Frequently Asked Questions

High-Efficiency Electric Home Rebates (HEEHR) Program for Indian Tribes

Updated October 2026

Instructions

Tribal grantees are encouraged to review all available documentation, including the most recent Program Requirements & Application Instructions (PRAI) (version 2, published November 2024), Program Notice 26-3 (published May 2026), the Administrative and Legal Requirements Document (ALRD) (version 2, published November 2024), and this document. Grantees are also encouraged to consult with peer Tribes, as appropriate, and/or submit questions to the NLR Tribal Home Energy Rebate Program Support inbox at **tribalrebates@nlr.gov**. If a question is unique or specific to your Tribe, please clearly identify what is new or different when submitting the question to the support inbox or your Tribe's Project Officer. DOE plans to share new frequently asked questions and answers on a regular basis.

This document is organized to align with the sections of the Program Requirements & Application Instructions for Indian Tribes. As new questions are added, DOE plans to retain the current structure and add new questions with unique question identifiers (e.g., 1.0#A). This document pertains only to Tribal Rebate programs. There is a separate FAQ document for states that are administering HOMES and HEEHR Programs.

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PRAI Section 1.0 Overview

A. When are awards expected to be available for my Tribe or Consortium? When will my Tribe or Consortium be able to start issuing rebates?

Tribes must submit an application for the Tribal HEEHR Program by December 11, 2026. DOE will review applications as they are received. DOE will provide Tribes with feedback on their applications, and the review process will be iterative. Once DOE has determined the application meets all program requirements, DOE will make an award.

After a Tribe or Tribal Consortium receives a full program award (i.e., upon successful completion of negotiation, DOE issues an award modification to lift conditional status and release the obligated funding), funding will be available for administrative activities, such as hiring staff and identifying which housing units may receive home energy upgrades. However, Tribes must receive an additional "launch" approval from their DOE Project Officer before they can issue rebates. This "launch" approval is contingent on a Tribe submitting satisfactory answers to any deferred questions in the program narrative template, revising the Budget Justification Workbook, submitting a satisfactory Fraud, Waste, and Abuse (FWA) mitigation plan, and demonstrating that it is ready to comply with the program's data tracking and reporting requirements.

B. Do Tribes that previously applied to the HEEHR program need to revise their applications to align with Program Notice 26-3 by the new submission deadline?

Yes. The application deadline has been reopened and extended to December 11, 2026. All Tribes (including those that previously submitted a full application) must submit a new or revised application that complies with these new requirements. Please note, some Tribes will likely only need to make small changes to adjust their previous application to come into compliance with the new requirements.

Revised applications should include the following documents using the updated templates/instructions provided by DOE:

- Standard Form 424 (not required if a Tribe has a conditional award)
- Standard Form 424A
- Planned Activities tab in PAGE
- Budget Justification Workbook
- Pre-Award Information Sheet

- Narrative Document with answers to all non-deferrable questions

For reference, please see the "ALRD Application Checklist" support document shared September 2026.

C. Do Tribes who previously applied for this program need to collect updated Tribal resolutions from consortium members?

No. For any Tribes that applied by the previous deadline of May 31, 2025, previously submitted Tribal resolutions are acceptable and will still be treated by DOE as demonstrating that individual Tribe's intent to join a consortium. Tribes may update or rescind any previously submitted Tribal resolutions; inform your DOE Project Officer of these changes before doing so.

D. Does the new Program Notice 26-3 supersede the Tribal Program Requirements, as listed in v2.0 of the PRAI?

No. Program Notice 26-3 introduces new program requirements and flexibilities, including renaming the program that was formerly called the Home Electrification and Appliance Rebate (HEAR) Program to the statutory name of the High-Efficiency Electric Home Rebate (HEEHR) Program. All requirements except those superseded by the Program Notice are still in effect. We recommend Tribes review previously published guidance materials alongside the new Program Notice.

E. Does the Tribe need to provide an updated Letter of Intent, or does the original Letter of Intent still stand for the resubmission?

