

The U.S. Department of Energy's Better Communities Alliance is a partnership that brings together public and private sector leaders to deliver energy efficiency, sustainable transportation, and renewable energy solutions that create cleaner and more prosperous communities for all Americans. The **Better Communities Alliance** is part of the **Better Building 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 money and increase competitiveness.

Through the Better Communities Alliance, 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, Better Communities Alliance 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:

- ▶ **Support** local governments in achieving their energy, climate, and economic goals through energy efficiency, sustainable transportation, and renewable energy;
- ▶ **Streamline** communities' access to new resources from DOE and the private sector;
- ▶ **Facilitate** actionable dialogues with local governments that enable DOE to take strategic steps to meet local needs and opportunities; and
- ▶ **Recognize** public and private sector leaders achieving innovative and impactful clean energy outcomes in communities.

Better Communities Alliance partners will collaborate with DOE to demonstrate successful models for furthering energy efficiency, sustainable transportation, and renewable energy in their communities.

## Better Communities Alliance Partner Agrees To:

- ▶ **Participate** in at least one DOE qualifying leadership initiative<sup>1</sup>
- ▶ **Appoint** a Better Communities Alliance lead within one month
- ▶ **Provide** information on current status and future target areas of clean energy achievement in your community through completion of a local profile within two months
- ▶ **Consider** opportunities to accelerate clean energy impact in your community
- ▶ **Share** information on clean energy solutions, barriers, and opportunities with DOE, other Better Communities Alliance partners, and affiliates
- ▶ **Participate** in Better Communities Alliance peer exchange forums

## US Department of Energy Agrees To:

- ▶ **Create** a customized portfolio of technical assistance tools, resources, and engagement opportunities available to support each partner's clean energy goals
- ▶ **Facilitate** access to in-kind support, expertise, and research made available by Better Communities Alliance affiliates
- ▶ **Provide** national forums for peer networking and dialogue on community energy planning integration and clean energy technologies
- ▶ **Align** and expand efforts to support local governments
- ▶ **Advance** the national dialogue on integrated urban and regional planning for clean energy
- ▶ **Recognize** partners nationally to reflect their achievements

### Agreement:

My local government is committed to the goals of the Better Communities Alliance.

SENIOR LEADERSHIP SIGNATURE

SENIOR LEADERSHIP PRINTED NAME

DATE

NAME OF DOE QUALIFYING PROGRAM(S)

### Point of Contact Information:

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

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 the activities it undertakes in connection with the Better Buildings Initiative are voluntary and not intended to provide services to the Federal Government. 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.

1. Information on U.S. DOE clean energy initiatives and projects available for local government participation are included in the BCA FAQ document.