



Tupelo Community Reserve

A HIVE FUND & JUSTICE CLIMATE FUND PARTNERSHIP

The U.S. South has an extensive pipeline of clean energy projects poised for construction, spurred in part by historic federal investments and clean energy tax credits. These projects promise to lower energy bills, strengthen climate resilience, and expand economic opportunity in under-resourced communities. But rollbacks in federal funding and policy have stalled progress, placing hard-won momentum at risk.

To help these shovel-ready projects move forward, Hive Fund for Climate and Gender Justice (Hive Fund) and Justice Climate Fund (JCF) are launching **Tupelo Community Reserve**, a credit enhancement facility that uses philanthropic capital to unlock significantly larger amounts of private lending for clean energy projects. The facility acts as a financial safety net to reduce perceived risk for lenders, expand the amount they can lend, and bring clean energy where it's needed most.

WHY A CREDIT ENHANCEMENT FACILITY?

The facility will deploy an initial \$10 million in reserve capital to help Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFIs), green banks, Minority Depository Institutions (MDIs), and other mission-driven lenders finance more clean energy projects with greater confidence. This is expected to unlock more than \$65 million by 2029 for clean energy projects in communities facing high energy costs, extreme weather, and aging infrastructure—while also strengthening long-term climate lending.

OUR PARTICIPATORY DESIGN PROCESS

Our credit enhancement facility is being developed alongside the community lenders, developers, and community-based organizations who will ultimately use it. Participants are helping shape the product through one-on-one interviews, virtual design sessions, and in-person convenings, with additional working sessions held throughout the process. Building the product with real lenders and communities makes it more likely to fit real needs and earn the trust it needs to launch.



Connect With Us

To learn more, contact

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UNLOCKING PROJECTS THAT CENTER COMMUNITY BENEFITS

Community lenders are well positioned to support projects that deliver clear benefits to local communities, including:

- Rooftop and community solar at municipalities, schools, hospitals, and on underutilized land
- Solar- and battery-powered resilience hubs in trusted community spaces for reliable power during outages
- Solar generation that supports safe drinking water and reliable wastewater treatment
- Energy efficiency upgrades that reduce energy bills for families and small businesses



IMPACT DRIVEN

These investments do more than unlock climate capital. They also advance long-term outcomes that improve public health, reduce climate risk, and promote community-wide prosperity.

- **Affordable energy bills** for households, small businesses, and essential public services
- **Access to high-quality, well-paying jobs and community ownership** of clean energy assets
- **Increased community resilience** to power outages and extreme weather
- **Recruitment of new clean energy champions** and stronger civic participation



THE OPPORTUNITY

The promise of federal funding and clean energy tax credits helped spark new collaborations across the U.S. South that are ready to pivot to other forms of financing. Philanthropic investment in the credit enhancement facility now can sustain this momentum, unlocking projects that deliver benefits like lower bills, reliable power, well-paying jobs, and community ownership of energy assets. By closing this financing gap, funders can give these projects the boost they need to deliver tangible relief to everyday people and, ultimately, build power for clean energy at scale.

ABOUT HIVE FUND AND JUSTICE CLIMATE FUND

Hive Fund raises funds and makes grants to groups working to accelerate the transition from dirty to clean energy in the U.S. South in ways that center justice, redistribute power, and create healthier, safer, and more prosperous communities.

Justice Climate Fund (JCF) is a national nonprofit mobilizing capital and resources to strengthen under-resourced communities across America. JCF drives transformative investments in climate and clean energy solutions that deliver energy independence, support cleaner air and water, create healthier communities, and build economic and environmental resilience. JCF's national network includes more than 400 community lenders and state and local stakeholders across the country.



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