No, a Letter of Intent is not required to apply for this program.

F. Is DOE expecting all Tribes to change their program name from Tribal Home Electrification and Appliance Rebate (THEAR) Program to High-Efficiency Electric Home Rebates (HEEHR)?

No. Tribes take ownership of their Tribal program names. The name change of the program is at the federal DOE level to align with the name in the statute.

G. My Tribe received a Notice of Award but never received guidance on whether to process this award letter through our Legal Department and Tribal Council to begin program implementation. What should we do next?

If your Tribe or Consortium has already received an award from DOE, this award is currently in conditional status. Per your Assistance Agreement, Term 1 of the Special Terms and Conditions states that the Recipient is prohibited from

spending federal funds at this time, and that DOE will not release the funding obligated by this award until successful completion of negotiations is reached to the satisfaction of the DOE Grants Officer.

To complete negotiations, you first need to submit a revised full application that is compliant with Program Notice 26-3. Tribes may choose to use the new templates from DOE to support their application development. If you have questions about your specific next steps, please email the NLR Tribal Rebates Support Team at tribalrebates@nlr.gov.

H. Will DOE be extending the period of performance for Tribes with conditional awards?

Yes. For Tribes with a conditional award, the base award will remain intact and DOE will lift conditions with a modification. These modifications may include extending the award's period of performance if necessary. However, if the award is active and the period of performance end date is not quickly approaching, the extension will be included as part of the broader modifications package to reduce administrative burden.

I. Will funding still be released in tranches?

No. Program Notice 26-3 removed funding tranches and replaced them with progress tranches. Tribes are now required to submit a progress tranche summary report at least ninety (90) calendar days prior to moving forward with the next progress tranche. All requirements except those superseded by the Program Notice are still in effect. We recommend for Tribes to review previously published guidance alongside Program Notice 26-3.

J. For how long is this funding available to my Tribe? Do we receive all the funding at once, or annually?

By statute, funding is available under the Tribal HEEHR Program until September 30, 2031. Tribes will have access to their funding and will be able to pay for activities eligible for the administrative costs category after they receive their full program award (i.e., upon successful completion of negotiation, DOE will issue an award modification to lift conditional status and release the obligated funding). Tribes will need to continue to complete tasks and program launch readiness activities prior to being approved to launch, at which point Tribes can provide rebate funding to households, multifamily buildings, or Tribally-managed housing.

DOE maintains active oversight and engagement throughout the entire lifecycle of the Tribal HEEHR program. Recipients must develop a robust program design,

obtain DOE approval prior to launch, implement the program in accordance with DOE requirements, and provide ongoing reporting, documentation, and performance data throughout the grant period to ensure accountability, compliance, and successful program outcomes.

K. Do you have any recommendations for forming a Tribal Consortium? What about choosing a third-party agent to serve as an implementation partner?

In general, we recommend that Tribes consider forming a Tribal consortium to pool resources and ensure sufficient administrative funding to support their joint programs. We have seen several Consortia form among Tribes that are already connected, such as Alaska Native Villages that are in the same ANSCA region. For third-party agents, we generally recommend that a Tribe choose a close existing partner, such as a Tribally-Designated Housing Entity. Ultimately, each Tribe may choose the partner it believes is best suited to serve its Tribal members.

L. How do Tribes with a conditional award add more Tribal members to the consortium with their allocation?

To add other Tribes to a Tribal Consortium, the Lead Tribe or its authorized third-party agent must submit a Tribal Council Resolution or Head of Government letter from each new Tribe that wants to join the Consortium. The Lead Tribe or its authorized third-party agent must also submit a revised SF-424 with the revised overall cumulative budget, along with a budget showing each individual allocation from all the Tribes that make up the Tribal Consortium.

Because DOE will not have the capacity to process this change before the December 11, 2026, application deadline, we recommend that the Lead Tribe or its authorized third-party agent include new additional Tribal Council Resolutions and an updated SF-424 as part of its broader application package that it will submit as part of its full application.

