

GOVERNMENT OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
VIRGIN ISLANDS ENERGY OFFICE



Virgin Islands Battery Energy Storage (VIBES)
Rebate Program Application

This Rebate Program is supported by:
State Energy Program: Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (SEP BIL)
Funding Opportunity EE0010105

Program Launch Date: May 24th, 2024

REBATES ARE SUBJECT TO THE AVAILABILITY OF FUNDING

Program Information

The Virgin Islands Energy Office (VIEO) introduces the VI Battery Energy Storage (VIBES) Rebate Program. This program is made available through the State Energy Program Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (SEPIL) SE0010105.

The VIBES program aims to increase Energy Resiliency in the territory by lowering the cost barrier to adoption of battery energy storage options.

The program will afford residents the opportunity to increase their energy resiliency and bridge gaps in utility services in the U.S. Virgin Islands. The program benefits will contribute both financially and environmentally to meet established goals:

- 1. Increase coverage during service interruptions.**
- 2. Allow homeowners increased access to energy resiliency and energy independence.**
- 3. Low maintenance to owners- these battery systems require little to no maintenance, unlike fuel generators.**
- 4. VIBES is for Battery Systems with automatic whole or partial home backup only and **cannot include Solar on Permits** for VIBES. Stationary battery storage systems must be certified to UL9540 or UL1973**
- 5. VIBES systems purchased outside of vendors list are subject to increased rebate application processing time due to thorough technical review by VIEO team and the additional requirement of an approved Electrical Final Certificate from DPNR.**
- 6. Owners who have battery systems may be eligible for a federal tax credit. Please visit the following site for more information:
<https://www.irs.gov/credits-deductions/residential-clean-energy-credit>**



VIRGIN ISLANDS ENERGY OFFICE
VI Battery Energy Storage (VIBES) Rebate Program
TERMS AND CONDITIONS
Program Launch May 24th, 2024

REBATE PROCESS

Rebates will be distributed on a first-come, first-served basis.

VIBES Required Supporting Documentation:

1. Completed W-9 form
2. USVI Government issued ID:
 - a. A copy of the applicant's Valid US Virgin Islands driver's license or Valid Driver's License and copy of stamped USVI Tax Return.
3. A copy of your most recent WAPA bill.
4. A copy of the itemized receipt showing paid in full.
5. Signed VIEO VIBES Rebate Program Terms and Conditions.
6. Copy of the approved DPNR Electrical Permit is required for all systems.
7. Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) technical specification sheets with clearly **highlighted** UL9540 or UL1973 certification.
8. Automatic Transfer Switch technical specification sheet.
9. Proof of Installation Photos to be included in submission:
 - a. Battery Module
 - b. Automatic transfer switch or Smart critical load panel or Gateway
10. If battery system is purchased & installed outside of Vendor List all of the above documents are required and you must also provide an **approved DPNR Electrical Final Certificate** at time of application submittal.

To apply for a rebate:

1. All documentation listed above must have matching applicant name.
2. After purchasing the approved battery, applicants must have the system permitted and installed before submitting their application. In the case of systems purchased outside of vendor list Applicants must also submit an approved DPNR final inspection form. Applicants may apply online or in person through our offices with the required supporting documentation.

3. If you do not have Internet access or require assistance, please contact the Program Administrators at:

APPLICANT REQUIREMENTS

As a condition for receiving the VIEO VIBES Rebate, you (the applicant/purchaser) must comply with the requirements below. You are responsible for reviewing the VIEO VIBES Rebate program requirements before applying for a rebate.

Program Requirements:

1. The applicant must be a full-time resident of the US Virgin Islands.
2. Applicant must be:
 - An owner of a single-family home, multi-family home, or condominium.
 - An owner of a small business or non-profit.
3. The applicant must have an Active WAPA electrical account registered in the name of the applicant.
4. Be a purchaser of a new and approved grid interactive battery energy storage system that provides automatic whole or partial home battery back up by means of either an automatic transfer switch or smart critical load panel. VIBES program is for **new** installations of integrated battery energy storage solutions and is not intended as an addition for pre-existing battery systems.
 - Battery storage systems must be certified to UL9540 or UL1973.
 - **In 2016, UL introduced the first edition of UL 9540 as the Standard for Safety of Energy Storage Systems and Equipment. Since then, the International Fire Code (IFC), International Building Code (IBC), and NFPA 1 and NFPA 855 fire codes have all required that electrochemical ESS be listed to UL 9540.**
 - Battery storage installation must consist of new equipment.
 - Battery system capacity must be minimum of 3 kWh and up to 20 kWh.
5. Electrical Permit from DPNR must be completed and submitted with complete VIBES Rebate Program Application. Systems purchased outside of VIBES Vendor list must also submit approved DPNR Electrical Final certificate.
 - Permits must be submitted by a licensed electrician.
 - Permits should only account for the battery energy storage.
 - **Applications that include solar on permit will not be accepted.**

