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Leveraging ECAA with Other Funding Sources for Greater Impact

As a partner with multiple public entities who have used this program and are looking forward to using it in the near future with the modifications potentially being made, we wanted to recommend the consideration of allowing public entities to utilize ECAA funds with other non-state funding sources. This would be similar to the requirements of many of the state's other grant programs where entities can co-fund with other non-state funding sources, but cannot co-fund with other state funding sources.

Currently the ECAA program only allows the use of capital as an additional funding source. Many public entities do not have the capital to leverage with the ECAA funding and therefore consider other funding sources for their projects, without utilizing the ECAA program.

As an example, multiple public entities utilize tax-exempt lease purchases (private financing) to fund energy infrastructure projects. This is typical practice for most agencies, and the ability to allow them to couple this funding (and other non-state sources) with the ECAA funds will allow them to make a greater impact with their sustainability goals, infrastructure modernizations, energy load reductions, and it will allow further use of the ECAA program.