M. If a home qualifies and receives a rebate under this program, how does it impact their eligibility for state-based programs?

The underlying program statute allows for a household to receive a maximum of $14,000 in rebates from the High-Efficiency Electric Home Rebate (HEEHR) Program, regardless of whether rebates are provided from a Tribe or from a state program. If a Tribal household receives $14,000 in rebates from a Tribal program or receives the maximum rebate for a given eligible product from a Tribal program, it cannot receive additional HEEHR rebates from the state program. However, a Tribal household that receives rebates from a Tribal HEEHR program

can receive other federal funding from other, non-HEEHR state programs, including from the HOMES Rebate Program and the Weatherization Assistance Program. Funding received from these other state programs must be for distinct individual home upgrade projects, as the statute prohibits a HEEHR rebate from being combined with any other federal grant or rebate. Tribes should communicate with their state program to discuss how to coordinate tracking of rebates allocated from different programs.

N. What is the recommended first step for a Tribe that is interested in participating in the HEEHR program but does not know how to start?

DOE recommends that Tribes review the Program Requirements & Application Instructions, Program Notice 26-3, Administrative and Legal Requirements Document, Tribal funding allocation tables, and the Tribal Program Update Information Session recording to learn more about the program. Tribes are encouraged to submit any questions to tribalrebates@nlr.gov for additional support, including a request for the slides from the information session.

O. How do I register for PAGE? Who do we reach out to with any issues with accessing and using PAGE?

To register for PAGE access, please fill out the PAGE Registration Form. Once you click Submit, you will see a notification indicating that your PAGE Registration Form has been submitted. It will take 3-5 business days for your account to be created. Once your account is created, you will receive an e-mail from PAGE-notification@hq.doe.gov, which will provide further instructions, including how to "accept" your account and to set up your Single Sign-On identification process. If you fill out the PAGE Registration Form and still have difficulty accessing PAGE, please reach out to tribalrebates@nlr.gov.

PRAI Section 2.0 Definitions and Acronyms

A. Can Tribes allow manufactured or mobile homes to be eligible for High-Efficiency Electric Home Rebates?

Yes. Tribes may allow manufactured and mobile homes to be eligible housing types for the High-Efficiency Electric Home Rebates program.

B. What is a "qualified" contractor, distributor, or retailer?

A "qualified" contractor, distributor, or retailer is a participating entity that is known to the Tribe and has received minimal vetting by the Tribe as described in

its Fraud, Waste, and Abuse Mitigation Plan, including any additional requirements imposed by the Tribe.

Tribes should communicate clearly to their residents that (1) an entity's "qualified" status only indicates program participation and minimal vetting; and that (2) the "qualified" status is NOT any quality endorsement or approval of those entities by the Tribe or the U.S. Department of Energy.

Please note that the Fraud, Waste, and Abuse Mitigation Plan is due to DOE 90 days before the Tribe intends to launch its rebate program. It is *not* due by December 11, 2026, and can be deferred to a later submission date.

C. What does it mean to apply for and administer funds "through a Tribally-authorized third-party agent" in the context of a consortium application?

A Tribal Consortium must have a Lead Tribe that is legally responsible for satisfying all grant requirements. The Lead Tribe may authorize a third-party implementer, such as a Tribally Designated Housing Entity (TDHE), to submit the application using the Lead Tribe's UEI, manage grant funds, administer the program, and submit required reporting documents. To designate a TDHE or another Tribal partner organization to act as the third-party implementer on behalf of the Tribal Consortium, the Lead Tribe must create a "Tribal Council Resolution" or "Head of Government Letter" that:

a. accepts the DE-FOA/ALRD-81.041 designation as the Lead Indian Tribe for the Tribal Consortium; and

b. authorizes the TDHE or other Tribal partner organization to be the Consortium's third-party agent that will implement the program.

PRAI Section 3.1.1 Program Requirements: Use of Funds

A. Do product shipping and contractor travel costs count towards project costs or project-related/rebate delivery costs?

Section 3.3 of Program Notice 26-3 now allows the use of rebate funds to cover product shipping and contractor travel costs for all Tribes to provide access to products not locally available. These shipping and contractor travel costs are project-related costs and should be categorized as rebate delivery funds in the Budget Justification Workbook.

