- [NEVI staff](#) (applicant inquiries)
- [Julie Bartkey](#) (media inquiries)
Communication specialist
612-759-0499

Partners list

- [View the Fast Charging Interested Partners list \(Excel\)](#).
- [Sign up to be on the list](#).

Resources

- [Information about application programming interfaces \(PDF\)](#)
- [2025 Minnesota Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Plan \(PDF\)](#)

 [Website feedback](#)



Email: neviproject.dot@state.mn.us

Website:

<https://www.dot.state.mn.us/ev-infrastructure/nevi.html>

Minnesota Climate Innovation Finance Authority (MnCIFA)



Introduction to MnCIFA | June 2026

Arpita Bhattacharyya, Chief Investment Officer
Mo Schriner, Communications & Engagement Director

What does MnCIFA do?

Minnesota Climate

Accelerate Minnesota's transition to a clean energy future.

Investments in projects to:

- Save energy
- Reduce energy costs
- Enhance energy reliability
- Grow MN's clean energy economy

Innovation

Fill gaps, overcome barriers to finance projects.

- Priority lending to underserved markets
- Leverage private, public and nonprofit funds
- Flexible interest rates
- Innovative financing

Finance Authority

Financing qualified projects.

- Loans (not grants) which push projects forward, draw in private investment
- Minimum \$250k, with option for intermediaries
- Demonstrated benefits for the community

MnCIFA loan portfolio and products

MnCIFA loan portfolio:

- Loan range: \$500k to \$5 million
- Typical term for loans: 2 to 7 years
- Interest Rate: Risk adjusted spread over US treasuries
- Fees: 1.0% on loan amounts up to \$2M, plus 0.5% on any amount exceeding \$2M.

Products:

- Direct Loan
- Loan Loss Reserves (Launching in Fall 2026)
- Intermediary lenders funds (Launching in Fall 2026)

²
6

More info: mncifa.mn.gov/steps-apply

Required and preferred lending criteria

Required project lending criteria:

- Located in Minnesota
- Minimum \$250k loan
- Prevailing wage paid to job site workers
- Meets “Qualified Project” definition

Preferred criteria:

- Benefits environmental justice community
- High-quality employment and apprenticeship opportunities for local workers ²/₇

More info: **mncifa.mn.gov/steps-apply**

Qualified Projects

Reduce energy costs
and increase reliability



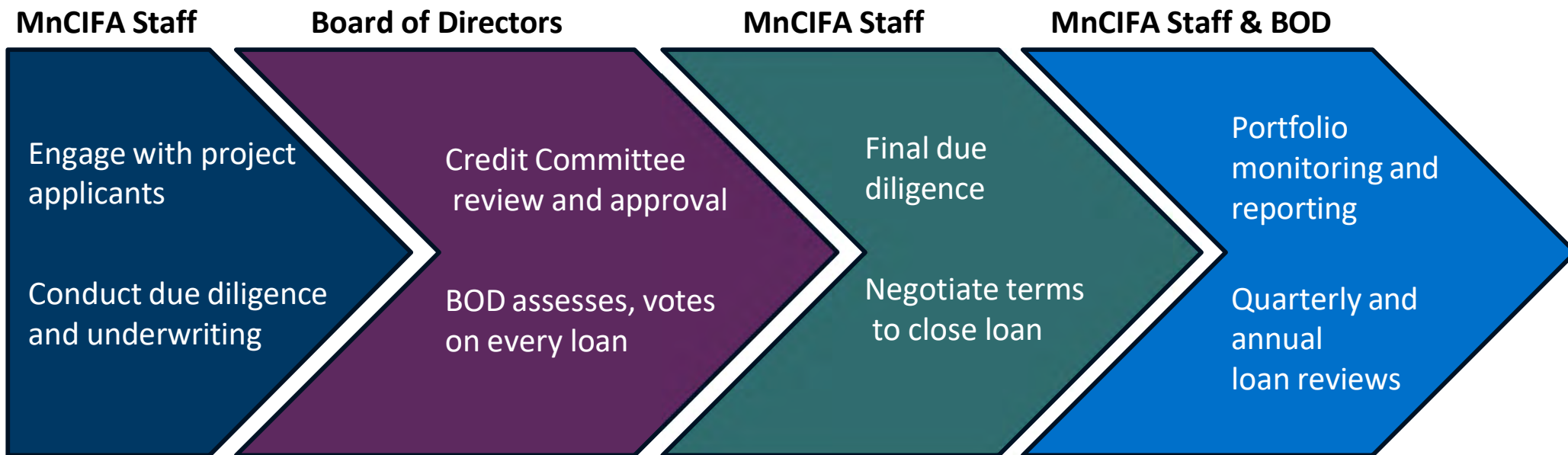
Clean energy
innovation
to spur economic
development



