



Gem State Air Quality Initiative

Kickoff Meeting

October 19, 2023

Riverside Hotel

Boise, Idaho and Virtual



STATE OF IDAHO
DEPARTMENT OF
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY



University of Idaho
McClure Center for
Public Policy Research

Agenda



Welcome



Overview of the Initiative



Outreach



Ideas and Projects



Q&A and Discussion

Logistics

Instructions for those in the room

- Please save questions until the Q&A portion of the meeting.
- Idea forms are at the tables and the online version can be accessed using the QR code on the hard-copy form.
- Today's slides will be available on the DEQ website.

Instructions for those online

- Please add questions to the Q&A function in Zoom and we will address these during the Q&A portion of the meeting.
- We will add mentioned links in the chat, including the idea submission form.
- Today's slides will be available on the DEQ website.

Gem State Air Quality Initiative

The GSAQI is funded by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Climate Pollution Reduction Grants (CPRG), part of the Inflation Reduction Act.

Phase 1: Planning (Non-competitive)

- Priority Plan (March 1, 2024)
- Comprehensive Plan (Summer, 2025)

Phase 2: Implementation (Competitive)

- \$4.6 billion in nationally competitive grants
- Implementation grants can fund a variety of measures outlined in Idaho's Priority Plan.
- Applications due April 1, 2024

Benefits to Idaho

- Improved air quality throughout Idaho, including in rural communities.
- Improved health benefits throughout Idaho, including in rural communities.
- Support for the creation of high-quality jobs across Idaho.
- Enhanced statewide community engagement.
- Improved understanding of statewide GHG emissions.

Our Priority Plan



Key Details

- Due March 1, 2024
- Focus on priority sectors and measures
- Measures should be “shovel ready”
- Measures must be included in the priority plan to be eligible for Phase 2 implementation funding

Our Comprehensive Plan



Collaboration

How do we get there?

Goal

Support job creation, lower energy costs for families, and deliver cleaner air in places where people live, work, play, and go to school, including in rural communities.

Outcome

Support existing and new Idaho initiatives and engaging stakeholders to improve air quality and reduce emissions.

Priority Plan

Collaborate closely with Idahoans to develop a list of priority voluntary measures to reduce GHG emissions in priority sectors (eligible for CPRG Implementation Grants).

Comprehensive Plan

Collaborate closely with Idahoans to develop a list of voluntary measures to reduce GHG emissions to meet emission reduction goals.

