



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF  
**ENERGY**

Office of  
Cybersecurity, Energy Security,  
and Emergency Response

## Rural and Municipal Utility Advanced Cybersecurity Grant and Technical Assistance Program Launch and Listening Session

# Launch

## Rural and Municipal Utility Advanced Cybersecurity Grant and Technical Assistance Program

# AGENDA

## /00 Welcome & Introduction

### Program Launch

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#### /01 Opening Remarks

Monica Neukomm, Acting Principal Deputy Director, DOE CESER

Andrew Wills, Chief of Staff and Senior Advisor, DOE CESER

Cynthia Hsu, Cybersecurity Program Manager,  
Rural and Municipal Utilities, DOE CESER

#### /02 Question & Answer

### Listening Session

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#### /03 Part 1

#### /04 Part 2

#### /05 Closing Remarks

Cynthia Hsu, Cybersecurity Program Manager,  
Rural and Municipal Utilities, DOE CESER

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# Introduction

CESER Leadership



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**Speaker**

**Monica Neukomm**

**Acting Principal Deputy Director**

**Office of Cybersecurity, Energy Security,  
and Emergency Response (CESER)**

**U.S. Department of Energy**

# /01

# Opening Remarks

CESER Leadership



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## Speaker

**Andrew Wills**

**Chief of Staff and Senior Advisor  
Office of Cybersecurity, Energy Security,  
and Emergency Response (CESER)**

**U.S. Department of Energy**

# /01

# Opening Remarks

CESER



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## Speaker

**Cynthia Hsu**

**Cybersecurity Program Manager Rural and  
Municipal Utilities**

**Office of Cybersecurity, Energy Security,  
and Emergency Response (CESER)**

**U.S. Department of Energy**

# Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act Section 40124

Rural and Municipal Utility Advanced Cybersecurity Grant and Technical Assistance Program (RMUC Program)

(a) Short Title—This Act may be cited as the “Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act.”

Sec. 40124. Rural and municipal utility advanced cybersecurity grant and technical assistance program.



PUBLIC LAW 117–58—NOV. 15, 2021

135 STAT. 429

Public Law 117–58  
117th Congress

## An Act

To authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and transit programs, and for other purposes.

Nov. 15, 2021  
[H.R. 3684]

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

Infrastructure  
Investment and  
Jobs Act.

### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

23 USC 101 note.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the “Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act”.

(b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents for this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.  
Sec. 2. References.

## Subtitle B—Cybersecurity

Sec. 40121. Enhancing grid security through public-private partnerships.

Sec. 40122. Energy Cyber Sense program.

Sec. 40123. Incentives for advanced cybersecurity technology investment.

Sec. 40124. Rural and municipal utility advanced cybersecurity grant and technical assistance program.

Sec. 40125. Enhanced grid security.

Sec. 40126. Cybersecurity plan.

Sec. 40127. Savings provision.



# Key Elements of the RMUC Program

## Objectives

### **1. To deploy advanced cybersecurity technologies**

Advanced cybersecurity technologies are defined as any technology, operational capability, or service, including computer hardware, software, or a related asset, that enhances the security posture of electric utilities through improvements in the ability to protect against, detect, respond to, or recover from a cybersecurity threat.

### **2. To increase participation of eligible entities in threat information sharing programs.**





# Key Elements of the RMUC Program

## Eligible Entity

- A. A rural electric cooperative
- B. A utility owned by a political subdivision of a State such as a municipally owned electric utility
- C. A utility owned by any agency, authority, corporation, or instrumentality of 1 or more political subdivisions of a State
- D. A not-for-profit entity that is in partnership with not fewer than 6 entities described in A, B, or C
- E. An investor-owned electric utility that sells less than 4,000,000 megawatt hours of electricity per year



# Key Elements of the RMUC Program

## Priorities

### Eligible Entities That:

- > Have limited cybersecurity resources
- > Own assets critical to the reliability of the bulk power system
- > Own defense critical electric infrastructure



## Key Elements of the RMUC Program

Funding Authorized

**\$250,000,000**

over 5 years

(Fiscal Year 2022 through 2026)



