

**KINETIC
COMMUNITIES
CONSULTING**

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Kinetic Communities Applauds the Biden Administration to on its Guidance on the Low-Income Communities Bonus Credit Program

Kinetic Communities Consulting (KC³) is a minority, woman-owned firm that works within New York's energy and affordable housing industry to connect, educate, and expand energy efficiency opportunities for under-represented Black and brown low-income communities.

We write to express our support for the recently released Low-Income Solar Credits in the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA), which would allocate tax credits for clean energy facilities placed in low-income communities.

We thank the Department of Treasury for their work to prioritize the needs and futures of low-income climate-burdened communities across the country. For far too long environmental justice communities - low-income Black and brown neighborhoods that have borne the brunt of the climate crisis - have experienced historic divestment resulting in crumbling infrastructure and a significantly reduced quality of life. The IRA Low-Income Solar Credits directly address this issue by prioritizing equity in program eligibility criteria and capacity allocation standards, ensuring those most in need are first in line.

Today, environmental justice communities are battling a climate crisis that sits at the intersections of economic, health, and racial injustice. Renewable energy investment programs often neglect Black and brown low-income climate-burdened communities, especially during times of unprecedented economic and public health distress. The groundbreaking IRA Low-Income Solar Credits program is the sets a precedent the Internal Revenue Service (IRS), Department of Energy (DOE), and the Department of Treasury acknowledge the importance of prioritizing low-income communities within the tax credit's structure. This is a step in the right direction. With the overarching goals to increase adoption and access to renewable energy, engage new market participants, and inject social and economic benefits into historically climate-burned communities, the program creates a foundation that allows all communities to thrive.

Bold investments in renewable energy are an opportunity for communities to reduce GHG emissions, build more resilient neighborhoods, and create much-needed, good local jobs. It is paramount that environmental justice communities are front and center for these credits. Investment in infrastructure directed at low-income communities is a popular idea that can serve as an effective economic stimulus. Most importantly, these credits would create a pathway toward solar ownership for many who have been left behind. The Treasury's priority to administer an equitable application and capacity allocation process through a phased approach pushes this initiative even further.

KC³ is heartened to see the IRA Low-Income Solar Credits proposal and looks forward to learning how the Treasury plans to design, implement, and enforce the program. We can learn from the current climate crisis and take aggressive action to address the root causes that allowed it to take hold. All communities deserve equitable access to renewable energy, and this program is critical to ensuring Black and brown environmental communities are prioritized.