

Emissions Reduction and Mitigation Plan (E-RAMP)

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), through the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA), has awarded the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) federal funds to create the Emissions Reduction and Mitigation Plan (E-RAMP). The program has two broad objectives and is split into two phases, the planning phase and the implementation phase.

E-RAMP Objectives

- Reduce ambient air pollution while supporting the creation of quality jobs and lowering energy costs for Kansans.
- Accelerate work to empower community-driven solutions in their neighborhoods.

E-RAMP Deliverables

- Priority Action Plan (PAP) – Due on March 1, 2024
- Comprehensive Action Plan (CAP) – Due Summer 2025
- Final Status Report – Due Summer 2027

Planning Phase

The first phase of the program supports the development of state plans to reduce emissions, improve carbon sinks and identify investment-ready policies, programs.

This phase will conclude with a list of near-term, high-priority and implementation-ready measures that can reduce pollution, improve carbon sinks and includes an analysis of emission changes achieved with such projects while creating quality jobs and lowering energy costs for Kansans. The list of projects will be submitted to EPA in the PAP.

Implementation Phase Outlook

The second phase of this program is the implementation phase which involves a competitive nationwide grant opportunity. EPA will establish funding priorities. Only projects identified in the PAP are eligible for the implementation phase.

E-RAMP Stakeholder Engagement

Stakeholder engagement is vital to the success of E-RAMP. KDHE is working with a variety of entities, including but not limited to, state agencies, municipalities, regional planning organizations, Kansas tribal nations, industries and businesses and other organizations as well as citizens as a part of this stakeholder process.

Program Considerations

As KDHE implements this program, E-RAMP and associated plans will strive to maintain flexibility for Kansans and pursue activities tailored to the state's unique resources.

KDHE recognizes several areas may be responsible for emitting and absorbing emissions which could include industry, electricity generation, transportation, commercial and residential buildings, agriculture, natural and working lands and waste and materials management.

Federal guidance and requirements for this program place a significant weight on projects that improve the air quality and health of disadvantaged communities as identified by EPA screening tools. Therefore, during the competitive grant application period emphasis will be placed on projects for such communities.

Impacts on the health of Kansans and physical infrastructure as well as impacts on the economy of the state and its resilience due to changes in natural events (floods, droughts, heat waves, etc.) will all be primary considerations in the program. Creating quality jobs and lowering energy costs for Kansans will also be considerations. In addition, water resources and other agricultural impacts are likely with future changes in the environment, and E-RAMP will also seek to mitigate such impacts.

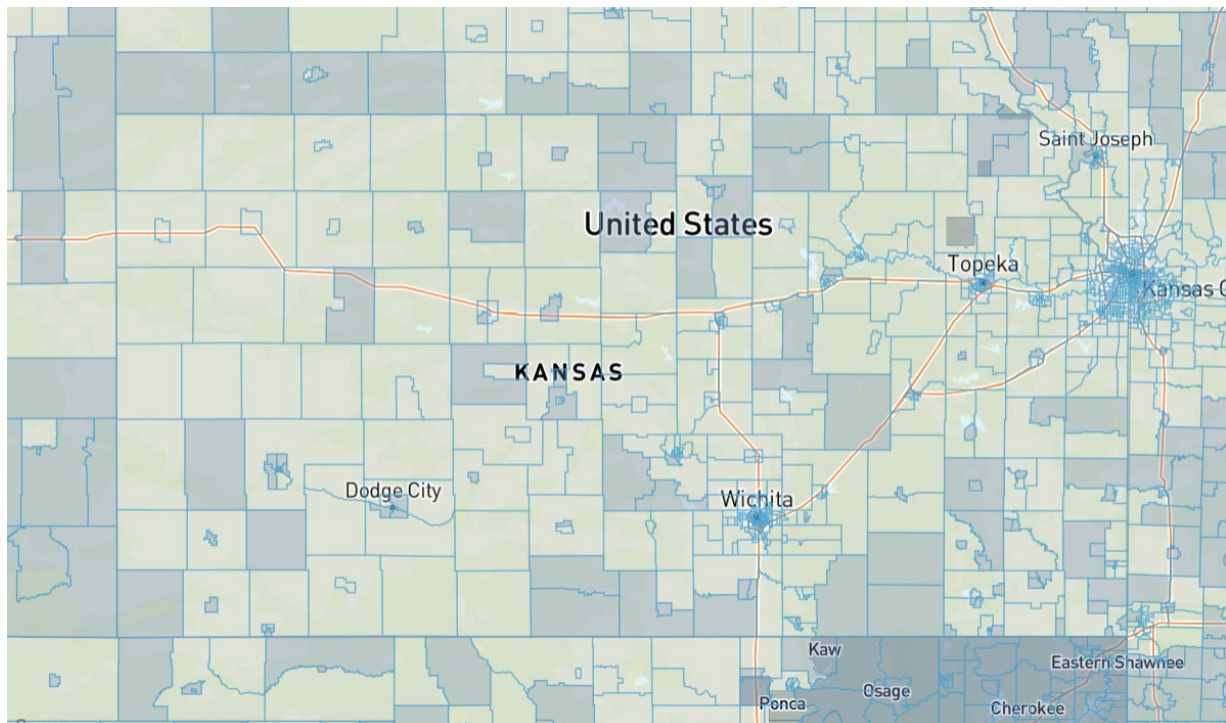
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Map of over-burdened and underserved communities established by the federal Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool