

# Federal Funds Update Call

Sam Rockwell & Avery Prine | Federal Funds Implementation Team

# April 10<sup>th</sup> Agenda

## **Presentation (15 minutes)**

- 1. Introduction: Team & Purpose
- 2. Updates: Disruptions, NOFOs, EOs and Guidance
- 3. Topic Area Spotlight: Energy with Assistant Commissioner Lissa Pawlisch

**Questions and Group Discussion (15 minutes)** 

## Team Intro & Overview

Mission: Partner with Minnesota entities to access and deploy federal funds to accelerate state goals.

#### The Team



**Leah Corey, Director** 

Leah.Corey@state.mn.us



Sam Rockwell, Coordinator

Samuel.Rockwell@state.mn.us



**Avery Prine, Analyst** 

Avery.Prine@state.mn.us

#### **Our Focus Areas**

- 1. Monitor the federal landscape
- 2. Build & coordinate federal funding strategy
- 3. Monitor and evaluate federal funds deployment
- 4. Curate, develop & share federal funding technical assistance

# Purpose of this call

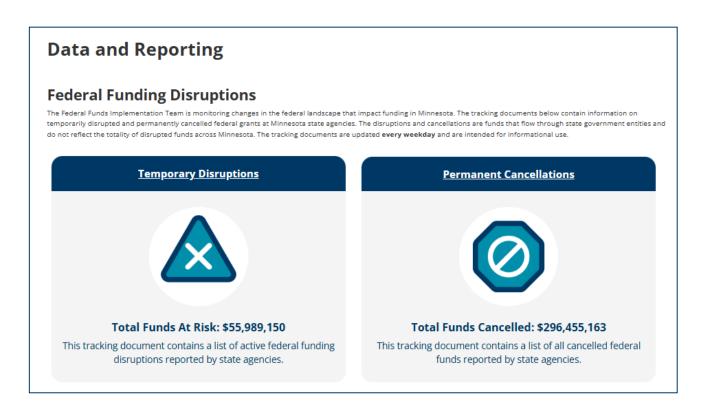
## While we can't provide clarity right now, we can:

- Share information to facilitate risk analyses
  - Tracking reimbursement blockages
  - Tracking cancellations
  - Tracking NOFOs
  - Tracking guidance and EOs
- Provide a space for others to share information and strategies
- Build a support network of people working through similar problems

# Published: Federal Funding Disruptions Tracking

# Two tracking documents now available on the MMB website!

- Located under Data and Reporting (Budget > Federal Investments > Data and Reporting)
- Temporary Disruptions and Permanent Cancellations
- Updated every weekday ~4pm CT



# IIJA/IRA-related NOFO's since March 27, 2025

#### **Trends**

- Two IIJA NOFOs released (highlighted below), no new IRA NOFOs
- Uptick in energy/grid-related funding opportunities

New/Updated Notice of Funding Opportunities (NOFOs)	Legislation	Award Ceiling	Deadline
Generation III+ Small Modular Reactor Program (NOFO reissued)	IIJA	\$800,000,000	4/23/25
Collaborations Advancing Rapid Load Additions (CARLA)	Other	\$6,000,000	4/28/25
Joint Assessment of Resilience in Vulnerable Infrastructure Systems (JARVIS)	Other	\$1,000,000	5/2/25
Small Shipyard Grant Program	Other	\$8,750,000	5/15/25
Tribal Wildlife Grant Program (TWG)	Other	\$200,000	6/20/25
Safe Streets and Roads for All (SS4A) Program (New NOFO Released)	IIJA	\$25,000,000	6/26/25
DOI's U.S. Standard Grants Program	Other	3,000,000	7/10/25

## **New Executive Orders**

## <u>Directing the Repeal of Unlawful Regulations</u> (4.9.25)

• General directive to agencies to repeal "unlawful regulation"

## Zero-based Regulatory Budgeting to Unleash American Energy (4.9.25)

• Directs energy- and environment-related agencies to establish sunset dates for all administrative rules; for rules to remain in effect past sunset date, rules must be affirmatively extended.

#### Reinvigorating America's Beautiful Clean Coal Industry (4.8.25)

• Lifts barriers to coal mining on federal lands; review and potentially repeal regulations that seek to transition away from coal power; other related provisions.

## Protecting American Energy From State Overreach (4.8.25)

Directive to Attorney General to stop enforcement of state climate laws.

## Strengthening the Reliability and Security of the United States Electric Grid (4.8.25)

EO title is self-explanatory.

## A Note on Recent Guidance

**Example Guidance: Department of Labor**. "Starting on March 17, 2025, grant recipients are required to submit a justification with each payment request submitted to PMS."

# Reminders/Best Practices

- Grants with signed agreements appear to be somewhat stable for the time being
- Some grants may be terminated for convenience—check terms and conditions
  - The standard terms and conditions are being amended by EPA to make grants easier to cancel for convenience
  - Stay consistent with terms and conditions
- Get any directives in writing
- Know that calls may be recorded
  - Folks from the federal government and potentially DOGE in particular are joining meetings.
- Reporting and funding applications: anticipate use of AI screening for key words.
- Court cases continue: Covid and FEMA fund cancellations were blocked; reductions in force blocked, then unblocked.



# Energy Spotlight with Assistant Commissioner Lissa Pawlisch



# Supplemental Info

## Al screening for words and themes

- Analysis has shown that words associated with themes in issued executive orders and federal agency guidance are being removed or replaced on federal websites.
- Federal agencies may be conducting Al screening for these or similar words in federal grant applications and reporting.
- Applications and reports that omit these words or themes may not trigger additional review.

The New York Times				
accessible	discriminated	inclusive	privilege	
activism	discrimination	inclusive leadership	privileges	
activists	discriminatory	inclusiveness	promote diversity	
advocacy	disparity	inclusivity	promoting diversity	
advocate	diverse	increase diversity	pronoun	
advocates	diverse backgrounds	increase the diversity	pronouns	
affirming care	diverse communities	indigenous community	prostitute	
all-inclusive	diverse community	inequalities	race	
allyship	diverse group	inequality	race and ethnicity	
anti-racism	diverse groups	inequitable	racial	
antiracist	diversified	inequities	racial diversity	
assigned at birth	diversify	inequity	racial identity	
assigned female at birth	diversifying	injustice	racial inequality	
assigned male at birth	diversity	institutional	racial justice	
at risk	enhance the diversity	intersectional	racially	
barrier	enhancing diversity	intersectionality	racism	
barriers	environmental quality	key groups	segregation	
belong	equal opportunity	key people	sense of belonging	
bias	equality	key populations	sex	
biased	equitable	Latinx	sexual preferences	
biased toward	equitableness	LGBT	sexuality	
biases	equity	LGBTQ	social justice	