

OVERVIEW OF ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE IN CONSENT-BASED SITING

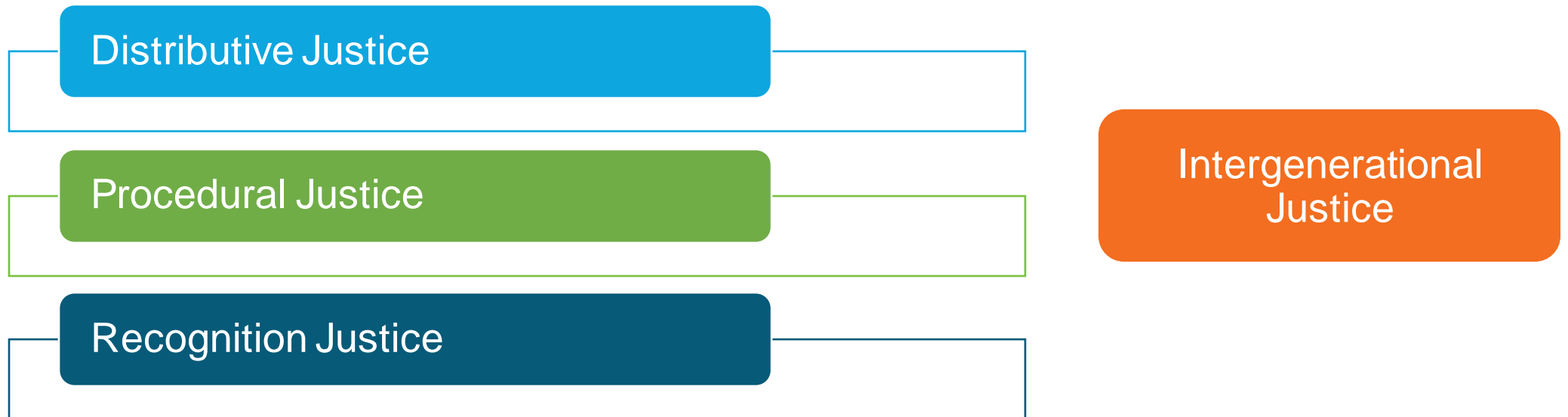


MARISSA BELL, PHD
Social Scientist

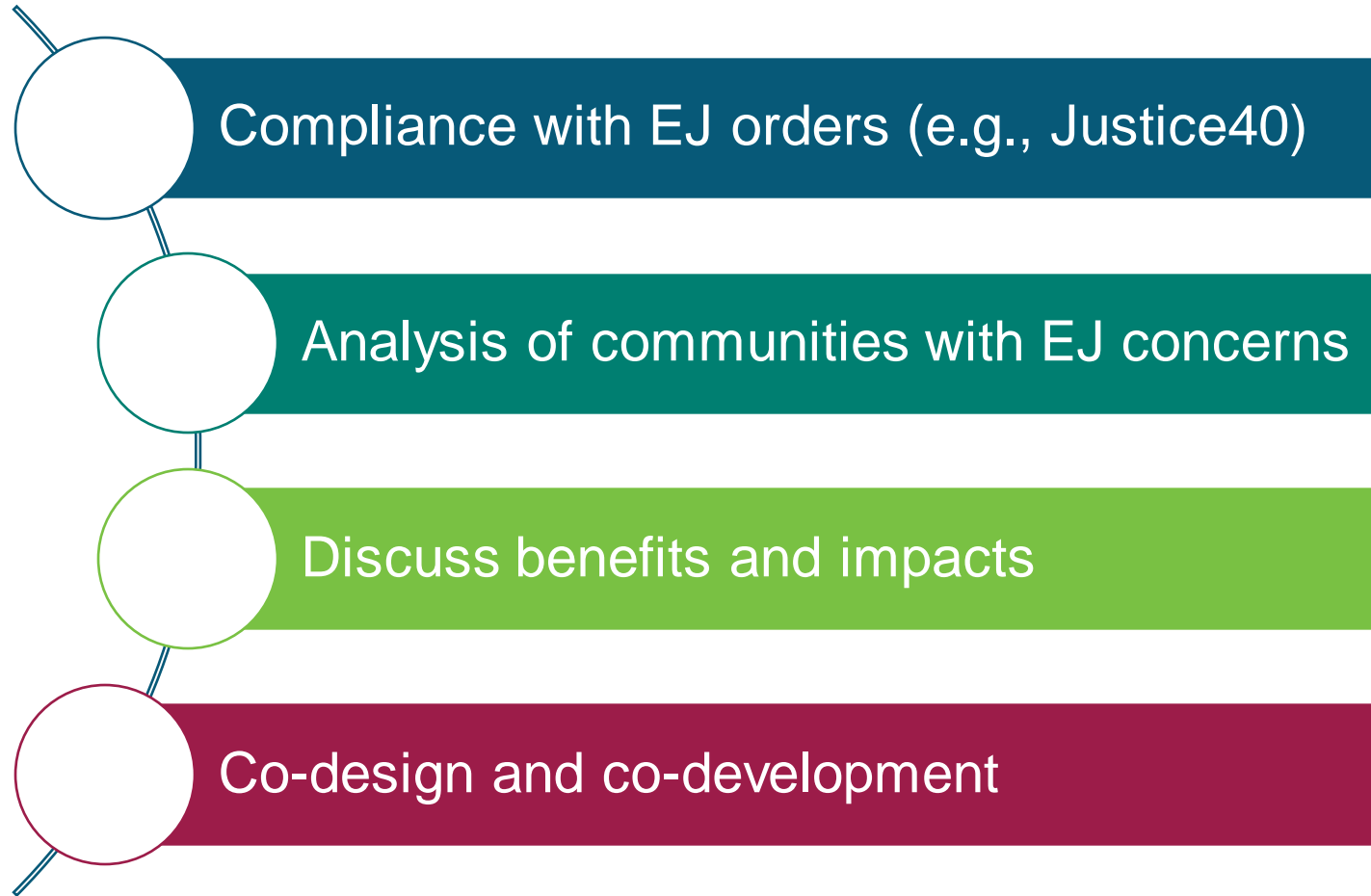
Office of Integrated Waste Management
Office of Spent Fuel and Waste Disposition

