

Request for Proposals (“RFP”)

Dated: March 5, 2024

SMALL BUSINESS ENERGY FUND

Rhode Island Infrastructure Bank (the “Bank”) Is Soliciting Proposals
for Small Business Energy Fund Pilot Program

1. Opportunity Summary

- A. PROPOSALS SOUGHT FOR:** Technical assistance for non-profits, and other private entities, to construct or make improvements to clean energy-related infrastructure and projects including but not limited to, those related to greenhouse gas reduction or elimination, zero-emission technology, clean transportation, clean heating, energy storage, energy efficiency, renewable energy, and demand-side management.
- B. OVERVIEW:** Small Business Energy Fund (“SBEF”) is a competitive financing program providing capital funds for small businesses in Rhode Island, including non-profit, private, and other business-related entities, to make clean energy and/or energy efficiency-related improvements. The overall goal of this RFP is to support the small business community in making clean energy investments to their property. This RFP is focused on soliciting requests for technical assistance, including in the form of energy audits, to review energy use and inefficiencies to make informed decisions on where improvements are needed most.
- C. ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS:** Any non-profit, private, or corporate entities in good standing with the Rhode Island Office of the Secretary of State and Division of Taxation that generate no more than \$10 million in annual revenue and which have ownership of the property are eligible for assistance. Technical assistance may be made in addition to other forms of local, state, and federal assistance. Receipt of an award shall not preclude an applicant from receiving additional funds under a separate Bank program.
- D. ELIGIBLE PROJECTS:**
- E.** The following categories of Projects will be considered either alone or in combination:
- Greenhouse gas reduction or elimination;
 - Zero-emission technology;
 - Clean heating;
 - Energy storage;
 - Energy efficiency;

- Renewable energy;
- Demand-side management; or
- Other categories of projects within R.I. Gen. Laws § 46-12.2-4.3 or as otherwise identified by the Bank.

F. APPLICATION DEADLINE: No later than 4:00 p.m., March 13, 2024. Selections are estimated to be announced in April 2024.

G. FUNDING AVAILABILITY: The Bank has allocated \$50,000 for technical assistance for one or more awards to be made pursuant to this RFP. The Bank reserves the ability to award all or a portion of this amount pursuant to this RFP.

H. CONTACT INFORMATION:

Greg Miller
Rhode Island Infrastructure Bank
275 Promenade Street, Suite 301
Providence, RI 02908
gmler@riib.org

2. Instructions for Application Submission

- A. APPLICATION SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS:** Submit proposals electronically via email to Greg Miller (see Contact Information above) in accordance with the schedule below (see Deadlines and Procurement Calendar).

The Infrastructure Bank is subject to the Access to Public Records Act (“APRA”) (RI General Laws Chapter 38-2). Any documents, materials, maps, statements, or other information submitted to the Infrastructure Bank may be released in accordance with APRA. Please do not submit any information that the Applicant may not wish to disclose publicly, such as home addresses or personal telephone numbers, social security numbers, or other similar information.

3. Deadlines and Procurement Calendar

- A. RELEASE OF RFP:** March 6, 2024
- B. APPLICATION DEADLINE:** Applications due no later than 4 p.m., March 13, 2024. In the event all funds are not awarded pursuant to the RFP, the Bank may extend the application period which will be posted on the Bank’s website at www.riib.org.
- C. ESTIMATED AWARD DATE:** Selections are estimated to be announced in April 2024.
- D. LIST OF ATTACHMENTS:**
- A. Letter of Intent
 - B. Project Narrative
 - C. Drafts or Documentation of Plans, including evidence of ownership of building
 - D. Cost Estimates