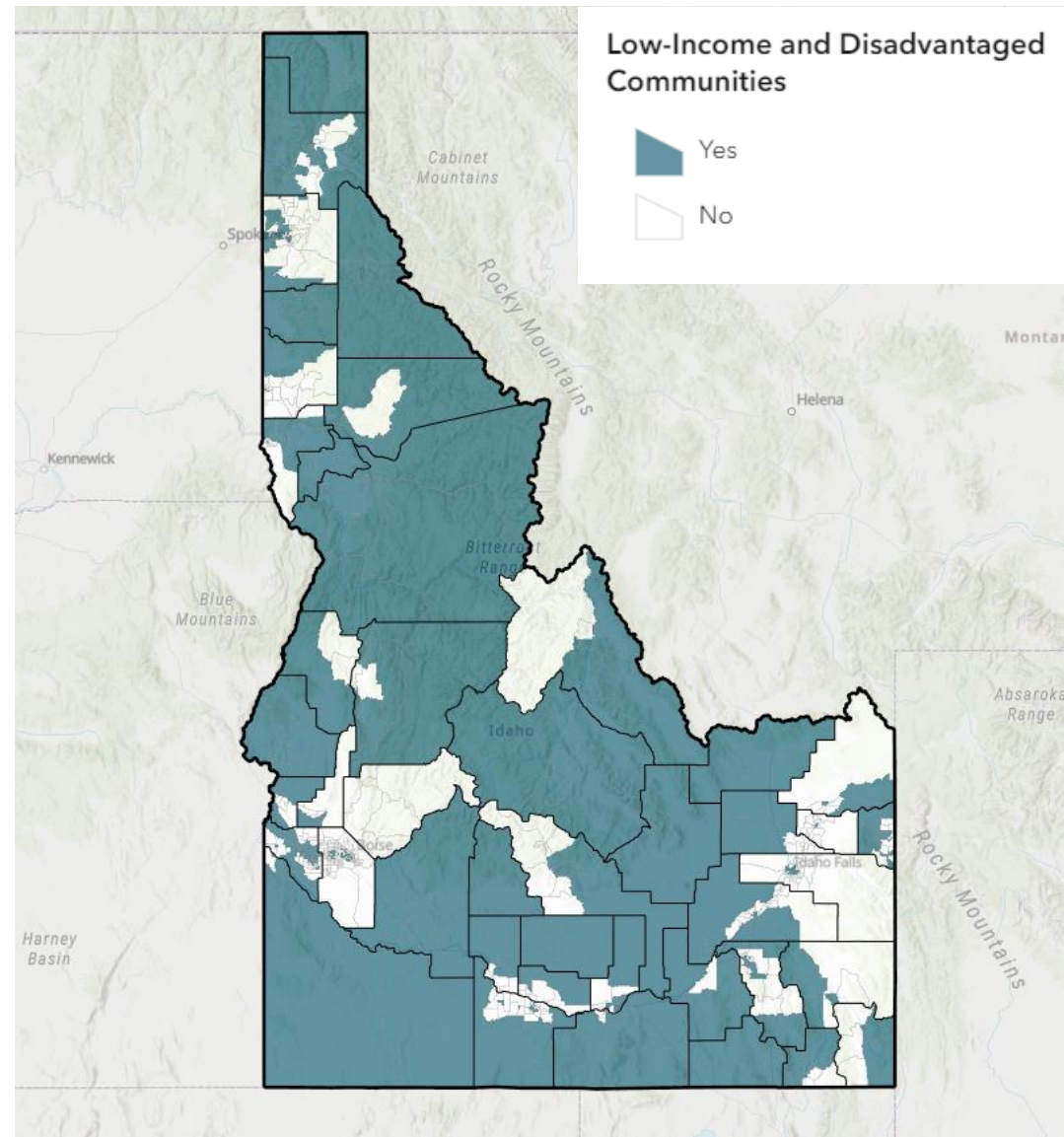
Priority Plan Timeline



What does this mean for Idaho?



Low-Income and Disadvantaged Communities in Idaho



Greenhouse Gas Emission Sources



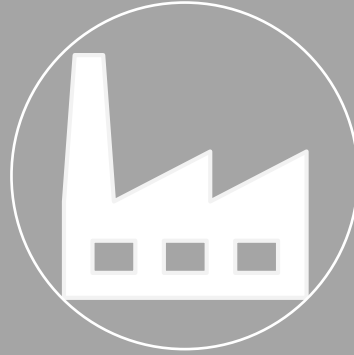
Agriculture

- Livestock
- Land and crop management
- Farm equipment



Transportation

- Passenger vehicles
- Medium and heavy-duty trucks
