



# Justice40 Symposium: Energy Equity Data and Opportunities

August 3, 2023

Laredo, TX

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# *TEPRI advances equitable solutions for affordable, reliable, and clean energy so all people can thrive.*

## **1** Affordable

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Decrease energy burdens for low-to-moderate income houses

## **2** Reliable

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Improve energy resilience, address energy access, and respond to energy outages

## **3** Clean

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Increase parity in clean energy technology access and adoption.

# Our Strategy

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## Conduct Research

on the energy priorities of people with lower incomes



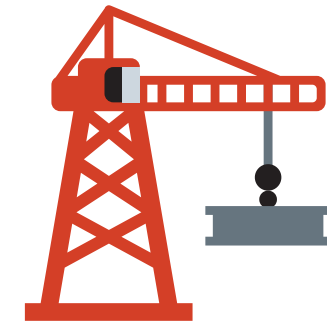
## Develop Tools

to advance lasting energy solutions



## Build a Strong Network

including community and energy stakeholders



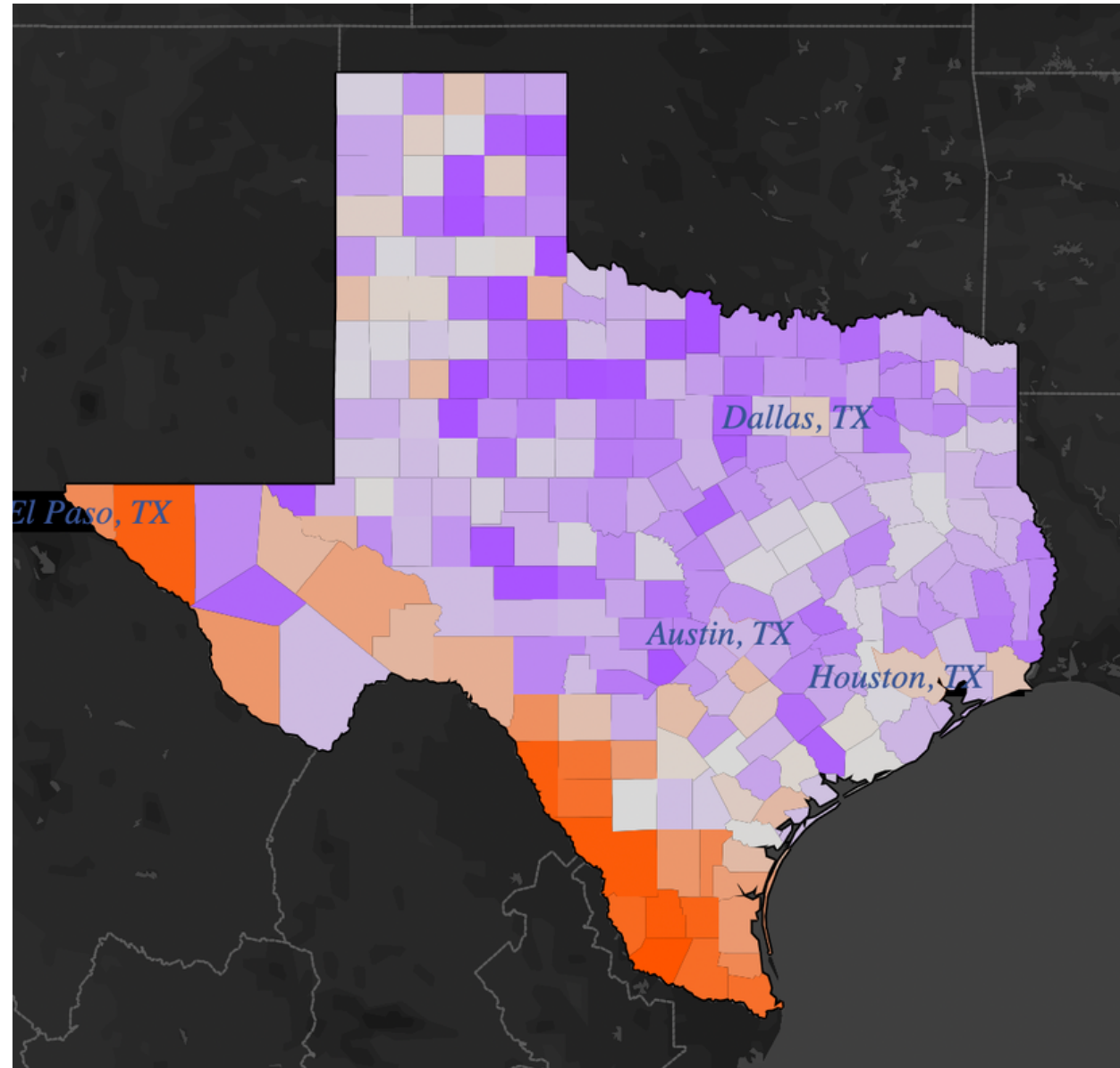
## Pilot Innovative Models

to demonstrate technological developments



**Data**

# Tools: Energy Equity Inspector



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Utilizes publicly available datasets to help measure the impact of **energy and environmental challenges**