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE (EJ)

The **fair treatment** and **meaningful involvement** of **all people**, regardless of **race, color, national origin, or income, Tribal Affiliation, or disability** with respect to the development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies.



DISTRIBUTIVE JUSTICE



PROCEDURAL JUSTICE



Request for Information

- 225 responses
- Comment summary and analysis



Adaptive Process

- Engagement with Tribes, States, local communities
- Encourage involvement in process- and decision-making
- Remove barriers to participation



Funding Opportunity Announcement

- Capacity building, mutual learning, and engagement

PROCEDURAL JUSTICE AND CONSORTIA

- Strengthen engagement
- Build relationships and trust with underserved communities
- Engage in mutual learning
- Develop community capacity to engage in decision-making
- Understand and define consent



REMOVING BARRIERS TO PARTICIPATION

- Communicating willingness to listen
- Developing partnerships
- Providing resources to engage
- Offering resources to inform
- Dialoguing and engaging through consortia
- Strengthening accessibility measures



REACHING COMMUNITIES WITH LIMITED INTERNET ACCESS



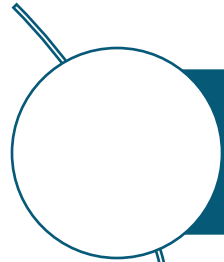
Challenges

- Lack of internet infrastructure / availability
- Affordability
- Digital literacy

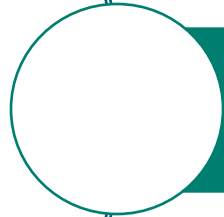
Opportunities

- Expand event access (e.g., audio dial-in)
- SMS communications
- Design content for mobile devices
- Develop alternative engagement strategies
- Partner with local organizations and institutions

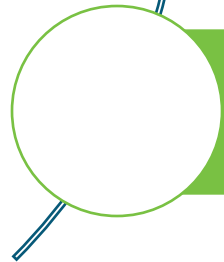
RECOGNITION JUSTICE



Partnering with minority-serving institutions



Continuing to develop engagement plans for underserved communities



Identifying communities with EJ concerns

TRIBAL RECOMMENDATIONS

- Respect Tribal sovereignty, comply with all laws and federal trust responsibility, United Nations Declaration of Free Prior and Informed Consent
- Develop trust and relationships with Tribes
- Evaluate impacts on and off reservations
- Incorporate Indigenous knowledge into siting
- Provide resources for participation in process and emergency response
- Establish a new organization to manage nuclear waste
- Increase accessibility of materials



EXPERT RECOMMENDATIONS FOR TRIBAL ENGAGEMENT AND CONSULTATION STRATEGY

1. Understand and respect Tribal sovereignty
2. Provide resources to Tribes for participation and decision-making
3. Build capacity and internal resources for Tribal engagement
4. Utilize early and transparent community
5. Engage with, and through, trusted programs

CROSS-INSTITUTIONAL COORDINATION: ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE & TRIBAL RELATIONS



Compliance with
Executive Orders
(e.g., Justice 40 initiatives)



Intra-agency
collaboration



Inter-agency
collaboration

INTEGRATING ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE INTO DIGITAL TOOLS



Ongoing work in CURIE resource portal to improve user experience, including taxonomies to better tag consent-based siting related content.



