

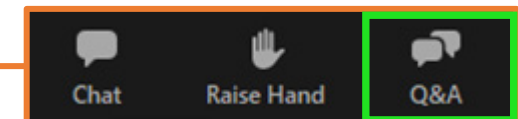
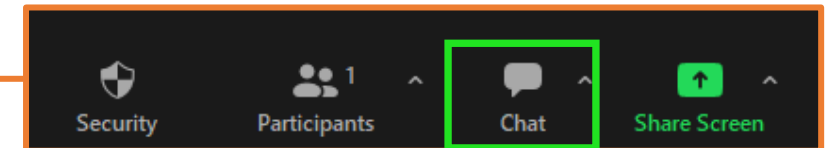
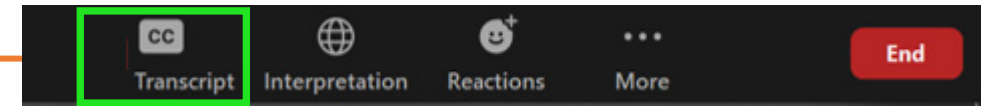
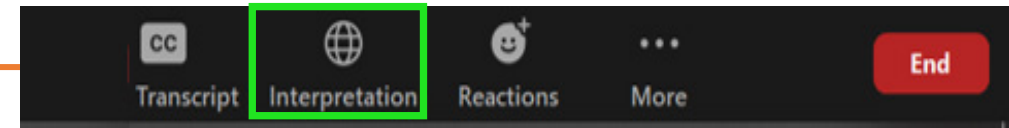
EPA Pollution Prevention Grants for Increasing Access to Safer and More Sustainable Products

Listening session, September 8, 2022



Zoom Logistics and Technical Orientation

- Welcome! Please select your preferred language by clicking on the interpretation icon on at the bottom of your screen. (English speakers must also select English.)
 - ¡Bienvenidos! Si necesita interpretación, seleccione el idioma que prefiera haciendo clic en el botón de interpretación situado en la parte inferior de la pantalla.
- For closed captioning of today’s discussion, please select the closed captioning icon at the bottom of your screen.
- All participants are in listen-only mode now. Please message “Hosts and Panelists” via the chat if you experience any technical difficulties with Zoom. If unable to use the chat, please email webinarsupport@erg.com with any technical difficulties.
- Please add all feedback and any clarifying questions to the Q&A.
- Today’s session will not be recorded, however we will be capturing all shared feedback received for consideration. Please refrain from sharing any confidential or privileged information.



Welcome!

Welcome to today's listening session for development of new EPA Pollution Prevention Grants for increasing access to safer and more sustainable products such as those certified by EPA's Safer Choice program and identified by EPA's Environmentally Preferable Purchasing (EPP) program

Moderator:

- Joy Onasch, ERG

Speakers:

- Tom Tillman, Pollution Prevention Program, EPA
- Dan Helfgott, Pollution Prevention Program, EPA
- Stephan Sylvan, Environmentally Preferable Purchasing Program, EPA
- Aerin Kirk, Safer Choice Program, EPA

Session Goals

EPA will provide a brief background on the:

- New Pollution Prevention (P2) grant opportunity
- Environmentally Preferable Purchasing (EPP) and Safer Choice Programs

We will gather feedback* from you to help us:

- Design a new P2 grant program
 - For state and tribal programs to provide technical assistance to businesses to increase access to safer and more sustainable products for communities with environmental justice (EJ) concerns

**Our goal for this listening session is to gather your input to help inform the development of the new P2 grant program, not to seek consensus or agreement.*

Pollution Prevention (P2) Grants Background

In 1990, The Pollution Prevention Act (PPA) defined P2, also known as “source reduction,” as:

- Any practice that reduces, eliminates, or prevents the creation of pollution and its release into the environment or waste stream prior to recycling, treatment, disposal or cleanup.
 - This includes manufacturing, buying and using safer, environmentally preferable, and more sustainable products.

