

June 12, 2024

Keishaa Austin
Director, Office of State and Community Energy Programs
U.S. Department of Energy
1000 Independence Avenue SW
Washington, DC 20585

Dear Director Austin:

The National Association of State Energy Officials (NASEO) respectfully requests the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) to extend the July 12, 2024, deadline for the Training for Residential Energy Contractors (TREC) Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA). The Energy Auditor Training (EAT) FOA is also due on July 12, 2024, and in most states the EAT and TREC applications are being developed by the same staff and may include some of the same private sector partners. This creates a significant burden on the states, may impact the quality of applications, and could disadvantage states with smaller staff sizes. As the TREC applications are generally more complex than the EAT applications, they would benefit from additional time for development and refinement.

Because the July 12, 2024, deadlines are rapidly approaching, it is critical to receive news of a decision on an extension as soon as possible. If an extension is provided within days of the current deadline, it will have the effect of not being an extension at all, because states will need to proceed apace until it is formally announced. We appreciate the tremendous efforts that your office and all DOE staff are making to advance dozens of new energy programs. Because the important work contemplated under EAT and TREC supports implementation of many of these programs, as well as state-funded initiatives, we are eager for EAT and TREC to be implemented rapidly and effectively. However, the simultaneous deadlines limit states' ability to develop their applications to the fullest extent possible.

Please let me know if NASEO can be of assistance as you consider this request.

Best regards,

David Terry, President, NASEO

1300 North 17th Street Suite 1275 Arlington, Virginia 22209

Telephone: 703.299.8800 www.naseo.org

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