B. Are there guidelines or requirements for individuals employed to execute the HEEHR program?

No. The Tribal HEEHR program does not include requirements for staffing. Tribes are able to propose using their administrative funding in flexible ways to administer the program, including for staffing needs. Please be mindful that, per statute and Section 3.1.1 of the Program Requirements & Application Instructions (page 10), "Administrative funds as defined in Section 2.0 must not exceed 20% of the total grant funding over the total duration of the program." Only administrative funds can be used to pay for program support staff.

C. How does braiding and stacking of funding with other federal and non-federal programs work with the Tribal HEEHR Program?

DOE recommends Tribes stack and braid HEEHR funding with other programs and funding sources to maximize impact as permitted by statute, improve cost-effectiveness, and expand access to HEEHR rebates. Effective financial leveraging must comply with two prohibitions: (1) The total combination of all immediate upfront funding sources (federal grants, federal loans, and non-federal funding) cannot exceed the total project cost, and (2) a HEEHR rebate may not be combined with other federal grants or rebates for the same single upgrade.

D. Can rebate funds be used for homes that need electrical upgrades before installing energy-efficient equipment?

Yes. HEEHR offers rebates for Electric Load Service Centers and Electric Wiring. Program Notice 26-3 expands flexibility for eligible household/dwelling units to claim rebates for electrical wiring projects incrementally, up to the maximum rebate amounts for those qualified projects. Households can utilize HEEHR rebates for electrical upgrades and later apply and utilize HEEHR rebates for energy-efficient equipment so long as the rebates do not exceed the maximum rebate amounts.

Each rebated measure is independent of another, with the exception of insulation, which is required prior to installing a heat pump per Section 3.3 of Program Notice 26-3.

PRAI Section 3.1.2 Program Requirements: Rebate Conditions and Levels

A. What appliances and materials are eligible for rebates through the HEEHR program?

Table 2 in the Program Requirements & Application Instructions lists the appliances and materials eligible for rebates, which are set by the IRA Section 50122 statute that governs the Tribal HEEHR program.

This table is included below for reference:

Table 2. Product Service Rebates and Rebate Limitations

Product Rebates		
Upgrade Type	**Qualified Product**	**Rebate Amount Not to Exceed**
Appliance	Water Heating: Electric Heat Pump Water Heater	$1,750
	Space Conditioning: Electric Heat Pump for Space Heating or Cooling	$8,000
	Cooking: Electric Stove, Cooktop, Range, Oven	$840
	Laundry: Electric heat pump clothes dryer	$840
Building Materials	Electric Load Service Center (e.g., home electric circuit panel)[14]	$4,000
	Insulation, Air Sealing, and Ventilation	$1,600
	Electric Wiring	$2,500
Maximum Rebate		$14,000

[14] This term is used generally to refer to the home electric service panel that distributes electricity throughout the dwelling unit. Certain "smart panels" and other devices that allow for the installation of new appliances at existing power or amperage are also allowed.

B. Can a multifamily building qualify for rebates at the moderate-income level if at least 50% of occupied dwelling units have incomes less than 150% AMI, including some households with incomes below 80% AMI?

Yes. Multifamily buildings are eligible for moderate-income rebate amounts if at least 50% of occupied dwelling units have incomes less than 150% AMI. The Program Requirements & Application Instructions defines a moderate-income multifamily building as a building with at least 50% of households with incomes less than 150% AMI. Program Notice 26-3 clarifies that rebate eligibility for multifamily properties is not less than 50% of the occupied dwelling units having low-income or moderate-income households, based on area median income.

PRAI Section 3.1.3 Program Requirements: Low-Income Households

A. Will there be any percent of allocations required to be reserved for low-income households?

No. Program Notice 26-3 removes the requirement for Tribes to reserve a certain percentage of rebate funds for low-income households.