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Allows users to better understand the relationships between factors like **energy cost burden, greenhouse gas emissions, racial demographics, and housing stock.**

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Covers all **southeastern states and Texas** and can get down to the census tract level for some datasets.

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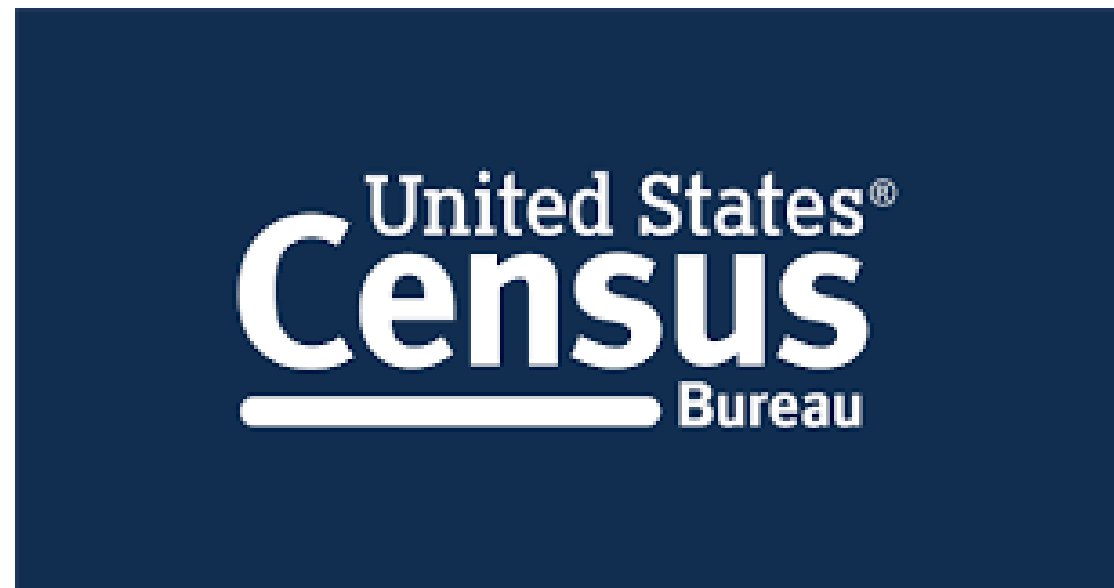
*The tool is not currently released to the public and is still in beta form.*

# Data Sources

The Energy Equity Inspector incorporates publicly available datasets, including from these sources.



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF  
**ENERGY**



# How can this data help?



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Better understand key demographic, environmental, and energy figures in a selected area.

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Identify disparities among income, racial, and geographic indicators.

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Support grant applications and organizational publications with robust data.

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Determine locations for energy efficiency, home repair, and bill assistance resource prioritization.