Working group has been formed for various geographic information system (GIS) digital tools (e.g., Land-area Identification, Tagging, and Exploration (LITE), and Stakeholder Tool for Assessing Radioactive Transportation (START))

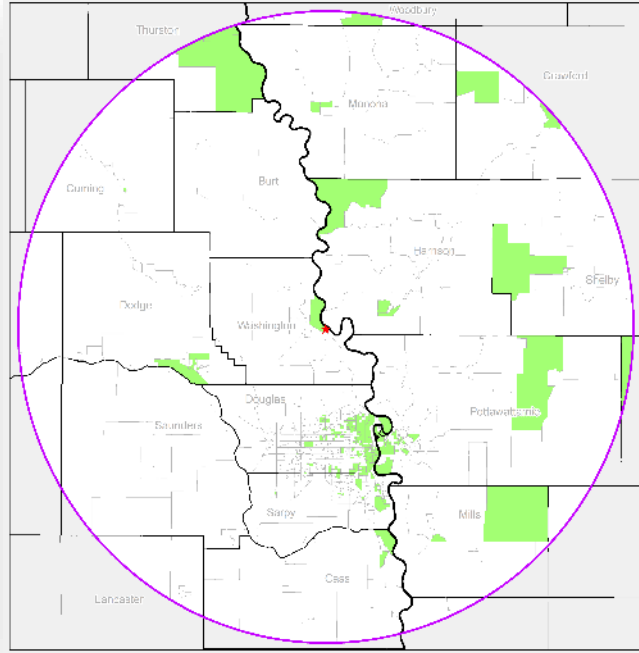


One goal of the working group is to identify unique and shared data layers, such as proximity to disadvantaged communities.

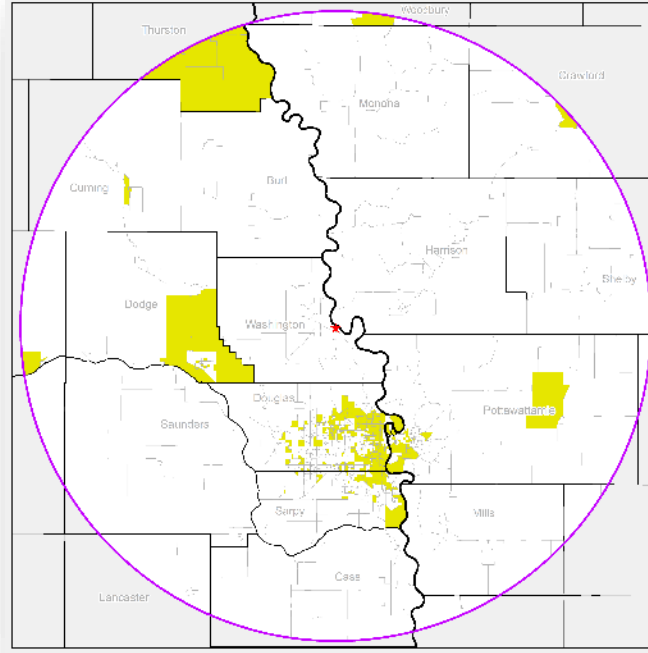


Ongoing enhancements in LITE to allow users to perform proximity analysis for select geographical locations based on various GIS data layers.

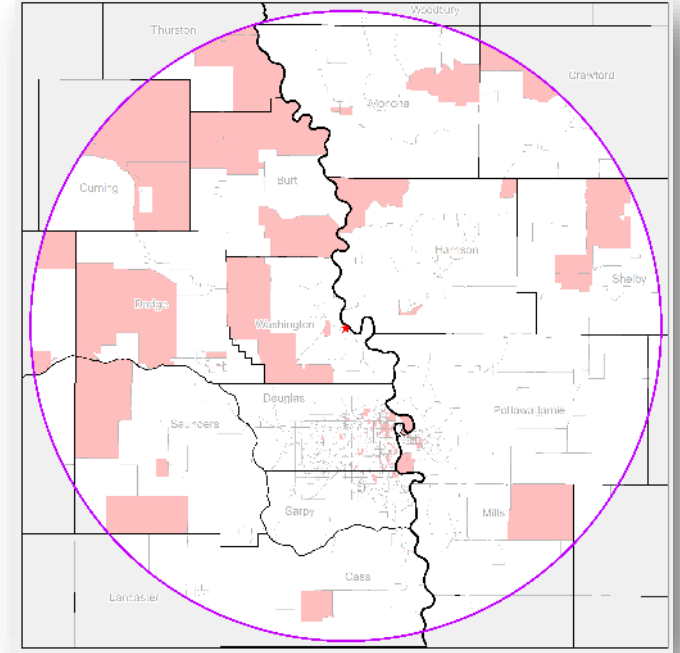
SAMPLE ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE GIS DATA LAYERS