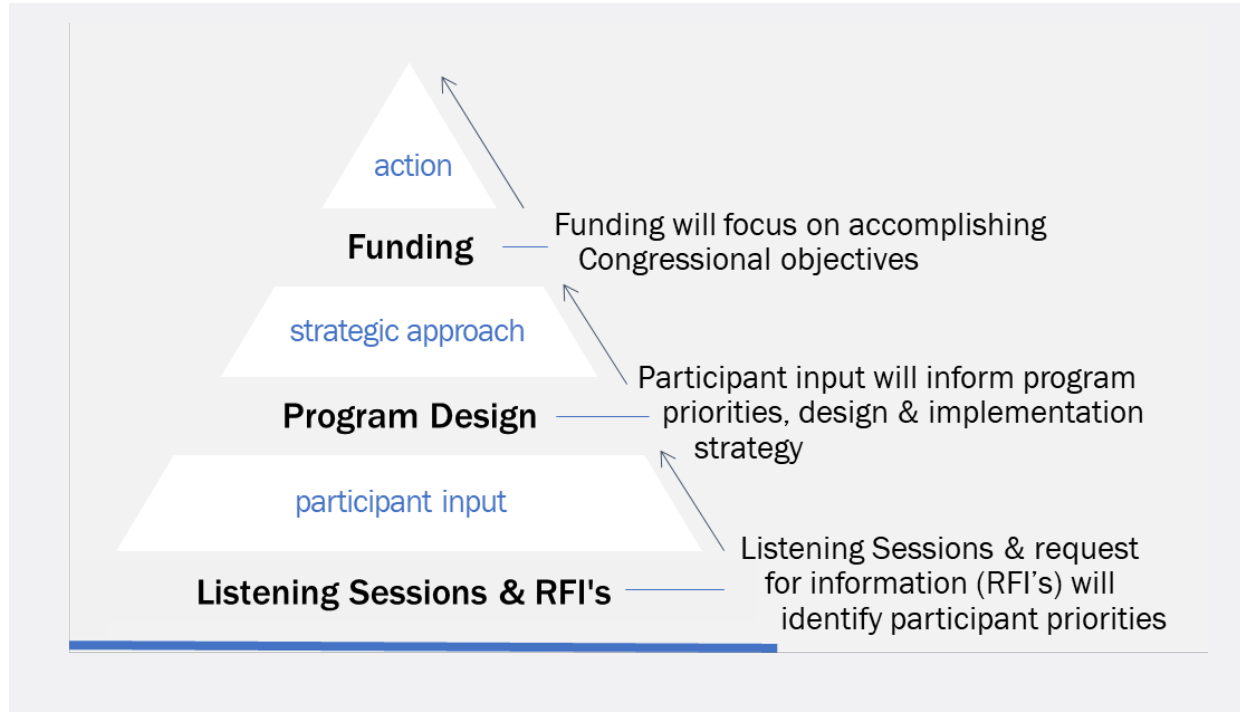
# Key Elements of the RMUC Program

## Award

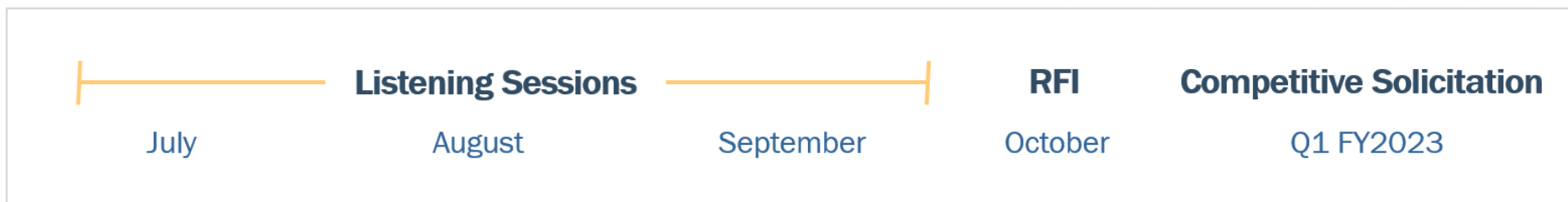
### DOE

- > Shall award grants and provide technical assistance to eligible entities on a competitive basis
- > Shall develop criteria and a formula for awarding grants and providing technical assistance
- > May enter into cooperative agreements with eligible entities that can facilitate the objectives
- > Shall establish a process to ensure that all eligible entities are informed about and can become aware of opportunities to receive grants or technical assistance

