

## **Electric Grid Resilience State and Tribal Formula Grant Program 40101(D)**

Virginia Energy is leading the application and implementation of the Electric Grid Resilience Formula Grant. The Electric Grid Resilience Program will distribute the Federal Funding. Virginia Energy will develop the program based on the requirements set forth in the Funding Opportunity Announcement found on the [NETL Section 40101d](#) website. As part of the program requirements Virginia Energy will develop; 3-5 objectives to guide the decision making process, metrics to measure desired outcomes and criteria to prioritize funding. The Federal Justice 40 initiative is required in this grant. Therefore, 40% of the federal funds need to be applied to Disadvantaged Communities (DACs). The Equity Approach is defined in the Program Narrative description provided in the Funding Opportunity Announcement.

### **Objectives and Scope**

The objective of this Program is to improve the resilience of the electric grid against disruptive events. Per IJA section 40101(a)(1), a disruptive event is “an event in which operations of the electric grid are disrupted, preventively shut off, or cannot operate safely due to extreme weather, wildfire, or a natural disaster.”

**To achieve this objective, funding provided by DOE under this Program may be used to implement a wide range of resilience measures intended to mitigate the impact of disruptive events, including:**

- weatherization technologies and equipment;
- fire-resistant technologies and fire prevention systems
- monitoring and control technologies;
- the undergrounding of electrical equipment;
- utility pole management;
- the relocation of power lines or the reconductoring of power lines with low-sag, advanced conductors;
- vegetation and fuel-load management;
- the use or construction of distributed energy resources for enhancing system adaptive capacity during disruptive events, including:
  - microgrids; and
  - battery-storage subcomponents;
- adaptive protection technologies;
- advanced modeling technologies;
- hardening of power lines, facilities, substations, of other systems; and
- the replacement of old overhead conductors and underground cables.

Funding may also be used for the training, recruitment, retention, and reskilling of skilled and properly credentialed workers in order to perform the work required for the particular resilience measures listed above and described by the State or Indian Tribe in their Program Narrative, as described in more detail in ALRD Section IV.B.ii.4.

### **Eligible Entities for Subawards**

- Electric grid operator
- Electricity storage operator
- Electricity generator
- Transmission owner or operator
- Distribution provider

- Fuel supplier
  - Any other relevant entity, as determined by Secretary of DOE
1. Eligible entities receiving subaward required to match 100% unless below 4,000,000 megawatt hours of electricity per year. If below 4 million megawatt hours the subaward match is one-third of the amount.
  2. Projects are capped at the amount spent in the previous three years on resilience.

### **Small Utility Set-aside**

- State receiving grant shall ensure that, of the amounts made to subgrantees, the percentage made available to eligible entities that sell not more than 4 million megawatt hours of electricity per year is not less than the percentage of all customers served by those eligible entities within the State.

### **Objectives and metrics should address (some or all):**

- Resilience, including reducing the frequency and duration of outages (system, circuit and/or targeted individuals)
- Energy justice concerns in disadvantaged communities
- Plans use strong labor standards and protections (including for direct employees, contractors, and subcontractors), such as through the use of project labor agreements, local hire agreements
- Outline of a plan to attract, train, and retain an appropriately skilled workforce (i.e., through registered apprenticeships and other joint labor management training programs that serve all workers, particularly those underrepresented or historically excluded)
- Plans to partner with a training provider (labor, community college, etc); and the use of an appropriately credentialed workforce (i.e., requirements for appropriate and relevant professional training, certification, and licensure).

### **Resources**

[NETL Section 40101d](#)