



Advancing Opportunities for Community Benefits through Energy Project Development



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What is a Community Benefit Agreement (CBA)?

A CBA is signed by a **community benefit group** and a **developer**, outlining a broad range of community benefits the developer agrees to provide, **in return for community support of the project.**



What is America's Energy Profile?

- The United States has become the world's **leading producer of oil and natural gas combined**,
- The cost of **renewable power generation** is down, while the extraction of **fossil fuels** is more economical,
- In the past decade, crude oil production has grown 88%,
- Since 2000, natural gas use in the electricity market has increased by 86%,
- Natural gas is forecasted to account for 33% of total energy consumption by 2040, and
- Renewable energy's share is poised to reach 14% within the same timeframe.

Data Source: EIA Annual Energy Outlook 2017



What is the Opportunity?

- **3.64 million Americans** work in traditional energy industries,
- **1.9 million Americans** are employed in energy efficiency,
- Generation and Fuels employers forecast **4% growth** in the coming 12 months, creating almost **58,000 jobs**,
- **23%** of Fuels employees will need **replacement** soon, since they are 55 years or older,
- **71%** and **68%** of Electric Power Generation and Fuels sector employers, respectively, report **hiring difficulty**,
- **Solar jobs** now employ nearly **300,000 people**, and
- **30% of the 6.8 million employees** in the U.S. construction industry work in energy or energy efficiency.



Data Source: Department of Energy U.S. Energy and Employment Report (2016)

Increasing socio-economic opportunity with large-scale energy projects...

- Assist communities and policymakers to **drive local community development**,
- Focus on **CBAs** and large-scale energy development, and
- Inform key stakeholders about existing/upcoming opportunities.



What are the Developer's CBA Benefits?

- ✓ Community support **reduces risk** for developers, by fostering cooperation between *government* and *community groups*,
- ✓ Developers get needed **public subsidies** and/or **government approvals** more reliably, and
- ✓ Community coalition agrees to support the project, with **public testimony** and **written statements**,



What are the Community's CBA Benefits?

- ✓ Job creation,
- ✓ Local and diverse **hiring and training commitments**,
- ✓ Living wage and other benefits,
- ✓ **Education partnerships**, between developers and community schools,
- ✓ Support for local small businesses,
- ✓ Improvements to open spaces, parks and playgrounds,
- ✓ **Affordable housing** and rehabilitation,
- ✓ Support for **senior centers** and **child-care facilities**, and
- ✓ State and/or local **economic incentive packages**.





How can Developers get engaged?

- Identify stakeholders and build public trust – this is essential for a successful CBA,
- Engage community representatives and coalitions, while communicating benefits via open dialogue,
- Ensure stakeholder representatives are part of the project development team **early in the process**, and align their vision w/ project goals and schedules,
- Initiate project briefings with key federal and state government officials,
- Train company project representatives about community outreach and CBAs, and
- Educate stakeholders about the technical aspects of the project.



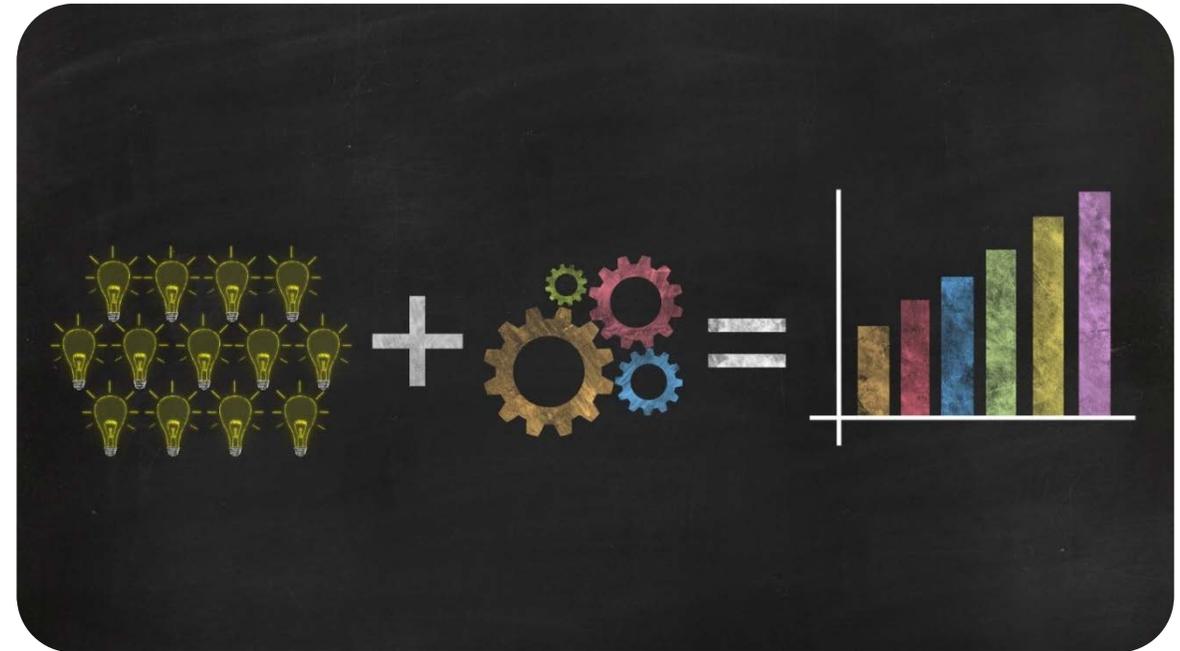
How can city & state governments support CBAs?

- Inform community coalitions of proposed developments,
- Encourage developers to enter good-faith negotiations with responsible community coalitions,
- Respect the negotiating process and honor CBAs, and
- Fold CBAs into Public-Private Partnership agreements, where appropriate, for added enforcement.



There are many different CBA examples, each tailored for each community – no one experience or CBA is the same.

The following slides include examples and best practices for communities, developers, state and local governments, and other stakeholders.



Community Benefit Agreement Items

- Establishment of annual **County Economic Trust Fund**,
- **5% Supplier Goal** for local, qualified contractors,
- **60% of full-time, operations workforce recruited locally**,
- **Construction job** training,
- School, education and assisted living aid, and
- **Road repair and transportation.**





Community Investment Agreement Items

- Scholarship program,
- Pre-apprenticeship, **construction skills training**,
- On-the-job training programs,
- **Education** and skill-building programs,
- Implementation of full-service community schools,
- **Local-hiring** process and plan.



✓ Educational Materials

- Guide to Advance Opportunities for Community Benefits through Energy Project Development,
- Community Benefit Agreements: Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs), and
- Advancing Opportunities for Community Benefits, PowerPoint.

✓ CBA Examples

- Robbinston, Maine – Downeast LNG Inc.'s *Liquefied Natural Gas Import Terminal Project*, and
- Richmond, California – Chevron U.S.A. Inc.'s *Richmond Refinery Modernization Project*.

For more information, please visit:

[DOE's Office of Minority Business and Economic Development](#)



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