Expand clean energy
opportunities in
Greater Minnesota and
Tribal communities



MnCIFA application and lending process



Bridge loan financing

MnCIFA can help fill funding gaps:

- Borrower qualifies for federal and/or state funding paid once project is completed
- MnCIFA bridge loan provides financing upfront
- Loan principal and interest are repaid once federal and/or state funding is received



Federal and state historical tax credits



Sandstone School Workforce Housing

\$3.62 million loan with 2- and 7-year terms

Renovating historic century-old building

- Affordable workforce housing – 32 units
- Loan for energy efficiency components:
 - High-efficiency boiler, high-tech HVAC
 - Efficient windows and roofing
 - **65% less electric use; 45% less gas use**
- Loan repayment:
 - Primarily federal and state historical tax credits

Geothermal and solar energy loan

Greater Minnesota Housing Fund

\$4 million loan with 3-year term

- Mixed-use new construction
- Project with affordable housing and Native American Community Clinic
- Net-zero energy efficiency: Geothermal, solar
- Geothermal, solar qualified for federal Investment Tax Credits





Thank you!

info.mncifa@state.mn.us
mncifa.mn.gov

Great River Energy

EVSE & Utility Perspective

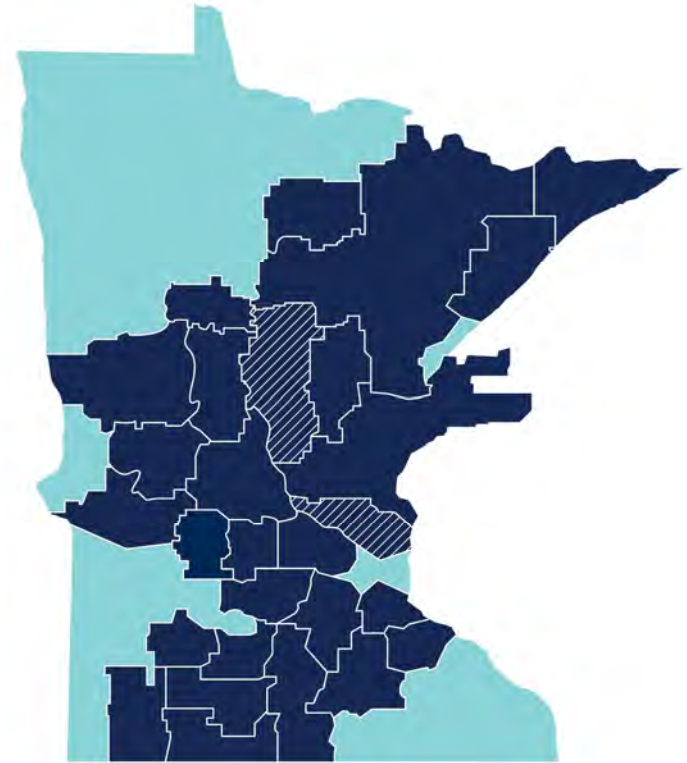
Michael Hinde

Great River Energy

8/12/2026

Great River Energy

- ▶ Wholesale electric power cooperative
 - Not-for-profit
- ▶ G&T (Generation & Transmission)
- ▶ 26 member-owners (co-ops)
 - Serving ~1.7 million



Utility Planning Perspective

- ▶ How applicants can..
 - Engage earlier
 - Share the right information
 - Avoid preventable surprises
- ▶ Practical Guidance from Utility Side
 - Not recruitment for any particular platform or program

Utility Interaction: DC fast charging deployment

- ▶ How to be a better applicant
 - **Early** utility engagement helps applicants build projects that are realistic, fundable, and executable.
 - **Early** visibility matters- even if many details are missing.

Why Utility Coordination Matters

Load

Total demand, service size, and grid impact.

Infrastructure

Transformer capacity, line extensions, service upgrades, and service route.

Cost

Service work, demand impacts, rate structure, and project economics.

Timing

Engineering review, materials, permitting, easements, construction, and energization.

Site Feasibility

Layout, access, ownership, service location, and practical constraints.