The PPA made provision for P2 grants:

- To provide information, tools and technical assistance to businesses to help them develop and adopt P2 practices.
- Are awarded to states, state-affiliated entities (colleges and universities), the District of Columbia, the U.S. Virgin Islands, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, any territory of the U.S., federally recognized tribes and intertribal consortia.

Funding and Structure for New P2 Grants

President Biden signed the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) in November 2021

- Includes \$20 million/year over 5 years (FY22-26) for EPA's P2 grant program (under section 6605 the PPA)

EPA is establishing **two new P2 grant opportunities** in FY23 & FY25 to: 1) increase access to safer and more sustainable products to support EJ, and 2) promote P2 for businesses in disadvantaged communities

- 2-year grants
- Must involve technical assistance/resources to businesses
- Eligible applicants: states, state-affiliated entities (universities), tribes, intertribal consortia, U.S. territories
- There is no requirement for matching funds from the grantee
- The first Request for Applications (RFA) is expected to be published in February 2023

Today's discussion is regarding the new BIL-P2 Grant opportunity promoting increased access to safer and more sustainable products to support communities with EJ concerns

Timeline of New Grants



EPP (Environmentally Preferable Purchasing) Background

EPP is often called “sustainable purchasing,” “sustainable procurement,” or “sustainable institutional purchasing”

EPP is the procurement of goods and services that have a reduced impact on human health and the environment compared to other products in the marketplace.

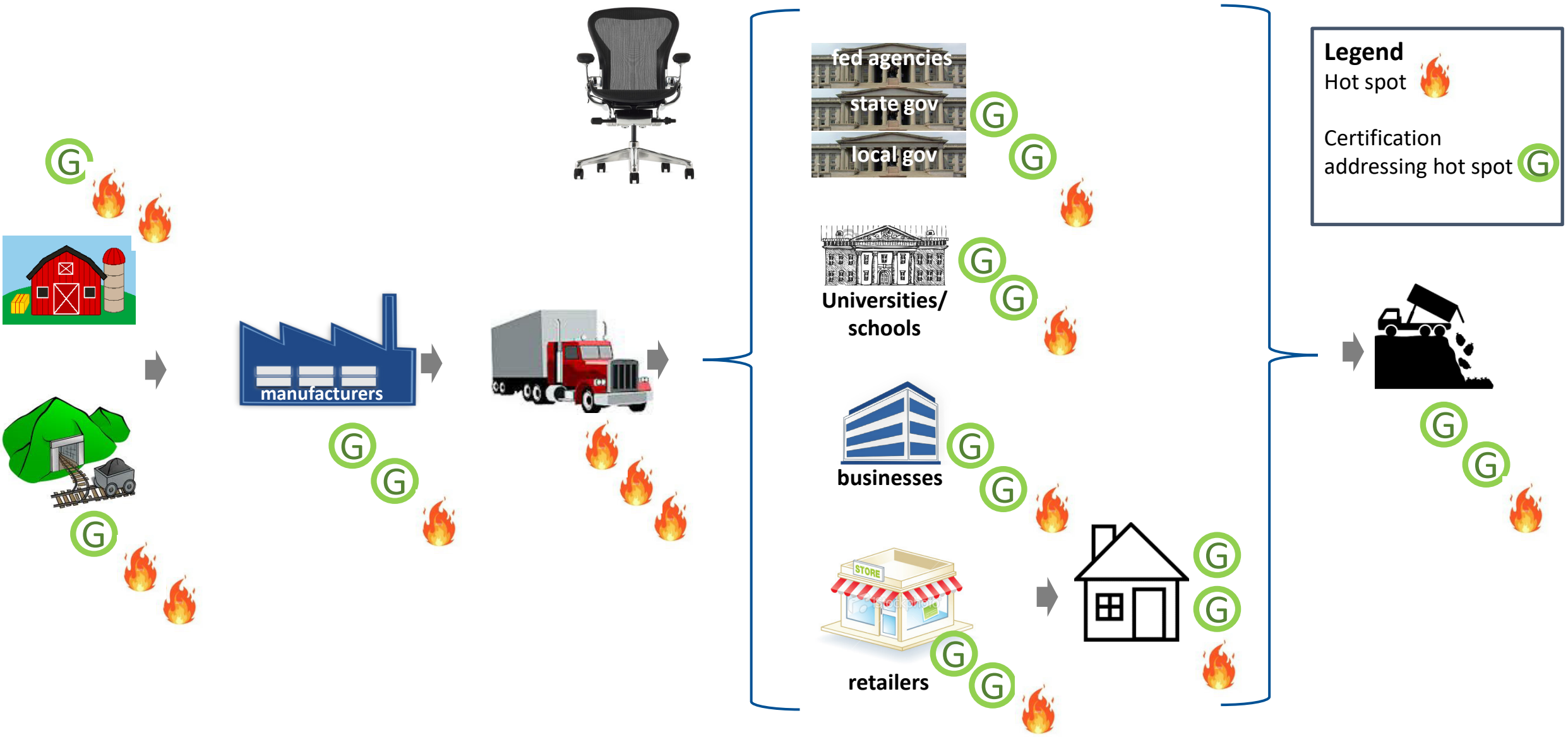
The goals of EPP are often to reduce climate impacts, improve the health of frontline communities, prevent pollution, and increase industry competitiveness.

