

The U.S. Department of Energy's **Better Communities Alliance** (BCA) is a collaboration with local government leaders, businesses, and institutions to improve the prosperity of American communities through clean energy technologies and solutions. The BCA is part of the department's **Better Buildings Initiative**, a national leadership program calling on companies, state and local governments, manufacturers, universities and schools, to make substantial commitments to improve the energy usage in buildings, homes, and plants to save consumers money and increase America's economic competitiveness.

Through the BCA, DOE connects an important network of city and county government partners with coordinated expertise, community-based resources, and peer-networking opportunities at the local level with access to national support.

Together, BCA Partners and Affiliates will help build the local capacity required for greater clean energy progress. A cornerstone of this alliance will be new partnerships with companies, philanthropic foundations, research and nonprofit organizations, and other groups that pledge expertise and design new programs to strengthen America's communities.

The goals of the **Better Communities Alliance** are to:

- ▶ **Deliver** integrated, community-scale support that enables local governments to achieve their energy, economic, and infrastructure goals, and replicate solutions;
- ▶ **Strengthen** engagement with public and private sector leaders to identify energy challenges and opportunities within communities;
- ▶ **Incorporate** knowledge and lessons learned into DOE programs, tools, and research;
- ▶ **Streamline** community access to new resources from the public and private sectors.

BCA Affiliates will collaborate with DOE to expand and align the resources available for communities to drive clean energy impact. DOE will work with each affiliate to identify the nature of its collaboration. Affiliates that wish to identify resources and expertise that could be utilized by sets of BCA Partner communities may participate in **Commitments for Better Communities**, a new initiative to match resources to the needs of local governments. Such resources or expertise may include in-kind services, support to conduct research, technical assistance, data analysis, training, products, or other support. The outcome of this work is greatly expanded resources for communities that results in quantifiable energy efficiency or clean energy progress.

## Better Communities Alliance Affiliate Agrees To:

- ▶ **Appoint** a Better Communities Alliance partnership point of contact within one month
- ▶ **Work** with DOE to define within two months the type and scope of support Better Communities Alliance Affiliate will provide to communities
- ▶ **Identify** in-kind services, support to conduct research, technical assistance, data analysis, training, products, or other types of support to communities
- ▶ **Collaborate** with DOE to track the impact of Better Communities Alliance Affiliate contributions in communities and, where appropriate, document successful replications and repeated investments
- ▶ **Participate** in Better Communities Alliance thought leadership and collaboration forums

## U.S. Department of Energy Agrees To:

- ▶ **Provide** opportunities to strategically leverage and further the impact of Better Communities Alliance Affiliate's work
- ▶ **Promote** Better Communities Alliance Affiliate's contributions and opportunities to partners
- ▶ **Collect** and disseminate information on how Better Communities Alliance Affiliate's contributions have impacted communities and support replicable models where appropriate
- ▶ **Facilitate** national, regional, and local forums for thought leadership and collaboration around clean energy in communities
- ▶ **Recognize** Better Communities Alliance Affiliate nationally to reflect their contributions

### Agreement

My organization is committed to the goals of the Better Communities Alliance.

SENIOR EXECUTIVE OFFICER SIGNATURE

SENIOR EXECUTIVE PRINTED NAME

DATE

PROPOSED COMMITMENT

### Point of Contact Information

ORGANIZATION

ADDRESS

REPRESENTATIVE NAME

TITLE

PHONE NUMBER

EMAIL ADDRESS

### General Terms:

- ▶ All Parties concur that this agreement is wholly voluntary and may be terminated by any party at any time, and for any reason, with no penalty.
- ▶ Partner will not construe, claim, or imply that its participation in the Better Buildings Initiative constitutes Federal Government approval, acceptance, or endorsement of anything other than Partner's commitment to the initiative.
- ▶ Partner understands its participation in the Better Buildings Initiative does not constitute Federal Government endorsement of Partner.
- ▶ Partner understands that this agreement is neither a fiscal nor a funds obligation document. Nothing in this agreement authorizes or is intended to obligate DOE to expend, exchange, or reimburse funds, services, or supplies, or transfer or receive anything of value.
- ▶ Partner will not submit a claim for compensation to any federal agency.
- ▶ The Better Buildings Initiative will honor all requests to keep the Partner's information and data confidential.
- ▶ This Agreement in no way restricts either of the Parties from participating in any activity with other public or private agencies, organizations or individuals.
- ▶ This Agreement is strictly for internal management purposes for each of the Parties. It is not legally enforceable and shall not be construed to create any legal obligation on the part of either Party. This Agreement shall not be construed to provide a private right or cause of action for or by any person or entity.