# We are in the Listening Phase



- > **Listening session #1: August 18, 2022**
- > Listening session #2: September 15, 2022
- > Listening session #3: September 29, 2022
- > Registration for listening sessions can be found at: <https://www.energy.gov/ceser/rmuc-listening-sessions>
- > Request for Information: October 2022



## Goals for Today:

### Information Gathered Will Inform:

- > Outreach and engagement strategies to ensure all eligible entities are aware of program opportunities
- > Program priorities, goals, design, and implementation strategies to ensure relevance for the target audience and active inclusion of resource limited utilities
- > Public resources, such as technical reports, best management practices, analyses, guidance, and training resources
- > Potential future research and development agendas to address identified challenges

/02

# Q & A

Acting Principal Deputy Director **Monica Neukomm**

Chief of Staff and Senior Advisor **Andrew Wills**

Cybersecurity Program Manager **Cynthia Hsu**

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# Listening Session

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# /05

## Next Steps

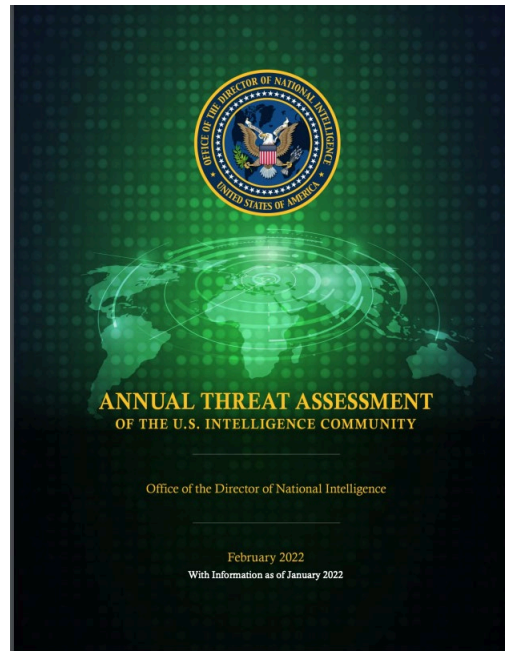
- **September 15<sup>th</sup> — Cooperatives**
- **September 29<sup>th</sup> — Municipals**
- **Request for Information (RFI) — October**
- **For more information about the RMUC Program visit:**  
**<https://www.energy.gov/ceser/rmuc-listening-sessions>**

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If you have any questions, please email us at [CESER.RMUC@hq.doe.gov](mailto:CESER.RMUC@hq.doe.gov)

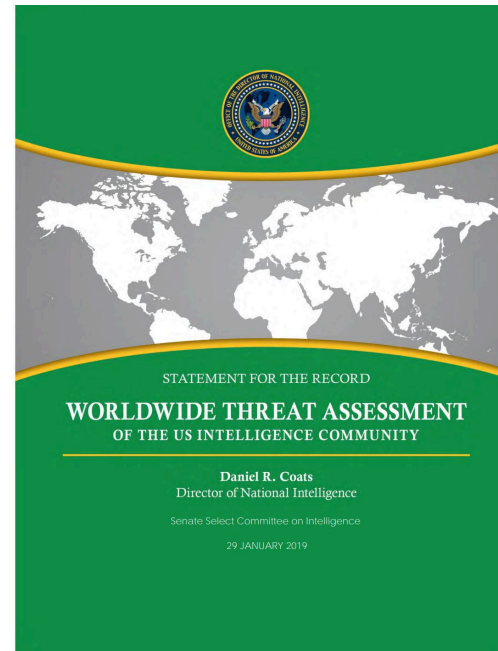
# Resources

## Annual Threat Assessment



<https://www.dni.gov/files/ODNI/documents/assessments/ATA-2022-Unclassified-Report.pdf>

## Previous reports



<https://www.dni.gov/files/ODNI/documents/2019-ATA-SFR--SSCI.pdf>

## Biden Administration Announces \$2.3 Billion for States and Tribes to Strengthen and Modernize America's Power Grid



<https://www.energy.gov/articles/biden-administration-announces-23-billion-states-and-tribes-strengthen-and-modernize>

# Thank You!

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