LOW-INCOME

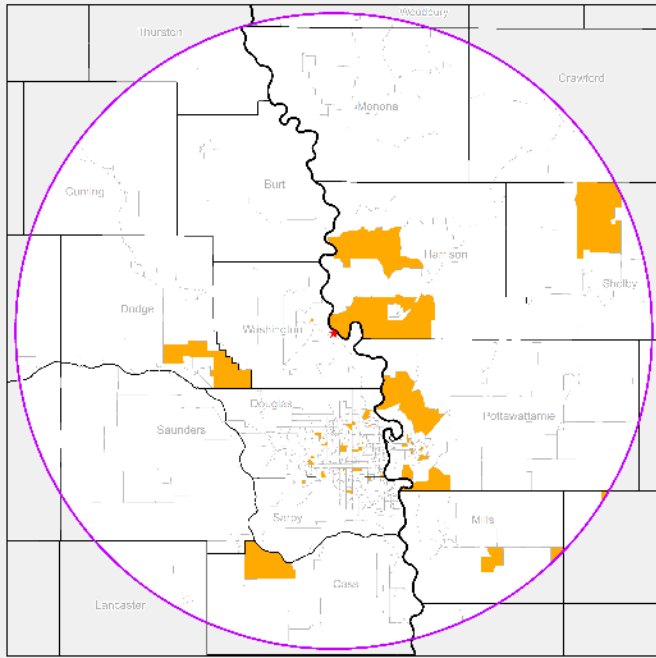


PEOPLE OF COLOR

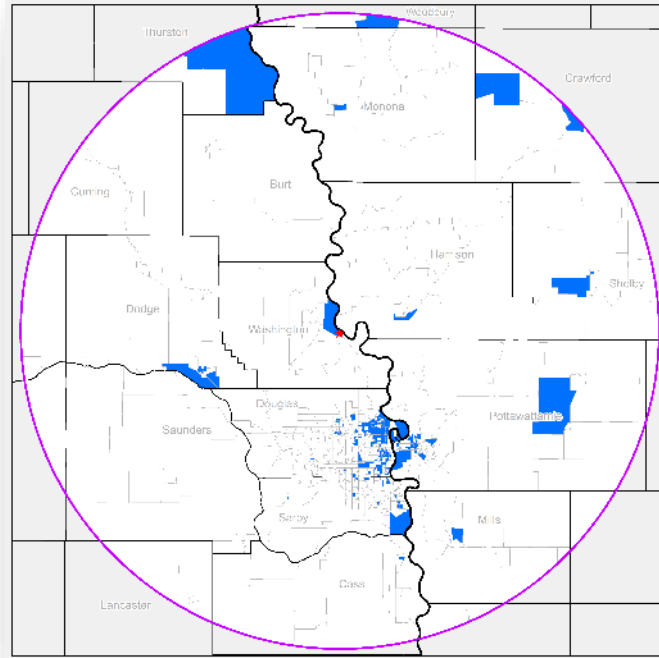


NO BROADBAND ACCESS

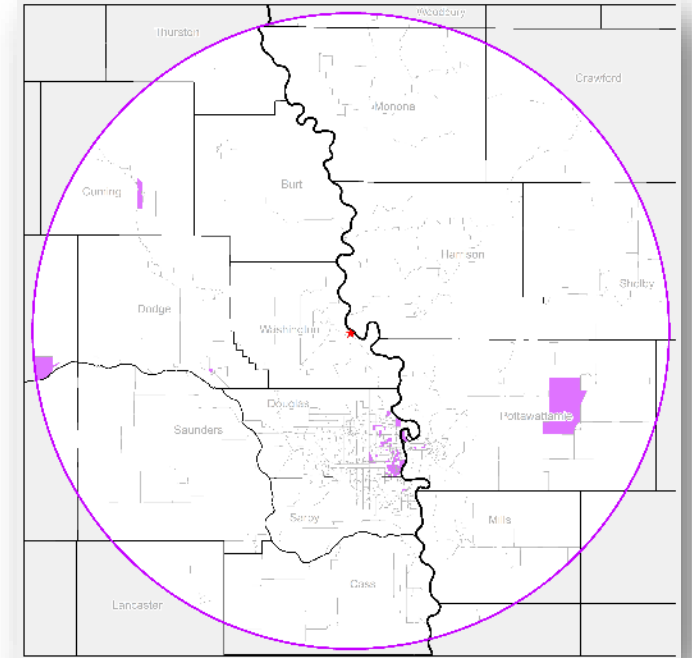
SAMPLE ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE GIS DATA LAYERS



NO HEALTH CARE
COVERAGE

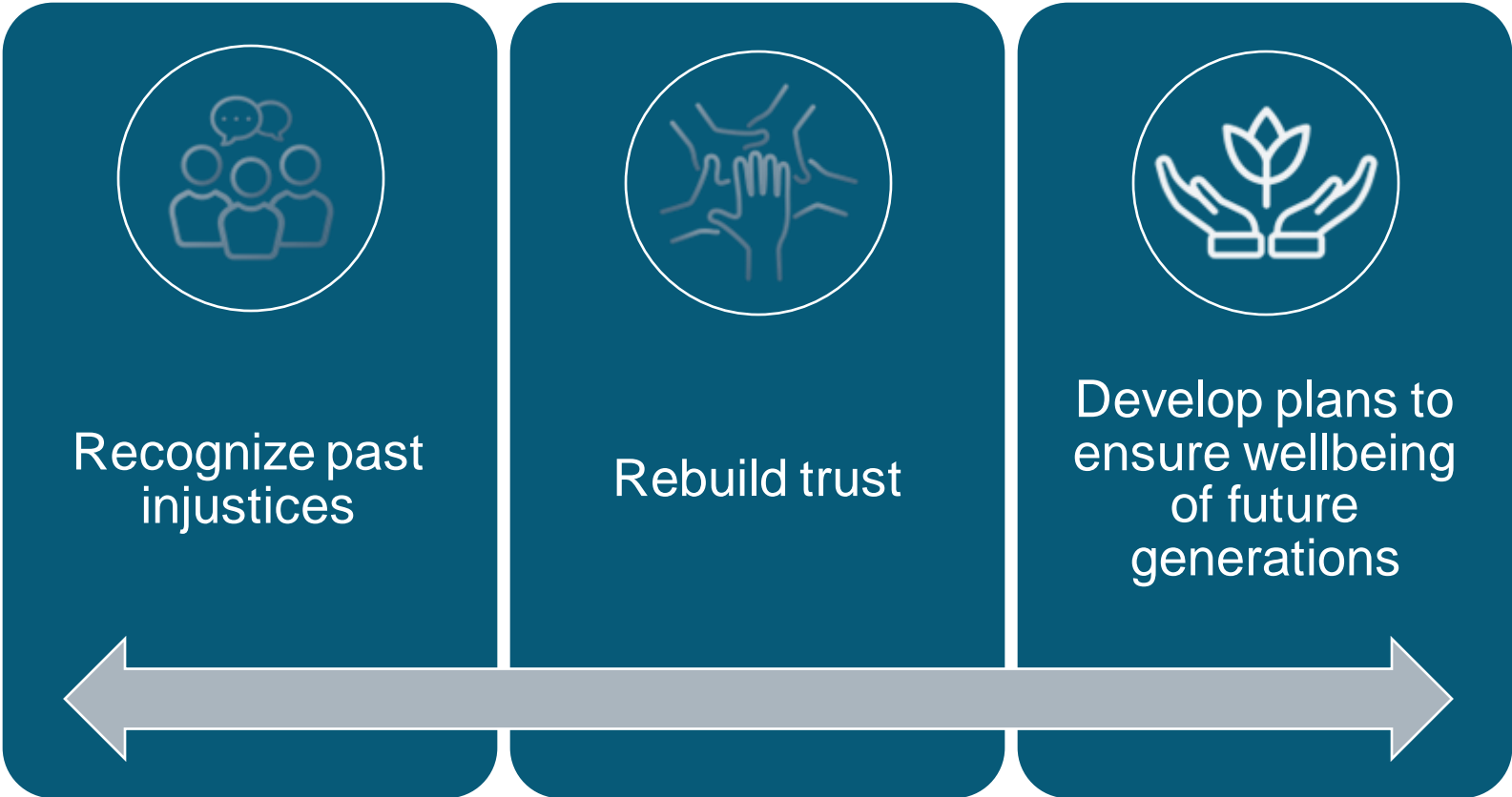


FEDERAL FOOD
ASSISTANCE



LIMITED ENGLISH
PROFICIENCY

INTERGENERATIONAL JUSTICE



THANK YOU

For more information, visit us at
energy.gov/consentbasedsiting