# Defining Key Terms and Abbreviations

1

## **LMI**

Low-to-moderate income. Usually refers to 0-80% of Area Median Income (AMI)

2

## **Energy Burden**

the percentage (%) of household income spent on energy costs. Anything above 6% is unaffordable. 10%+ = extreme energy burden

3

## **Energy Affordability Gap (EAG)**

The amount of money a household overpays for energy above the 6% affordability threshold

4

## **EJSCREEN Vulnerability Index Percentile**

an index value showing the relative risk of vulnerability to environmental hazards

5

## **BIPOC**

Acronym for Black, Indigenous, and People of Color





# Webb County

**11.3%**

Average Energy Burden  
*LMI Households*

**6.9%**

Average Energy Burden  
*All Households*

**\$1,998**

Average Annual Energy Costs  
*LMI Households*

**\$601**

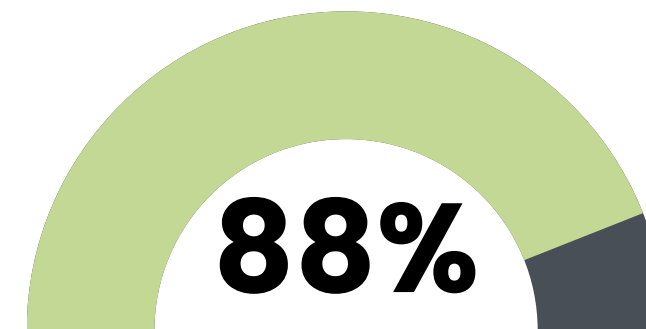
Average Annual Energy Affordability Gap  
*LMI Households*

**31,153**

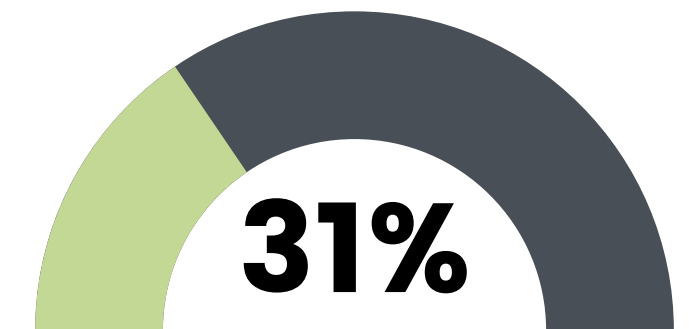
Households with High or Extreme Energy Burden (>6%)