B. Can the Tribe decide which qualifying Tribal member homes receive the rebate? For example, could the Tribe prioritize offering rebates to Tribal elder homes first before extending the opportunity to additional Tribal member homes?

Yes. A Tribe has discretion to design its rebate program to be targeted for select households, such as Tribal elders, first before extending the opportunity to additional tribal member homes. Please note that all households receiving rebates must be income eligible; if household income is less than 80% area median income, the household is eligible for low-income rebate amounts, while household income between 80-150% area median income is eligible for moderate-income rebate amounts.

C. Do low-income tenants need to maintain their low-income designation for two years after completion of an eligible upgrade?

No. The low-income tenant protections included in the Program Requirements & Application Instructions were designed to prevent displacement, or increasing rent, to obtain higher-rent tenants based on property improvements rebated through HEEHR. The building owner does not need to re-verify income after receiving rebates if the household, whose low-income eligibility status was already verified by the Tribal rebate program, remains the same. If the building owner is renting to a new tenant within two years of receiving a HEEHR rebate, the building owner must ensure that the new tenant's household income is less than 80% area median income.

D. My Tribe is interested in giving all of our funding to our Tribal Housing Department or Tribally-designated Housing Entity, who would use the rebates funding to upgrade Tribally-managed housing units. Is that an allowable use of funds?

Yes. A Tribe can choose to use its rebates funding to upgrade Tribally-managed housing, so long as the households that use these housing units are income-qualified. If the Tribally-managed housing units receive Indian Housing Block

Grant (IHBG) funding, these housing units are deemed categorically eligible as low-income homes for the Tribal HEEHR program, meaning that they can receive up to full funding for rebates issued for those housing units. Please note the prohibition on combining a HEEHR rebate with other federal grants or rebates for the same single upgrade remains in effect for categorically eligible housing units.

PRAI Section 3.1.4 Program Requirements: Qualified Electrification Projects

A. Is it allowable to install an electric measure when the current fuel source is gas, propane, or fuel-oil, provided this does not constitute a fuel-switching action and the existing fossil-fuel heating system remains in place and is not decommissioned?

Yes. Electric appliances are allowable for upgrading from existing electric equipment to more efficient electric equipment and for new appliances that do not replace non-electric appliances. Program Notice 26-3 allows dwellings to retain existing fossil-fuel HVAC systems when installing a heat pump, even if the heat pump will not become the primary source of heating and cooling.

B. Will DOE offer guidance on what insulation and air sealing levels are acceptable to become DOE-approved for homes to receive a heat pump?

No. DOE does not set standards for Tribes for appropriate insulation and air sealing levels. Recognizing that each Tribe has distinct climate zones and residential building characteristics, Tribes are best positioned to determine the insulation and air sealing approaches most appropriate for their conditions. Tribes must answer the relevant question in their Narrative Document to include the requirements by which they will determine if a dwelling unit requires additional insulation and air sealing and submit for DOE to review and approve as part of the Tribe program's implementation and oversight.

If a Tribe would like support in determining an appropriate level of insulation and air sealing, your Tribe can reach to NLR at tribalrebates@nlr.gov.

C. Can Tribes set their own efficiency standards for product types that lack ENERGY STAR-certified products? When can Tribes request DOE approval of an alternative equipment efficiency standard?

Yes. With DOE approval, Tribes may set their own efficiency standards for product types that lack ENERGY STAR certification. Per the Section 3.1.4 of the PRAI, ENERGY STAR-certified equipment must be installed when available for all rebated products under the HEEHR Program. However, DOE may consider a

Tribes proposal to use non-ENERGY STAR-certified products in circumstances such as but not limited to: (1) ENERGY STAR certification criteria for a necessary product type does not exist; and (2) ENERGY STAR certification criteria exist, but no product has been certified.

Tribes who wish to propose alternative efficiency standards must submit a detailed justification for deviation from this requirement for DOE review and approval prior to installing the alternative equipment.

For more information on how to apply for an alternative efficiency standard, Tribes can email NRL at tribalrebates@nlr.gov.