Rebate Overview

1. Rebate amount of \$300/kWh of installed storage capacity, up to \$6,000.00 for approved battery purchase.

Rebate Limitations:

1. VIEO VIBES Rebates are limited to one (1) application per homeowner (i.e., individual) **or** small business / non-profit. Applicants may not apply multiple times for additional homes or businesses.
2. Rebates will be distributed on a first-come, first-served basis and issued to qualifying recipients. Rebates are subject to availability of funds through the SEPBILL Grant EE0010105, VIEO VIBES Program Rebate.

By checking the terms and conditions box, you (the applicant) agree to the following:

- I understand that VIEO reserves all rights and remedies available under the law to enforce the terms of this agreement.
- I understand that any false statement made in the submitted information may be punishable under Virgin Islands Law, and in accordance with any applicable statute.
- I understand that VIEO reserves the right to modify these terms and conditions and/or terminate the VIEO VIBES Rebate Program at its sole discretion.
- I understand that the submittal of a rebate application form does not guarantee a rebate.



Applicant Name, (Last, First, MI)

Applicant Signature

Date

Who can apply?

- ◆ This rebate offer applies to all legal residents of the U.S. Virgin Islands and must be domiciled (established as your PRIMARY residence) in the VI
- ◆ The VIEO will take the following for proof of residency:
 - VI income tax return or USVI government issued identification (driver's license, voter's ID card, or senior citizen ID card).
- ◆ **REBATES ARE NOT AVAILABLE FOR GOVERNMENT PURCHASES.**
- ◆ Accepted rebates will **not exceed the maximum rebate amount of \$6,000.00.**
- ◆ **Systems must be battery-backup, only no systems installed with solar will be accepted**
- ◆ **Those with existing solar-only systems may install new battery systems under the VIBES program (no replacement of existing batteries or adding onto existing battery banks)**

How to apply?

- ◆ The VIEO will only accept applications for purchases made on or after the program launch date.
- ◆ Applications can be obtained from the VIEO offices, online at energy.vi.gov and Facebook @VirginIslandsEnergyOffice.
- ◆ **Name on the rebate application, WAPA Bill, IRS W-9 form, and sale receipt(s) must match.**
- ◆ **COMPLETE ALL INFORMATION** including the questionnaire, which is used for data collection in determining future grant opportunities.
- ◆ Submit in person to: Virgin Islands Energy Office
 - ST. CROIX – #2 Estate Carlton, Suite 3, Frederiksted
 - ST. THOMAS – 8000 Nisky Center, 2nd Floor, Suite 208
- ◆ Send by email to:
 - Carl.joseph@eo.vi.gov
 - Kieshawne.green@eo.vi.gov
- ◆ Apply online at <https://energy.vi.gov/vibes/>

What do you need?

- ◆ Completed rebate application
- ◆ Completed IRS W-9 form (with applicant's mailing address)
- ◆ USVI government issued identification (driver's license, voter's ID card, or senior citizen ID card)
- ◆ A copy of your most recent WAPA Bill (in applicants name)
- ◆ Original invoice/receipt with the product information and pricing itemized.
- ◆ Battery system capacity at or under 20kwh
- ◆ **Small commercial business:**
 - Current business license
- ◆ **Non-profit or Not-for-Profit:**
 - 501(c)(3) Verification Letter
 - Articles of Incorporation
 - Certificate of Good Standing

Program rules and regulations:

- ◆ **REBATES ARE SUBJECT TO THE AVAILABILITY OF FEDERAL FUNDS. THEREFORE, THIS PROGRAM MAY BE TERMINATED AT ANY TIME WITHIN THE PROGRAM CYCLE.**
- ◆ The VIEO reserves the right to share payment (rebate) information with the VI Bureau of Internal Revenue.
- ◆ The VIEO reserves the right to inspect items to ensure that they are indeed at the address listed on the rebate application. Non-compliance will result in a request for the return of funds by the applicant and/or prosecution for fraud.
- ◆ The VIEO reserves the right to add, delete or change the program rules at our discretion. Modification to the rebate application by the applicant is not allowed.

If you have any questions or need further assistance, please contact us:

**St. Croix at (340) 713-8436
St. Thomas at (340) 714-8436**

Thank you for your contribution to making the USVI more energy resilient!