- Trains
- Ships
- Airplanes



Industry

- Fuel combustion for power or heat
- Industrial processes



Commercial

- Fuel combustion for heat and cooking
- Landfills and waste services
- Use of fluorinated gases in ACs



Residential

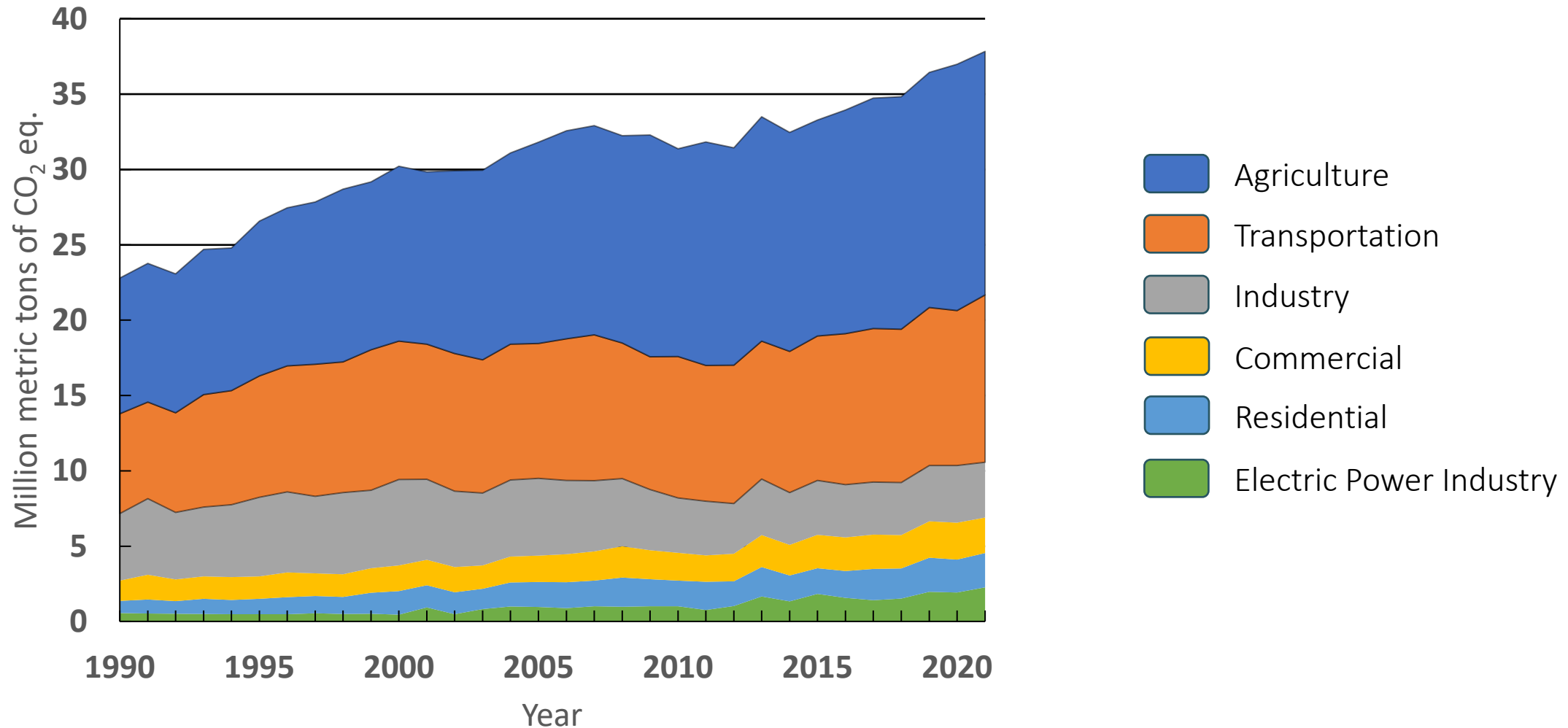
- Fuel combustion for heat and cooking
- Use of fluorinated gases in ACs