D. What scope of work or appliance may Tribes allow for "electric load service center" rebates?

For "electric load service center" rebates provided through the HEEHR program, Tribes may include, in addition to related work on existing circuit panels to accommodate new loads from rebated appliances, new load management devices or equipment (e.g., to avoid upgrades to existing circuit panels) that will help accommodate new loads from rebated appliances.

E. What products are considered eligible for DIY?

Tribes may allow rebates for do-it-yourself (DIY) retail purchases and installations, where such installations are otherwise allowed by Tribal or other local building codes. The exception is HVAC system installations, which must be completed by qualified contractors that are qualified using steps included in the Tribe's Fraud, Waste, and Abuse Mitigation Plan.

F. Can a dual-fuel heating and cooling system replace a single electric heating and cooling system?

Yes. An ENERGY STAR-certified dual-fuel system, comprised of two pieces of equipment (typically an electric unit and a non-electric unit), may replace a single electric system. However, rebates can only be used to cover the costs of the new electric unit, and its related components, as part of the broader system. Rebates cannot be used for the entirety of the dual-fuel heating and cooling system.

Program Notice 26-3 Section 3.3 removes program allowances for upgrades for fuel-switching (i.e., replacement of non-electric appliances) and instead allows rebates for upgrading HVAC and appliances only from existing electric equipment to more efficient electric equipment. Appliances for new construction continue to be eligible under the revised program guidance.

G. How is the ability to perform HVAC emergency replacements impacted by the new requirement to assess if the home has adequate insulation prior to a heat pump upgrade?

Tribes may continue to provide emergency replacements through the HEEHR program. In cases of emergency heat pump replacements, applicants can be approved for replacement of the HVAC equipment and be scheduled to receive an assessment of their insulation at a later date. Rebates for insulation and air sealing, if necessary, can be utilized at a later date. In the Tribe's narrative application, the Tribe must describe how they will ensure appropriate insulation and air sealing or utilization of rebates for insulation and air sealing in a timely manner for any housing units that receive an emergency replacement.

I. Has the requirement for heating and cooling upgrades to be the primary source been removed completely?

Yes. Program Notice 26-3 allows households to retain existing fossil fuel HVAC systems when installing a heat pump, even if the heat pump will not become the primary source of heating and cooling.

J. Is there a way to leverage funds for solar photovoltaic installations? What about for backup generators for my house and/or building?

No. Rebate funding from this award can only be used for the eight specific upgrades referenced in the IRA statute and Table 2 in the Program Requirements & Application Instructions.

K. Do the Build America, Buy America (BABA) or Davis-Bacon Act apply?

No. BABA and Davis-Bacon do not apply to this program.

PRAI Section 3.1.5 Program Requirements: Installation Incentives

A. Under the HEEHR program, can a Tribe offer varying installation incentives for the same measure?

No. The installation incentive amount for the measure cannot vary depending on housing type, geographical location, or household income (low-income or moderate-income).

B. Is the installation incentive for an Eligible Entity Representative in addition to the rebate maximum per dwelling unit?

Yes. The installation incentive is in addition to the rebate maximum per dwelling unit.

C. If the Tribal government performs the installation of the rebated equipment, is the Tribal government eligible to collect an installation incentive?

Yes, the Tribal government is eligible for an installation incentive if it installs an upgrade in a privately-owned home. However, the Tribal government is **not** eligible for an installation incentive if it performs an installation in Tribally-owned or Tribally-managed housing.

D. Are DAC incentives no longer eligible under 50122?

Program Notice 26-3 eliminates all requirements related to disadvantaged communities (DAC), including the issuance of DAC incentives under the HEEHR program.

E. Can Tribes limit the Eligible Entity Representatives who are eligible for low-income installer incentives, or do Tribes have to provide incentives to all entities that complete eligible low-income projects?