**611 thousand**

Tons of greenhouse gas emissions emitted per year

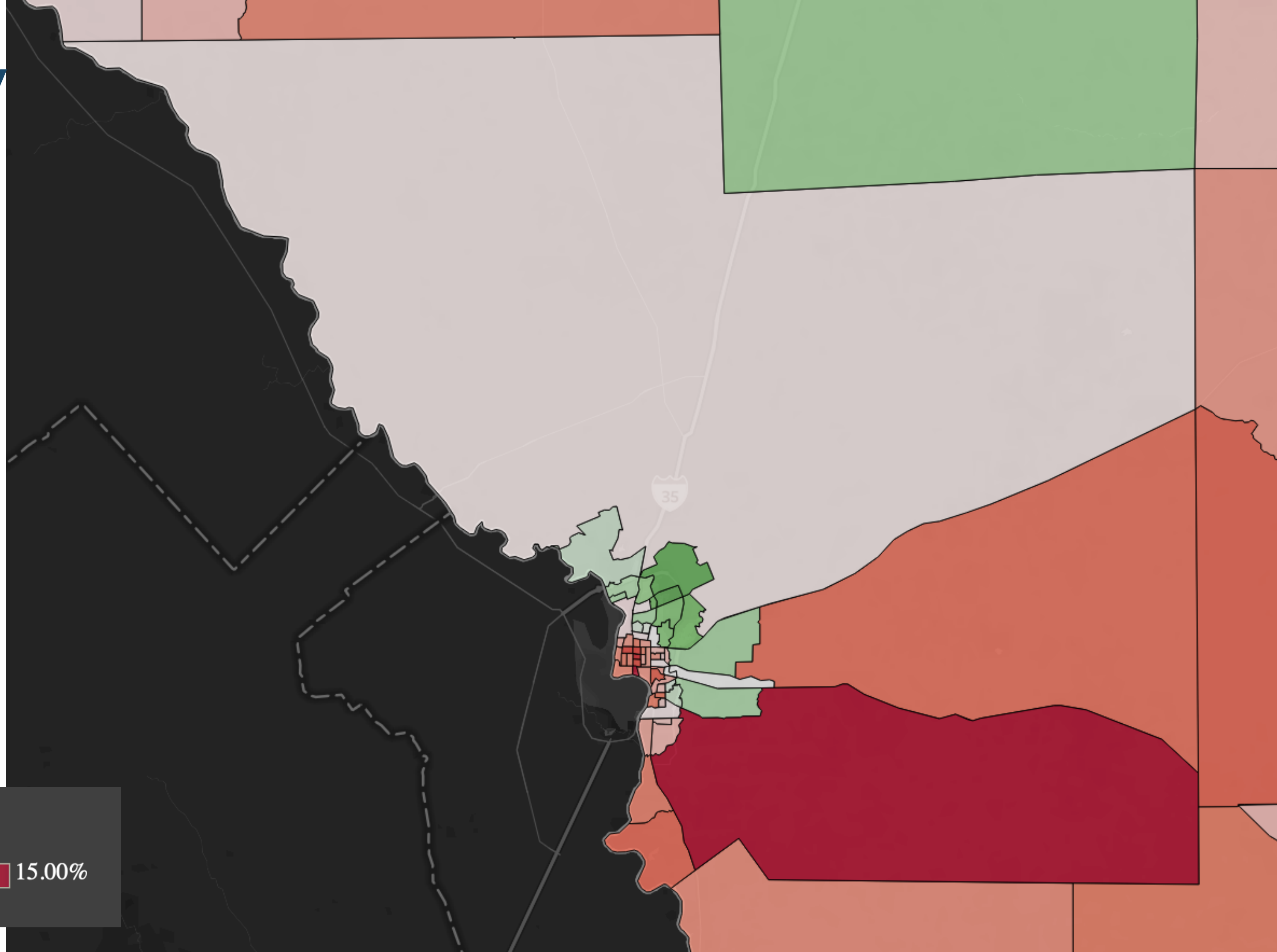


EJSCREEN Vulnerability Index Percentile



Residents in Poverty

# Webb County and surrounding area - Energy