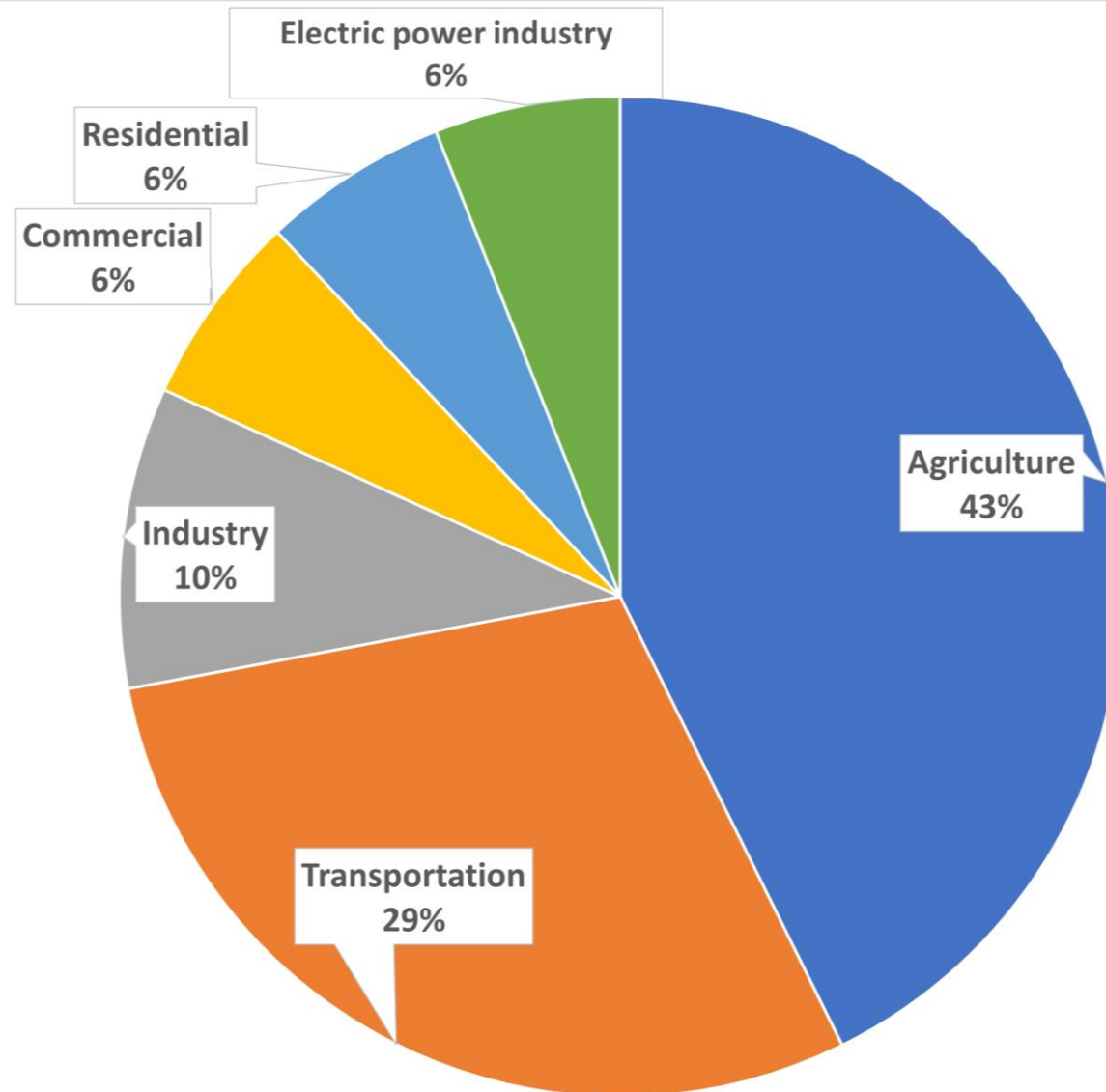
Electric Power Industry

- Fuel combustion to produce electricity

Idaho's Greenhouse Gas Emissions Trends



Idaho's Greenhouse Gas 2021 Emissions



Example Measures



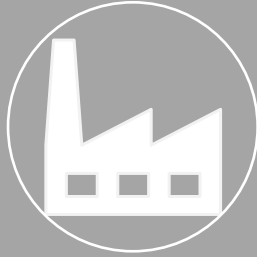
Agriculture

- Climate-smart agriculture
- Manure management alternatives



Transportation

- Alternative fuels
- Public transportation
- Fleet upgrades



Industry

- Equipment upgrades
- Waste heat utilization



Commercial

- Improve energy efficiency
- Energy recovery from landfills
- Recycling and composting programs



Residential

- Improve energy efficiency
- Conversion to heat pumps
- HVAC system upgrades



Electric Power Industry

- Energy storage systems



Carbon Removal

- Regenerative agriculture and forestry
- Soil conservation
- Expanding urban forests and green spaces

Implementation Grants

Purpose

- To fund measures outlined in Idaho's Priority Plan

Eligible Entities

- State agencies, municipalities (including councils of government, metropolitan planning commissions, or other regional organizations comprised of multiple municipalities) and tribes.

Key Details

- Applications for state and municipality implementation grants are due April 1, 2024.
- Optional notice of intent to apply recommended by February 1, 2024.
- Anticipated number of awards to states and municipalities nationally: 30-115 (\$2-500 million each award)

Idea Form



<https://www.deq.idaho.gov/gem-state-air-quality-initiative-idea-form/>



Gem State Air Quality Initiative Idea Form

The Gem State Air Quality Initiative provides Idaho communities access to **\$4.6 billion** in competitive funding to address **existing and new** community, government, industry, and non-governmental organization projects aimed at improving air quality and reducing emissions. The goal of this initiative is to support job creation, lower energy costs for families and businesses, and deliver cleaner air by reducing air pollution in places where people live, work, play, and go to school, particularly in rural communities.

To access this funding, projects need to be listed in a priority plan that will be developed as part of the initiative. Don't miss out; the deadline to identify measures for the plan is **November 8, 2023**.

Please visit [Gem State Air Quality Initiative](#) for more information and sign up for updates.

Email GSAQI@deq.idaho.gov for any questions.

Please answer the following question about the project(s) you would like to recommend be included in the Gem State Air Quality Initiative. These can be existing or new projects, small or large in scope, that will improve air quality and reduce emissions.

1. First and last name: *(Required)*

2. Email address: *(Required)*

3. Organization name: *(Required)*

4. City or county in which you reside: *(Required)*

5. Describe your recommended project(s). If you have quantifications related to emissions reductions, please provide that information. There is space below to upload supporting materials. *(Required)*

6. Are you interested in applying for implementation funding? *(Required)*

- ☐ Yes
☐ No
☐ Unsure

7. Upload supporting materials. Only one file can be submitted. If submitting multiple files, email GSAQI@deq.idaho.gov.

No file chosen

Max. file size: 128 MB.

Get Involved

Learn More



<https://www.deq.idaho.gov/GSAQI>

Stay Up-to-date

Receive notifications via the box at the bottom of the above website.

Submit Ideas



Please add your ideas to:

<https://www.deq.idaho.gov/gem-state-air-quality-initiative-idea-form/>

Reach Out

For any questions, please email
gsaqi@deq.idaho.gov

Questions & Discussion

Reminder: For those online, please add your questions and ideas to the Q&A feature in Zoom.