No. IRA section 50122(c)(5)(A) requires an "Indian Tribe shall provide to that eligible entity, in addition to the rebate, an amount that (i) does not exceed $500; and (ii) is commensurate with the scale of the upgrades installed as part of the qualified electrification project, as determined by the Secretary." Tribes are not allowed to limit which eligible entity representatives receive installation incentives. Tribes may elect to reserve these incentives for projects carried out in homes and dwelling units with households less than 80% AMI, and/or for installations of equipment not commonly installed to encourage contractors to serve low-income households and learn how to install newer technologies.

PRAI Section 3.1.6 Program Requirements: Processing and Delivering Rebates to Recipients

A. Can Tribes provide mail-in rebates as the sole method of providing rebates instead of at point-of-sale or point-of-installation?

No. Tribes are required by statute to provide rebates at point-of-sale. However, Tribes have options as to how to provide point-of-sale rebates to their members depending on which kinds of rebates they choose to offer within their Tribal rebate program. In addition, if Tribes have a plan to provide point-of-sale rebates via retailers, e-commerce providers, direct-to-consumer, marketplace vendors, and/or point-of-installation via contractors, then subject to full program requirements, Tribes may also allow homeowners and/or multifamily building owners to apply for and receive rebates via mail after the program-qualifying purchase has been made, installed, and verified.

B. Do Tribes have flexibility to not offer rebates through retailers and instead work only with contractors?

Yes. Tribes may determine the point-of-sale or point-of-installation channels for which rebates will be provided. Tribes may choose to work with a variety of retailers, including "big box" stores as well as independent retailers. Tribes may also choose to work directly with contractors and direct installers. As long as Tribes can verify income requirements and provide point-of-sale rebates, the channels for which rebates are offered are at the Tribe's discretion.

PRAI Section 3.1.7 Program Requirements: Verify Income Eligibility

A. Can Tribes use self-attestation to verify income eligibility as long as the Tribe is responsible for verifying eligibility based on the Tribe's eligibility requirements?

No. Per the Program Notice 26-3, Section 3.4, "If self-attestation is allowed, Tribes must verify all rebate applications using self-attestation of income eligibility before issuing a rebate; in cases of emergency replacements, Tribes may verify income eligibility after a rebate has been issued." In practice, this means that self-attestation may be used for Tribal households to initially apply for the rebate program. However, prior to issuing a rebate a Tribe must verify the household's income using an acceptable method (such as reviewing the household's most recent federal income tax filings) or by confirming that the household is enrolled in another program that provides categorical eligibility for the HEEHR program.

PRAI Section 3.1.8 Program Requirements: Data Collection and Evaluation

A. What are the reporting requirements for this program?

Tribes must report both individual project-level data and program-level data to DOE on a semiannual basis. We encourage Tribes to review Appendix B: Data Requirements Guide in the Program Requirements & Application Instructions for specific details on data collection and reporting requirements. After a Tribe submits its full application and negotiates its award, DOE will work with the Tribe to set up its reporting structure before launching the Tribal rebate program.

PRAI Section 3.2.2 Program Requirements: Consumer Protection Through Quality Assurance

A. Are geotagged photos still required for the HEEHR program?

Yes. Geotagged photos are still required for the HEEHR program. However, if technical limitations affect the ability to obtain geotagged metadata, Tribes may propose an alternative approach to pre-installation and post-installation photos that provides assurance of installation in the Narrative Document.

Geotagged photos are a critical element of fraud, waste and abuse mitigation in the High-Efficiency Electric Home Rebates Program. These photos are important documentation to ensure that eligible equipment is installed in eligible homes. DOE depends on our Tribal partners to reduce and mitigate fraud, waste, and abuse in this program and photos are an important method towards that goal.

B. Under Section 3.4 of Program Notice 26-3, what does it mean that DOE is removing requirements for "internal review plans"?

In accordance with the Program Notice, DOE is replacing the Consumer Protection Plan with a Fraud, Waste, and Abuse (FWA) Mitigation Plan to prioritize good stewardship of taxpayer funds. See the forthcoming Fraud, Waste, and Abuse Mitigation Plan template for the specific requirements.