Burden

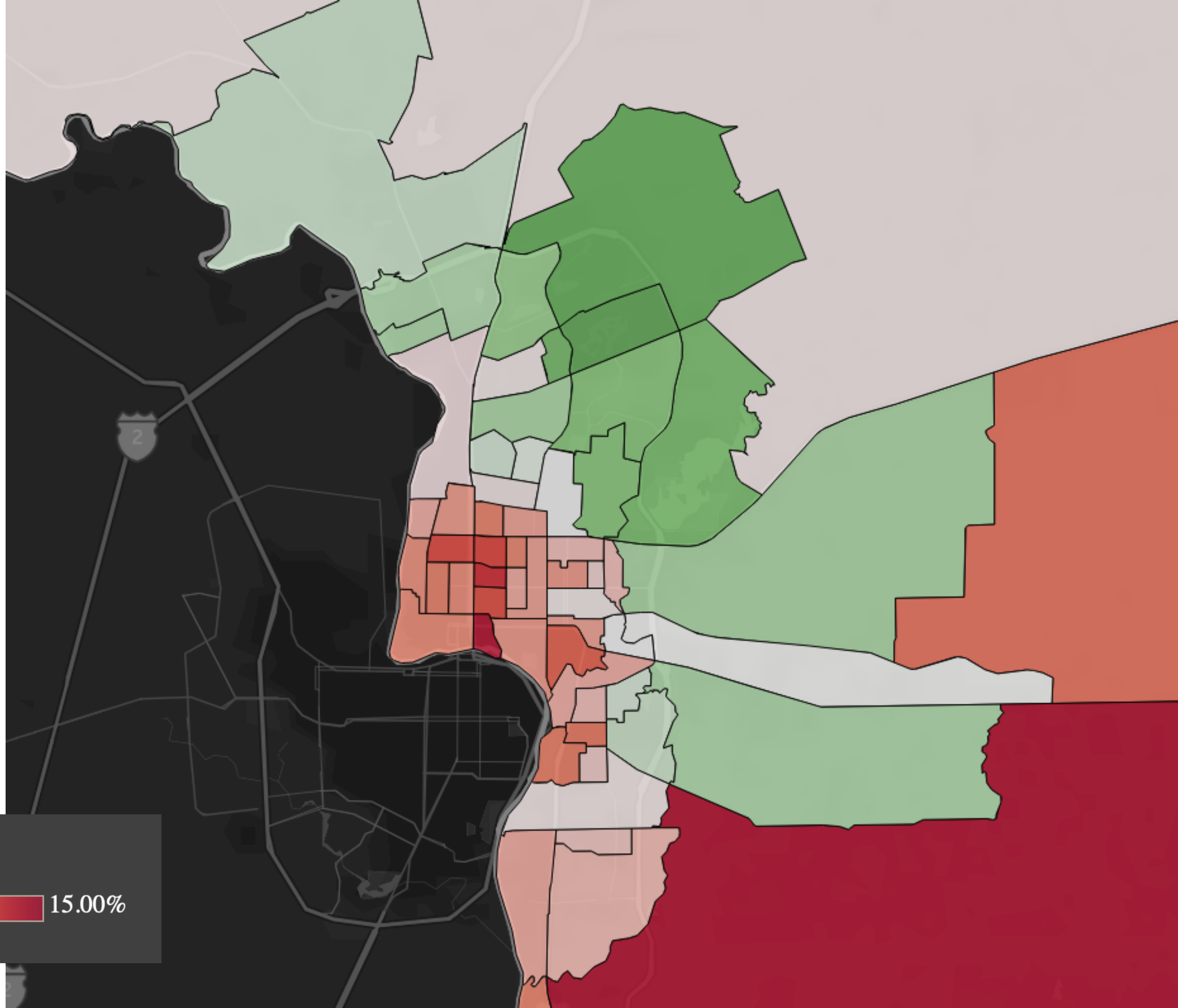
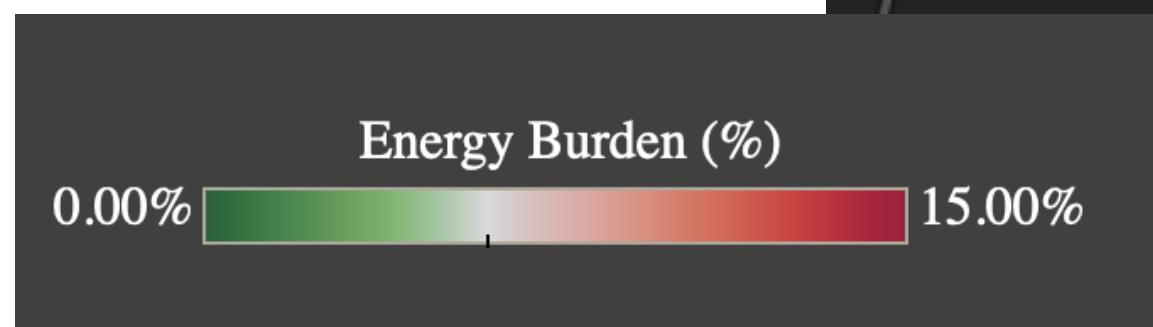


Energy Burden (%)

0.00%

15.00%

# Laredo Area - Energy Burden



# Five County Region

(Duval, Jim Hogg, La Salle, Starr, Zapata)

