IRA Tax Credits for Electric Vehicles

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Disclaimer

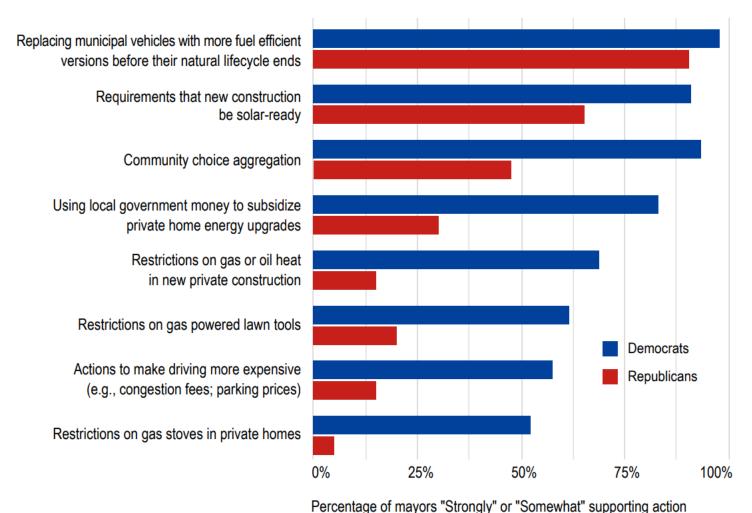
- This presentation provides an overview of Treasury/IRS guidance and Inflation Reduction Act tax credits and is intended for general informational purposes only and does not constitute legal or tax advice.
- Please refer to Treasury/IRS guidance for more detailed information.

Overview

- 1. Background on IRA tax credits for electric vehicles and charging infrastructure, importance for local governments
- 2. Overview of Treasury's proposed regulations on direct pay
 - Eligibility and other issues
 - Process for claiming direct pay credits

Importance of IRA Credits to Local Governments

Figure 16. Support for Local Actions to Reduce Emissions, by Party



Source: Menino Survey of Mayors, 2022

Tax Credit for Qualified Commercial Clean Vehicles

- Credit equals 30 percent of the value of a fully electric or fuel cell-powered vehicle
- Capped at \$7,500 for small vehicles (<14,000 pounds) and \$40,000 for large vehicles (>14,000 pounds)

Tax Credit for Alternative Fuel Vehicle Refueling Property

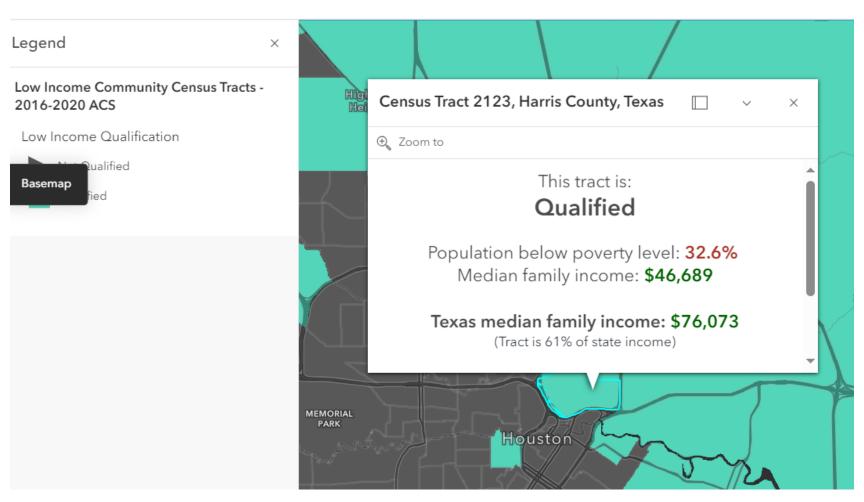
- Credit equals 30% of the cost of charging infrastructure for electric vehicles, up to \$100,000 for each item of property
- Property must be located in a <u>nonurban area</u> or a <u>qualifying low-income</u> <u>census tract</u>
- Full 30% credit available only if prevailing wage and apprenticeship requirements are met (if not, the credit is worth 6 percent of equipment costs)

Tax Credit for Alternative Fuel Vehicle Refueling Property

- Non-urban area: based on Census designations
- Qualifying low-income census tract:
 - poverty rate is at least 20%, OR
 - the median family income does not exceed 80% of statewide median family income, or if in a metropolitan area, the greater of 80% statewide median family income or 80% of metro area median family income

Finding Qualifying Low-Income Census Tracts

Low Income Communities (2016-2020 ACS)



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Source: Esri Low-Income Communities Mapping Tool

EV Example

- Plan: A city had a fleet of 20 ICE passenger vehicles. In April 2023, the city spent \$800K to replace this fleet with electric vehicles and installed charging infrastructure at a cost of \$100K.
- Pre-Credit Cost: \$900K
- Vehicle Credit: \$150,000 (\$7,500 x 20)
- Charging Infrastructure Credit: \$30,000 (\$100K x 30%)
 - Low-Income Community Charging Infrastructure? Yes
 - Labor Requirements for Charging Infrastructure? Yes
- Total Credit: \$180,000
- Post-Credit Cost: \$720,000
- Direct Pay? Yes

Eligibility for Direct Pay

- Exempt orgs (I.R.C. sections 501(a), 115)
- State or political subdivision
 - Includes territories, agencies, and instrumentalities
 - Public power
- Indian tribal governments and subdivisions
- Alaska Native Corporations
- Tennessee Valley Authority
- Rural electric coops

Other Issues

- How payments are made: lump sum, made after tax return is filed in the year after the property is placed in service
- Stacking: credits can stack with other grants up to 100% of property basis
- Partnerships: generally not eligible, even if all partners would be eligible
- Elections must be timely and are irrevocable
- Direct ownership required

Process for claiming direct pay

- 1. Identify and pursue qualifying project
- 2. Pre-filing w/IRS
 - E-portal
 - Per-credit, per-year
 - Include key information required by IRS
 - Timing: lead time for registration number prior to filing tax return
- 3. File tax return
 - Due date: due date (including extensions) for the tax return for the taxable year for which the election is made
 - If no tax filing requirement, generally Form 990-T and Form 3800
 - Generally May 15th for calendar year taxpayers; 6 month extension available
 - No late elections
- 4. Timing of payment: paid out after placed in service date and after tax return is due for the year in which credit is claimed

Claiming Direct Pay

- Information needed:
 - Taxpayer identifying information (name, EIN, location, etc.)
 - Taxable year
 - Type of tax return
 - List of applicable credit properties + identifying info
 - Other IRS-required information
- Signed under penalties of perjury

Example Timeline



- City purchases
 EV fleet and installs chargers
- City completes pre-registration process on IRS e-portal
 - City receives registration numbers for EV fleet and chargers

- Deadline to file tax return
- Option to file for a 6-month extension
- City receives direct payment

^{*}Due date for filing tax return depends on entity's accounting period. For calendar year taxpayers, due date is May 15.

Resources

- IRS Direct Pay FAQs: https://www.irs.gov/credits-deductions/elective-pay
 pay-and-transferability-frequently-asked-questions-elective-pay
- Proposed regulations:
 https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2023/06/21/2023-12798/section-6417-elective-payment-of-applicable-credits
- Form 990-T and instructions: https://www.irs.gov/forms-pubs/about-form-990-t
- Low-income census tract map: https://www.esri.com/arcgis-blog/products/arcgis-living-atlas/decision-support/mapping-low-income-communities-in-the-us/
- Direct pay resources from Lawyers for Good Government:
 https://www.lawyersforgoodgovernment.org/elective-pay-ira-tax-incentives