Many government agencies, companies, universities, and schools have established and implemented EPP policies and programs, increasing demand for safer and more sustainable products.















EPA’s EPP Team helps purchasers identify and procure environmentally preferable products and services by recommending ecolabels and standards that address a wide array of environmental/human health “hot spots.”

Increasing purchasers’ awareness of such ecolabels and standards can increase demand for safer and more sustainable products; manufacturers will respond to market forces.

Example of an ecolabel/standard used for EPP



Accessible Version of Previous Slide: Example of an ecolabel/standard used for EPP

Life cycle stage	Sustainability hotspots (each H represents multiple hotspots)	This theoretical ecolabel can fully or partially address these hotspots (H)
Raw material extraction		
Farming		
Manufacturing		
Transportation		
Use of product by ...		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Governments •Schools/universities •Businesses •Retailer/distributor •Household 		
Disposal/end of life		

Safer Choice Background

Safer Choice is a certification by a federal government agency that products **contain only safer chemical ingredients** and that they are safer for families, workers, pets, communities, and the environment.

To be Safer Choice-certified, products must:

- Meet the Safer Choice Standard
- Be covered under a Partnership Agreement between the manufacturer and EPA
- Undergo annual audits

Design for the Environment (DfE) is a certification for disinfectant products that are low-concern for human health and the environment.



Safer Choice Product Types

- **Household & Facility Cleaning**

- All-Purpose Cleaners, Appliance Cleaners & Rinse Aids
- Automatic Dishwasher Products
- Carpet Cleaners & Floor Care Products
- Degreasers
- Dish Detergents & Soaps
- Granite/Stone/Wood/Leather Cleaners
- Kitchen/Countertop Cleaners
- Laundry Detergents, Fabric Softeners & Pre-Treatments
- Odor Removers
- Pet Care Products
- Toilet Bowl Cleaners
- Tub/Tile Cleaners
- Window/Glass Cleaners

- **Health & Beauty**

- Hand Soaps

- **Automotive & Outdoor**

- Aircraft Cleaning Products
- Athletic Field Paint
- Car Care Products
- Deicers
- Dust Control Products
- HVAC Maintenance
- Marine/RV Cleaners
- Outdoor Furniture Cleaners
- Parts Washers

- **FIFRA Disinfectants**

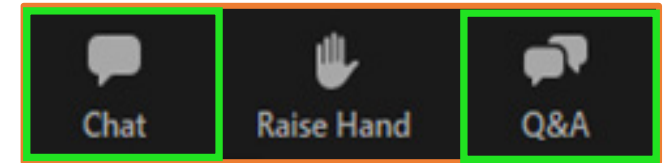
- Certified under Design for the Environment (DfE)