**12.4%**

Average Energy Burden

***LMI Households***

**8.8%**

Average Energy Burden

***All Households***

**\$2,042**

Average Annual Energy Costs

***LMI Households***

**\$329-1,270**

Average Annual Energy Costs

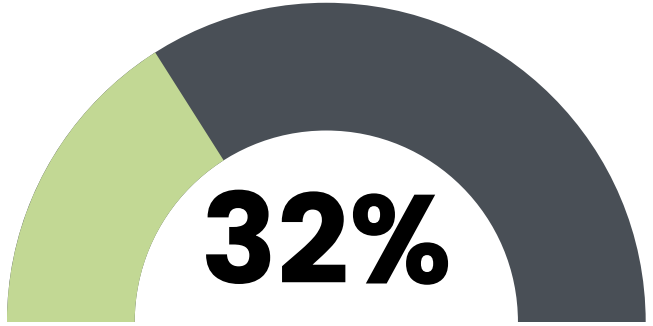
***LMI Households***

**16,192**

Households with High or Extreme Energy Burden (>6%)

**264 thousand**

Tons of greenhouse gas emissions emitted per year



Residents in Poverty

# 5 County Area - Energy Burden

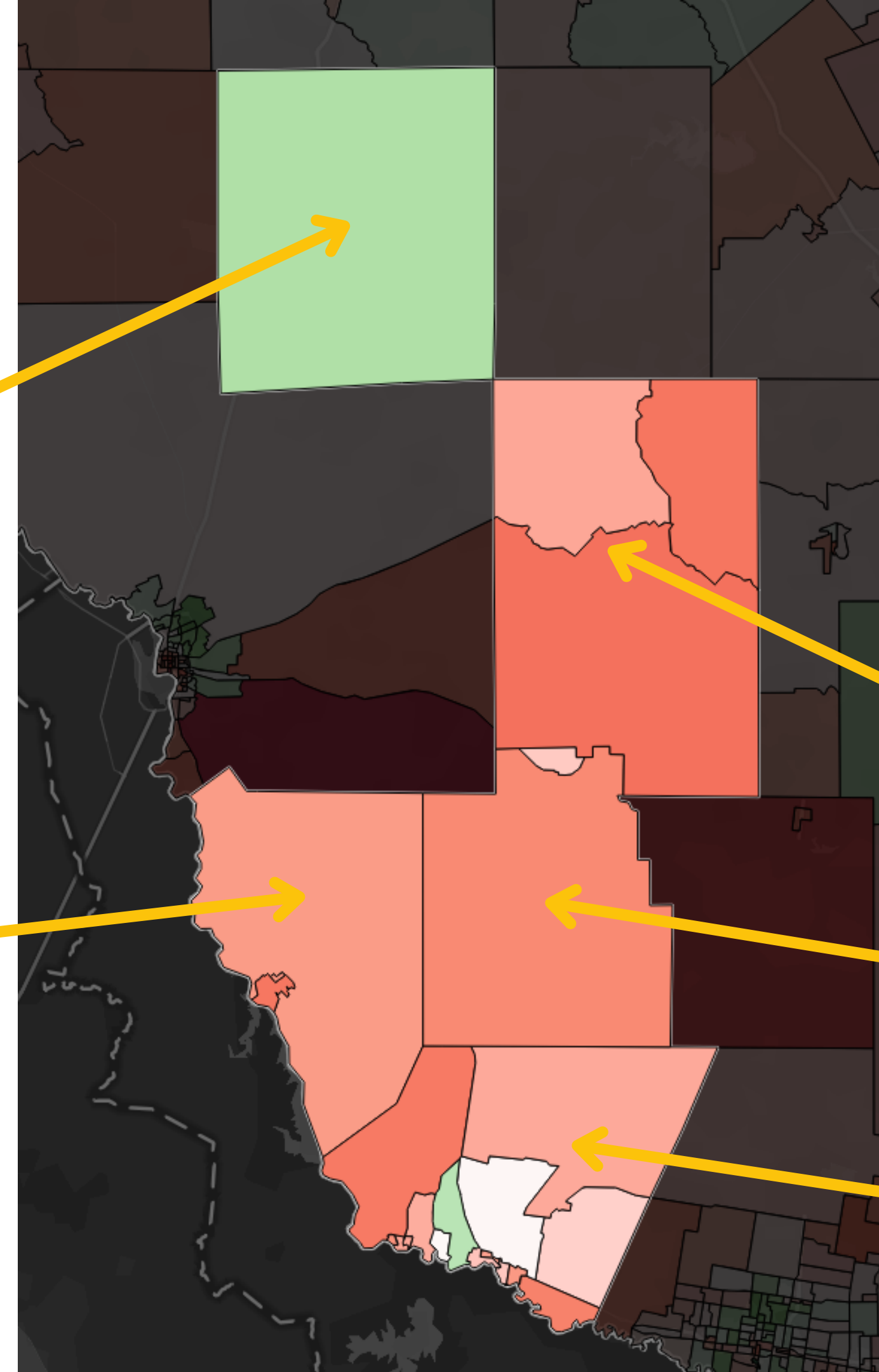
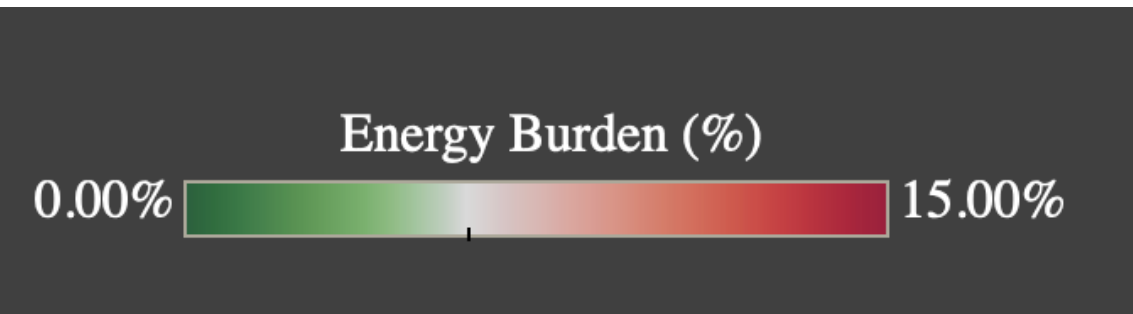
La Salle