GREAT RIVER ENERGY

What applicants should bring to the Utility

Site information

- Site address or parcel number
- Site host / property owner
- Serving utility if known

Charging equipment

- Charger size
- Charger quantity / port count
- Estimated electrical load

Project timeline

- Application deadline
- Desired in-service date
- Construction or operating milestones

Site and operations

- Site plan if available
- Public, fleet, or mixed-use model
- Battery storage or solar if included

The better the project information, the better the utility can respond.

Where the Utility can help

Capacity and upgrades

- Existing capacity
- Required upgrades
- Transformer needs
- Service extensions

Service and process

- Metering
- Service path
- Engineering review
- Process requirements

Rates and schedule

- Rate structure
- Demand impact
- Construction schedule
- Energization timing

Early feedback is useful, but final answers may depend on formal engineering review and service request work.

Leverage Planning Tools

State Intake Form

The screenshot shows a form titled "Applicant (Continue completion of this page)". It contains several sections for data entry:

- Expected load profile (if known):**
 - At what hour of the day is peak load anticipated to occur?
 - How is load expected to vary across the day?
 - Projected monthly energy use (kWh):
- Battery or Solar System:** Is the applicant planning to install battery energy storage or a solar energy system at the site? If so, please describe the size, capacity, and basic system information.
- EVSE Account:** Will the EVSE load be added to an existing meter/account, or will a new account be requested? If EVSE load will be added to an existing account, provide account number.
- Attachments:** If you have any additional documents related to the proposed charging site, expected load profile, etc., please attach them here.
- Disclaimer:** Please indicate when the desirable (inverter) dock is for the station. Please understand that it can take 6 years or more for the utility to obtain transformers and other equipment.

GridFAST (by EPRI)

- Created as a cross-industry tool to enhance the collaboration between you and your utility partners, facilitating early and efficient engagement
- Channel for secure data exchange between utility & customer, increasing efficiency of EV projects
- <https://www.gridfast.com>

Goal: Identify & Overcome

- Information Gaps
 - What is unknown, incomplete or assumed?
- Timeline Concerns
 - Does utility review align with application & construction schedules?
- Infrastructure Needs
 - Could service work, upgrades, metering or re-routing be needed?
- Coordination Requirements
 - Who needs to be involved- and when?
- Correct contact information (both parties)
- Optimize Decision Making
- Gain Increased Transparency

Prior to NEVI Application: 3 Things

1

Early Contact to Utility

Confirm the serving utility and establish communication before major decisions are made.

2

Bring meaningful project information

Provide enough detail to support productive capacity and timeline discussions.

3

Keep engagement active

Understand rates and timelines, use coordination tools where appropriate, and stay connected through the project.

**The utility does not need every project detail on day one, but we do need early visibility.
The earlier the conversation starts, the better chance the project has of being realistic, cost-aware, and deliverable.**

Minnesota Chamber Environmental Sustainability Foundation

MINNESOTA CHAMBER
ENVIRONMENTAL
SUSTAINABILITY
FOUNDATION

OPTIMIZING RESOURCES

Technical Assistance Overview

Supporting Minnesota Businesses to
Save Money and Improve Resource Efficiency

About Us

Who we are

Sitting within the Minnesota Chamber of Commerce, the Environmental Sustainability Foundation helps businesses become less wasteful and more competitive. Whether you run a restaurant, office, or factory, we make sustainability doable and affordable.

- Free or low-cost onsite consultations and assessments
- Support identifying energy-saving and waste-reducing projects
- Assistance accessing utility rebates and grant funding



