

NIT ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION PROGRAM

Climate Pollution Reduction Grant Project

PRESS RELEASE

Funded by the Biden-Harris Administration's Investing in America Agenda, the Tribe has received an Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Climate Pollution Reduction Grants (CPRG) to develop and implement ambitious plans for reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions (GHG) and other harmful air pollution. The CPRG is a two-phase program for planning (Phase 1) and implementation (Phase 2).

Phase 1 Planning Grants: The planning phase funds were used to design Preliminary Climate Action Plan which incorporate a variety of measures to reduce GHG emissions from six key sectors (electricity generation, industry, transportation, buildings, agriculture/natural and working lands, and waste management). [Completed.](#)

Phase 2 Implementation Grants: [Funds Awarded to Tribe](#)

On September 5, 2024, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency announced the Narragansett Indian Tribe was awarded \$6,627,691 in Climate Pollution Reduction Grant funding.

- The Narragansett Indian Tribe's Greenhouse Gas Reduction Measures Project will support the completion of energy audits at Tribal buildings to identify priority energy-efficiency measures and install building management systems and controls, solar arrays, and battery storage systems. Potential energy-efficient upgrades at Tribally owned government facilities will include lighting retrofits and replacements, installing efficient water fixtures, and building insulation and infiltration sealing such as caulking and weatherstripping. The replicable project will lower the Tribe's energy demand, decrease reliance on combustible energy sources, reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, yield financial savings, and improve energy resilience.

Key Things to Know

- Grants funds will be utilized to support the program management of grant activities, budget and consultant to assist the Tribe in the following benefits to reduce GHGs
 - Tribe must complete and submit a final workplan and budget by November 26 to EPA before work begins.
 - Notice to Proceed: EPA will provide the Tribe with a letter approving workplan and budget by Mid-January to proceed with the Implementation Grant's activities.

Activities Outline in the Grant:

- Completion of Energy Audits at Tribal buildings to identify priority energy-efficiency measures.
- Develop rooftop, carport, and ground-mounted solar photovoltaic systems on six Tribally owned and operated buildings that will produce more than 1,000 megawatt hours of renewable electricity annually.
- Install battery storage systems to replace propane and diesel generators at eight Tribally owned and operated buildings.
- Support paid internships to introduce two students to career opportunities in the rapidly expanding clean energy sector.
- Improve energy resilience and significantly decrease the Tribe's dependence on fossil fuels.
- Offer a replicable strategy that can be easily expanded to all buildings in the Tribal community.
- Host public meetings with the Tribal Government and Tribal Community, and post updates and announcements.

Questions and to obtain a copy of the Priority Climate Action Plan, please contact Dinalyn Spears at dspears@nitribe.org.

Thank you