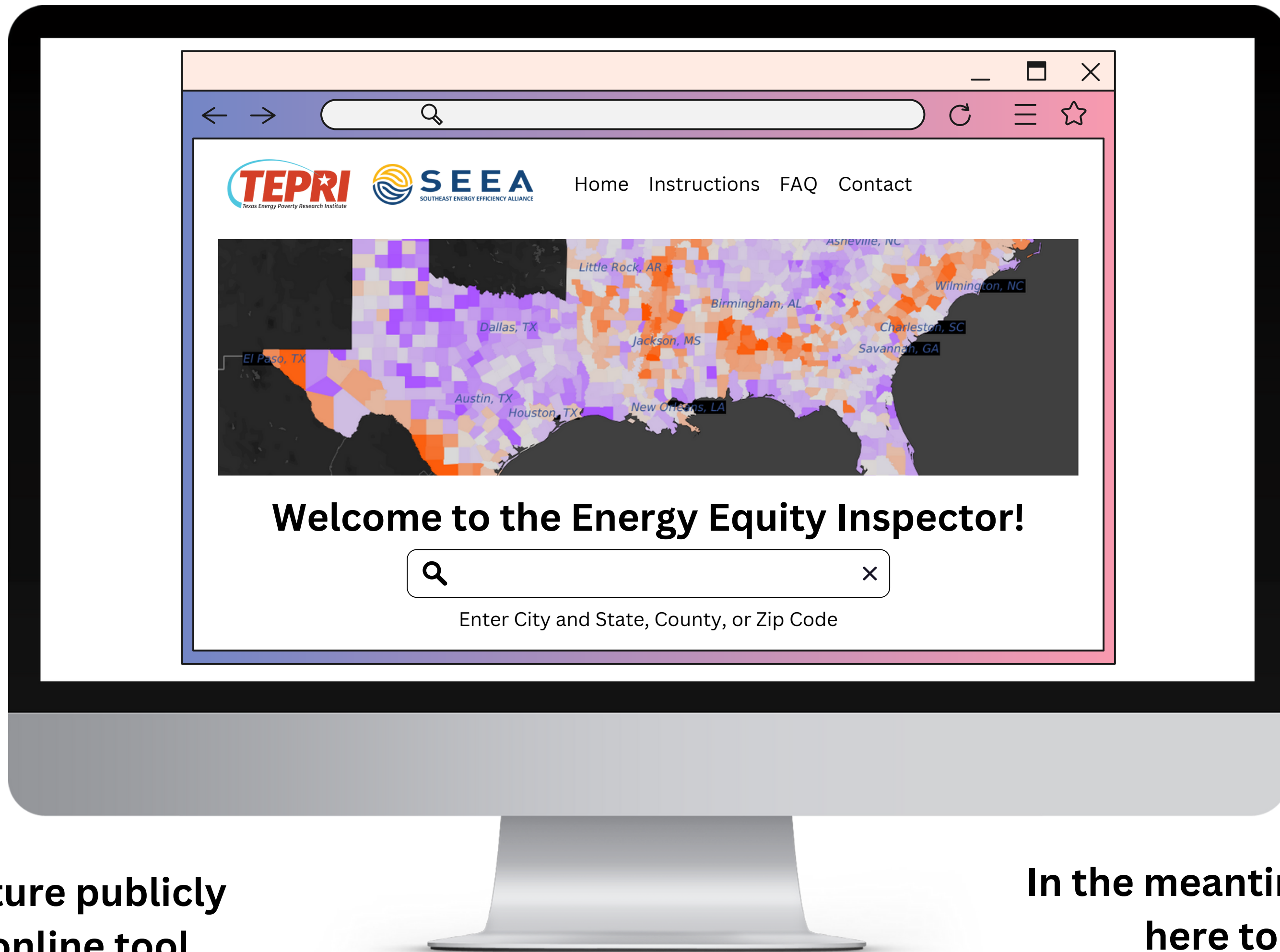
Zapata

Duval

Jim Hogg

Starr





**Mockup: Future publicly available online tool**

**In the meantime, TEPRI is here to help!**



# Federal Funding Opportunities

# Solar for All

**\*Deadline: September 26, 2023\***



- **Solar for All** will support deployment of residential distributed solar energy to lower energy bills for low-income and disadvantaged communities
- Address **financial and non-financial barriers** that limit the ability of LMI and disadvantaged communities to benefit from the rapid growth in solar (100% of program funds must be used for LMI and disadvantaged communities)
- Up to **\$400 million** will be granted to Texas
- Minimum of 75% of grant funds for financial assistance



# Solar for All – Example Fund Uses

- Provide grants, loans, and other forms of financial assistance to rooftop residential and residential-serving community solar projects:
  - Residential rooftop
  - Residential community solar
  - Storage
  - Enabling upgrades to get homes solar ready (e.g. energy efficiency, home repairs, etc.)
- Technical assistance such as workforce development and project deployment support (e.g., siting, permitting, interfacing with utilities)
- Address policy and regulatory barriers

# Energy Future Grants

**\*Deadline: September 30, 2023\***



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF  
**ENERGY**



**SCEP**  
STATE & COMMUNITY ENERGY PROGRAMS



- **Energy Future Grants** will provide up to **\$500,000** to support local, state, and tribal government-led efforts to advance energy program innovation
- Must include **multi-jurisdictional teams** (at least 3-4 jurisdictions) coming together on a **planning project** to address barriers to clean energy deployment
- Plans must be replicable, scalable, and innovative
- Topic areas (including, but not limited to):
  - **Transportation**
  - **Buildings**
  - **Power Sector**

# TEPRI is here to help!

- Technical assistance
- Grant writing
- Community benefits planning
- Supporting data
  - Energy Equity Inspector
  - TEPRI's Community Voices in Energy Survey



# **Example: Collaboration with come dream. come build.**

## *Solar Pilot*

Working with cdcb  
and MiCASI TA to  
explore solar  
options for  
affordable,  
modular homes at  
scale



Thanks for your  
time!

## Contact

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