Request for Taxpayer Identification Number and Certification

**Give Form to the
requester. Do not
send to the IRS.**

▶ Go to www.irs.gov/FormW9 for instructions and the latest information.

Print or type. See Specific Instructions on page 3.	1 Name (as shown on your income tax return). Name is required on this line; do not leave this line blank.	
	2 Business name/disregarded entity name, if different from above	
	3 Check appropriate box for federal tax classification of the person whose name is entered on line 1. Check only one of the following seven boxes.	4 Exemptions (codes apply only to certain entities, not individuals; see instructions on page 3):
	<input type="checkbox"/> Individual/sole proprietor or single-member LLC <input type="checkbox"/> C Corporation <input type="checkbox"/> S Corporation <input type="checkbox"/> Partnership <input type="checkbox"/> Trust/estate	Exempt payee code (if any) _____
	<input type="checkbox"/> Limited liability company. Enter the tax classification (C=C corporation, S=S corporation, P=Partnership) ▶ _____ Note: Check the appropriate box in the line above for the tax classification of the single-member owner. Do not check LLC if the LLC is classified as a single-member LLC that is disregarded from the owner unless the owner of the LLC is another LLC that is not disregarded from the owner for U.S. federal tax purposes. Otherwise, a single-member LLC that is disregarded from the owner should check the appropriate box for the tax classification of its owner.	Exemption from FATCA reporting code (if any) _____
	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (see instructions) ▶ _____	(Applies to accounts maintained outside the U.S.)
	5 Address (number, street, and apt. or suite no.) See instructions.	Requester's name and address (optional)
6 City, state, and ZIP code		
7 List account number(s) here (optional)		

Part I Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN)

Enter your TIN in the appropriate box. The TIN provided must match the name given on line 1 to avoid backup withholding. For individuals, this is generally your social security number (SSN). However, for a resident alien, sole proprietor, or disregarded entity, see the instructions for Part I, later. For other entities, it is your employer identification number (EIN). If you do not have a number, see *How to get a TIN*, later.

Note: If the account is in more than one name, see the instructions for line 1. Also see *What Name and Number To Give the Requester* for guidelines on whose number to enter.

Social security number	
	-
	-
or	
Employer identification number	
	-

Part II Certification

Under penalties of perjury, I certify that:

1. The number shown on this form is my correct taxpayer identification number (or I am waiting for a number to be issued to me); and
2. I am not subject to backup withholding because: (a) I am exempt from backup withholding, or (b) I have not been notified by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) that I am subject to backup withholding as a result of a failure to report all interest or dividends, or (c) the IRS has notified me that I am no longer subject to backup withholding; and
3. I am a U.S. citizen or other U.S. person (defined below); and
4. The FATCA code(s) entered on this form (if any) indicating that I am exempt from FATCA reporting is correct.

Certification instructions. You must cross out item 2 above if you have been notified by the IRS that you are currently subject to backup withholding because you have failed to report all interest and dividends on your tax return. For real estate transactions, item 2 does not apply. For mortgage interest paid, acquisition or abandonment of secured property, cancellation of debt, contributions to an individual retirement arrangement (IRA), and generally, payments other than interest and dividends, you are not required to sign the certification, but you must provide your correct TIN. See the instructions for Part II, later.

Sign Here	Signature of U.S. person ▶	Date ▶
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General Instructions

Section references are to the Internal Revenue Code unless otherwise noted.

Future developments. For the latest information about developments related to Form W-9 and its instructions, such as legislation enacted after they were published, go to www.irs.gov/FormW9.

Purpose of Form

An individual or entity (Form W-9 requester) who is required to file an information return with the IRS must obtain your correct taxpayer identification number (TIN) which may be your social security number (SSN), individual taxpayer identification number (ITIN), adoption taxpayer identification number (ATIN), or employer identification number (EIN), to report on an information return the amount paid to you, or other amount reportable on an information return. Examples of information returns include, but are not limited to, the following.

- Form 1099-INT (interest earned or paid)

- Form 1099-DIV (dividends, including those from stocks or mutual funds)
- Form 1099-MISC (various types of income, prizes, awards, or gross proceeds)
- Form 1099-B (stock or mutual fund sales and certain other transactions by brokers)
- Form 1099-S (proceeds from real estate transactions)
- Form 1099-K (merchant card and third party network transactions)
- Form 1098 (home mortgage interest), 1098-E (student loan interest), 1098-T (tuition)
- Form 1099-C (canceled debt)
- Form 1099-A (acquisition or abandonment of secured property)

Use Form W-9 only if you are a U.S. person (including a resident alien), to provide your correct TIN.

If you do not return Form W-9 to the requester with a TIN, you might be subject to backup withholding. See What is backup withholding, later.