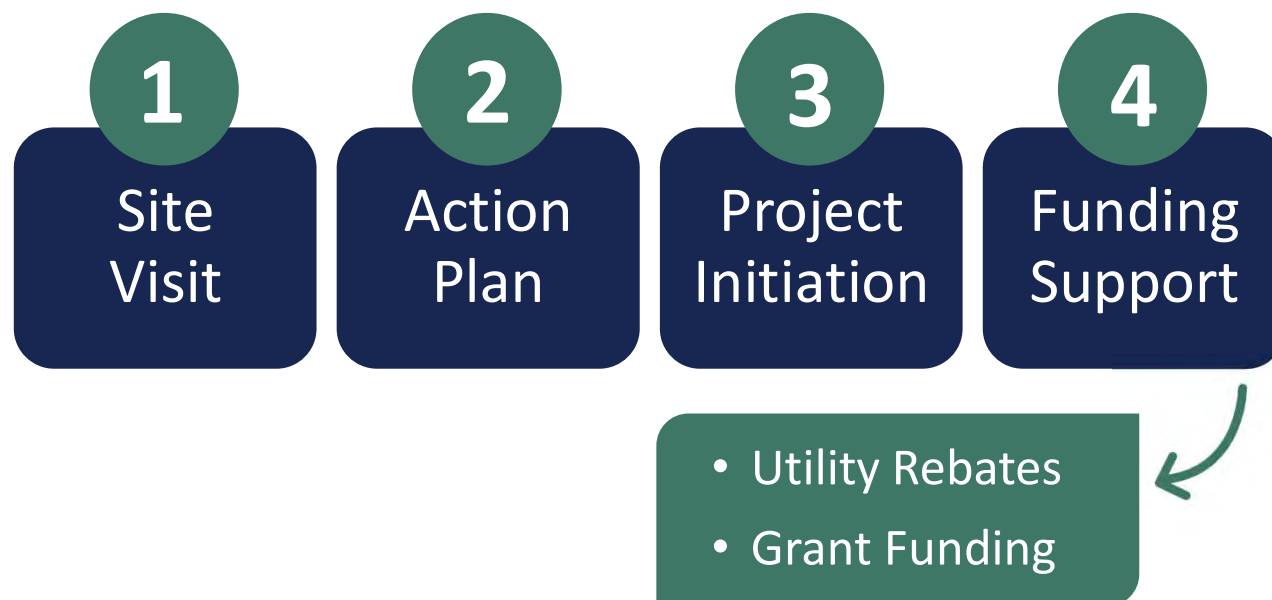
How Energy Smart and Waste Wise Work

MINNESOTA CHAMBER
ENVIRONMENTAL
SUSTAINABILITY
FOUNDATION

OPTIMIZING RESOURCES



We are there for you from start to finish, offering practical solutions that benefit your bottom line.



Grant Assistance

How it works

MCESF is a trusted partner that identifies opportunities, develops projects, and helps businesses secure funding from start to finish. We provide full-service grant assistance for Chamber members, as well as county-funded grant support for businesses located in the Metro area.



Proactive outreach when new funding opportunities become available.



Site visits and assessments to identify project opportunities.



Assistance determining project scope, eligibility, and application requirements.



Support gathering quotes and other necessary documentation.



Application development and submission assistance.



Ongoing support through project implementation and close out.

Networking for Success

MCESF helps businesses use resources more efficiently, cutting waste and saving money

Unlike traditional consultants, MCESF combines technical expertise, business relationships, and funding knowledge to help companies move projects forward.

- Strong relationships with counties, utilities, state agencies, and funding partners.
- Proven track record of connecting businesses to grants, utility rebates, and incentive programs.
- Hands-on guidance that reduces the administrative burden on busy businesses.
- Chamber credibility and statewide business network.



2024-2025 Summary of Impact

**831k pounds of
waste diverted**

**949k pounds of
waste reduced**

**380k units
reduced**

**4.7M kWh
saved**

4.8k Dth saved

**\$728,000 in
first year cost
savings**

**6.8k metric
tons of CO2e
reduced**

**845 site visits
conducted**

**\$1,708,000 in
total grants
approved**



Get Started Today

MINNESOTA CHAMBER
ENVIRONMENTAL
SUSTAINABILITY
FOUNDATION

OPTIMIZING RESOURCES

Sydney Henderson

Director of Environmental Sustainability

Phone: 651-292-3902

Email: shenderson@mnchamber.com

Andrew Hilger

Program Manager, Waste Wise

Phone: 651-292-3907

Email: ahilger@mnchamber.com

For more
information:



Additional Resources

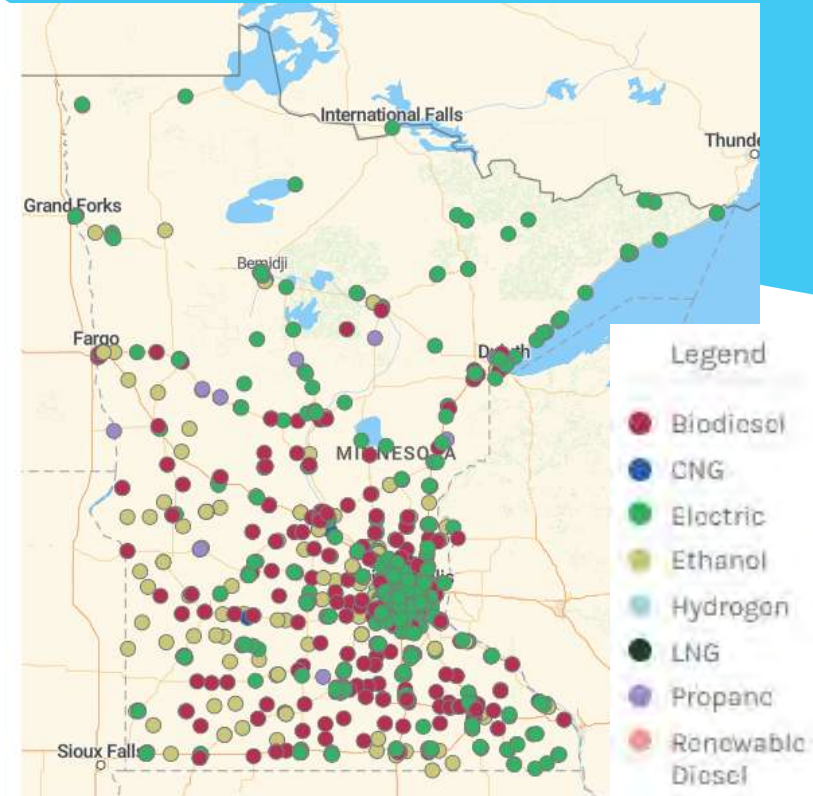
Minnesota Clean Cities Coalition (MC3) support

Advisory groups

- Bring a variety of speakers to subgroups
- Ensure partners are updated on programs
- Share data both to partners & energy office

Partners

- Help partners & energy offices to utilize new programs
- Help implement tools
- Funding application support



Connect to Funding Opportunities

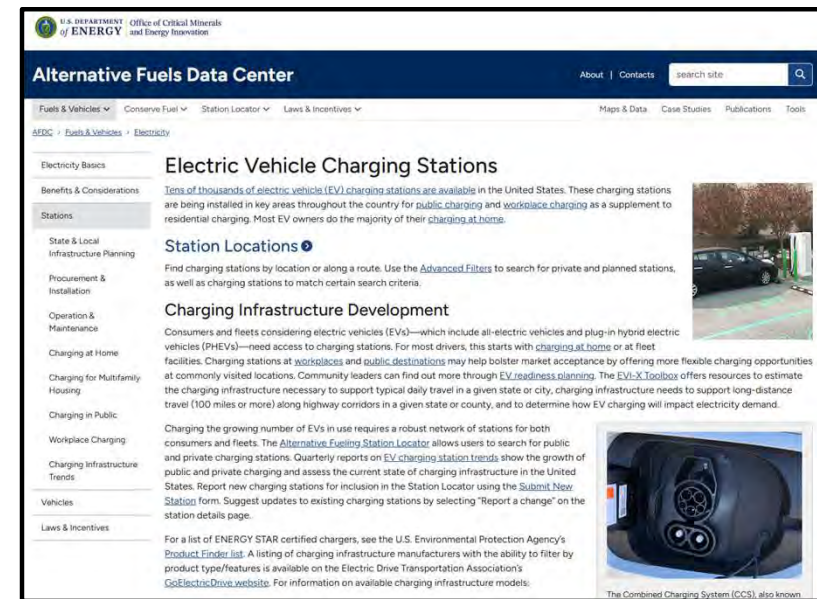
- Minnesota Clean Cities Coalition is a go-to resource to help navigate federal funding opportunities.
- Minnesota Clean Cities Coalition can provide insights to DOE about on-the-ground needs that can help inform funding priorities.

<https://cleancities.energy.gov/funding-opportunities/>



Access Tools and Resources

- Alternative Fuels Data Center: afdc.energy.gov
 - Maps and data
 - Publications and case studies
 - Digital tools and calculators
 - afdc.energy.gov/fuels/electricity-stations
- EVI-FAST: Electric Vehicle Infrastructure – Financial Analysis Scenario Tool
 - nlr.gov/transportation/evi-fast
- Clean Cities and Communities: cleancities.energy.gov
 - History and current activities, including coalition search
 - Open funding opportunities.
- Technical Response Service:
technicalresponse@icf.com



Questions and Answers



Thank you!

CleanAirChoice.org

Facebook: Clean Air Initiatives

Lisa Thurstin (she/her)

Director | Minnesota Clean Cities Coalition

651-223-9568 Lisa.Thurstin@Lung.org