Businesses Working with Safer Choice

- Formulators-Product Manufacturers
- Retailers (consumer awareness)
- Distributors (Institutional/industrial/worker access)
- Custodial/maintenance provider businesses
- Facilities where cleaning/maintenance occurs
 - e.g., hospitality, childcare, office buildings, gyms, restaurants
- Other service providers
 - e.g., vehicle maintenance, pet care

Clarifying Questions and Discussion Reminders

- Type your comments and questions in the Q&A. Comments and questions related to technical difficulties can be added to the chat or emailed to webinarsupport@erg.com.
- If there is a lot of participation, your input may not be read out loud, however, EPA will compile and read all the comments from this session.
- This is not the only opportunity to share feedback. Participants are encouraged to send additional feedback to [EPP SaferChoice Grants@epa.gov](mailto:EPP_SaferChoice_Grants@epa.gov)



Clarifying Questions?



Example Projects

Increase access to safer and more sustainable products by:

- Developing and conducting training for household or institutional cleaning professionals on the availability and value of using safer cleaning products, including workplace and home use of Safer Choice & DfE-certified products
- Providing businesses, hospitals, schools, childcare centers, etc., located in/near underserved communities with resources to help them purchase and use safer/sustainable products
- Assisting retailers or distributors in stocking and promoting Safer Choice-certified and other safer/sustainable products in underserved communities
- Updating procurement systems to make it easier for suppliers of safer/sustainable products to sell those products
- Encouraging safer/sustainable products for construction and maintenance of affordable housing units

Feedback – Project Focus

- Are the projects mentioned on the previous slide or related projects of interest to your organization?
 - Can you recommend improvements to these ideas?
 - Do you see any barriers to doing any of these projects?
- What other project ideas do you have that could significantly increase access to safer and more sustainable products?
- The EPA is looking for these projects to address public health and environmental issues for communities with EJ concerns
 - Do you see any barriers to pursuing projects under this grant?
 - Or barriers to facilities working with you on these issues?

Feedback – Project Focus (continued)

- How would you define and measure whether your organization had success in implementing your grant-funded project?
- How can we ensure grant-funded projects will benefit underserved communities?
- Could you also think of a project that would reduce greenhouse gas emissions while making EJ a primary focus of the project?
- How could grant-funded projects be structured to ensure the greatest possible public health/environmental impact?

Feedback – Administrative Focus

- How can EPA structure the grant program so eligible applicants can effectively partner with other organizations (e.g., NGOs, associations, community organizations, local governments, other states, other state universities, etc.)?
 - Can you suggest ways we can address any existing or potential barriers in partnering?
- How much funding would be necessary to support your project idea(s)? We are thinking about larger and fewer grant awards compared to previous years of EPA P2 grants.
- What barriers exist to potential applicants of this grant and what can be done to minimize those barriers?

Contact Information & Additional EPA Grant Information

Contact:

If you wish to provide additional feedback or have questions, please contact [EPP SaferChoice Grants@epa.gov](mailto:EPP_SaferChoice_Grants@epa.gov)

Main EPA P2 website:

<https://www.epa.gov/p2>

EPA P2 grant training from 2022:

<https://www.epa.gov/p2/fy22-fy23-pollution-prevention-grant-program-webinars>

More Information On Safer Choice and EPP/Sustainable Purchasing

Safer Choice

- [Safer Choice Home Page](#)
- [Design for the Environment \(DfE\) program](#)
- [Safer Choice Fact Sheet](#)
- [Why Choose Safer Cleaning Products? \(video\)](#)

EPP/Sustainable Purchasing

- [EPP Home Page](#)
- [Recommended Standards and Ecolabels](#)
- [Introduction to sustainable purchasing by EPA's EPP Team and EPA Office of Land and Emergency Management \(video\)](#)
- [SPLC's \(Sustainable Purchasing Leadership Council\) introduction to sustainable purchasing \(video\)](#)