



MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF
ENVIRONMENT, GREAT LAKES, AND ENERGY

**GRID RESILIENCE GRANT PROGRAM
SECTION 40101(d), INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT
AND JOBS ACT**

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Issue Date: January 13, 2025

Response Due: April 30, 2025

**Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy
525 West Allegan Street
Lansing, Michigan 48933**

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Table of Contents

PART I.....	3
GENERAL INFORMATION	3
I-A Purpose.....	3
I-B Program Description	3
I-C Grant Award.....	4
I-D Eligibility Criteria.....	5
I-E Ineligible Projects	6
I-F Issuing Office and Point of Contact.....	6
I-G Changes to the RFP and Responses to Questions.....	6
I-H Proposals	6
I-I Response Date	7
PART II INFORMATION REQUIRED FROM APPLICANTS	7
II-A Online Application	8
II-B Approved Budget Form	8
II-C Certificate of Indirect Costs	10
PART III SELECTION CRITERIA.....	10
III-A Scoring of Proposals	10
III-B Project Clarifications/Revisions.....	12
III-C Rejection of Proposals	12
III-D Acceptance of Proposal Content.....	12
PART IV ADDITIONAL INFORMATION.....	12
IV-A Acceptable Match Types.....	12
IV-B SIGMA Vendor Registration.....	12
IV-C News Releases	13
IV-D Disclosure of Proposal Contents.....	13
IV-E Copyrighted Materials	13
IV-F Prime Applicant Responsibilities	13
IV-G Partner Responsibilities	13
IV-H State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) Section 106 Review Form.....	13
IV-I National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Form.....	14
IV-J Davis-Bacon Act Requirements	14

IV-K Build America, Buy America.....	14
PART V ATTACHMENTS	15
V-B Attachment 2: Joint Proposals.....	17

Grid Resilience Grant Program Request for Proposals

PART I GENERAL INFORMATION

I-A Purpose

The Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE) Energy Unit is offering matching grants to improve the resilience of the State's electric grid. The State anticipates the grant period will start June 2025 and will end on November 30, 2026.

I-B Program Description

The Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE) protects Michigan's environment and public health by managing air, water, land, and energy resources and is focused on addressing climate change. In fiscal year (FY) 2025, EGLE will provide grants to support the resilience of the State's electric grid in an effort to address the aging infrastructure that is vulnerable to the severe weather events that cause millions of Michiganders to lose power. Of paramount concern are issues dealing with the safety and reliability of the electric system, including addressing system failures that led to fatalities due to contact with downed wires. Michigan needs grid-hardening investments, microgrids, and other programs that address grid resilience.

Michigan's low-income customers have limited income to spend on utility bills, and those paying greater than six percent of total household income towards utility expenses are experiencing an unjust energy burden ([ACEEE, 2020](#)). Households experiencing disproportionate energy burdens in densely populated areas are also subjected to frequent outages and slow restoration.

Applicants must consider the following program objectives, priorities, and tasks in the planning of their proposal.

- i. Program Objectives
 - a. Mitigate Risk of Severe Weather on Critical Facilities through Traditional Grid Hardening Resilience Investments
 - b. Grow Michigan's Skilled Workforce for Grid Resilience Activities
 - c. Supporting Microgrid and other Innovative Non-Wired Alternative (NWA) Projects

- ii. Program Priorities
 - a. Hardening of power lines (not pole management or conductors), facilities, substations, or other systems, including but not limited, flood prevention or recovery, or adaptive protection technologies.
 - b. Vegetation and fuel-load management.
 - c. Relocation of power lines.

- d. Replacing old overhead conductors and underground cables.
- e. Undergrounding of electrical equipment, especially for critical infrastructure facilities.
- f. Non-Wired Alternative Projects that focus on using distributive energy resources (DERs), battery storage, and capacity relief, including micro-grids.

iii. Applicant Tasks

Applicants are encouraged to design additional tasks that address the expressed needs of the program and the State, but also capitalize on the strengths of the applicant.

*NOTE: Applicants must clearly and succinctly explain how they will accomplish each required task below **during the grant period.***

- a. Complete grid resiliency measures and document project success and challenges for monthly progress update.
- b. Measure, document, and report project outcomes (e.g., outages, damages, and customer benefitted) for annual reports.
- c. Ensure proper and best use disposal of materials used or removed through the project work (recycling, electronic waste disposal, etc.).
- d. Incur project expenditures and submit financial documents (i.e., invoices and proof of payments) before November 30, 2026.
- e. Assist program staff with EGLE news release on project success.
- f. Submit closeout documentation before December 30, 2026.

I-C Grant Award

A total of \$9,313,204 in funding is expected to be available through this Request for Proposals (RFP). Applicants that win an award will be referred to as sub-grantees. Applicant(s) must provide a complete Budget using the [Approved Budget Form](#) (See Section II-B). Budgets must be itemized and be accompanied by a budget narrative which adequately describes each budget category. This is a reimbursement-based opportunity, costs must be incurred and paid for before they are reimbursed. The grant(s) awarded from this RFP will be subawards of the State's federal award from the U.S. Department of Energy's Preventing Outages and Enhancing the Resilience of the Electric Grid Formula Grant Program under Section 40101(d), Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA), also known as the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL). This funding supports investments that improve Michigan's electric reliability and resilience due to aging infrastructure while providing individuals with reliable and safe power. As such, the grant will adhere to all federal grant requirements.

Large operators, defined as utilities selling more than 4 Tera watt hours (TWh) of electricity annually, will be eligible for 50 percent of the available funds. Small operators, defined as utilities selling not more than 4 TWh of electricity per year, will be eligible for the remaining 50 percent of the funds.

Large operators must provide a **minimum of 100 percent (1:1) match** of the total requested grant funds. Small operators must provide a **minimum (1/3) match** of the total requested grant funds. The sum of the State share plus the Grantee share of allowable costs will equal the total permissible project cost (see Section IV-A).

The Energy Unit will award funds to applicants that agree to the terms set forth in this RFP and the [Grant Agreement](#). The Energy Unit, an entity within the Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE), will be the primary contact with selected applicants to negotiate the scope of work, budget, reporting periods, report format, and reporting content. EGLE is required to submit quarterly and annual reports to the DOE for the requirements shown in the [Quarterly Process Report and the Annual Program Metrics and Impact Report](#). All other requirements are non-negotiable. Funds must be expended by November 30, 2026.

I-D Eligibility Criteria

Any electricity providers physically located in Michigan are eligible to apply. For purposes of this RFP, the following types of entities are eligible to apply:

- Investor-Owned Utilities,
- Cooperative Utilities, or
- Municipal Utilities.

In 2025, other eligible entities (OEE) can apply if partnered with a Michigan utility that is leading the proposal. OEE includes transmission owners or operators, electricity storage operators, fuel suppliers, and other relevant entities as determined by the Secretary of Energy.

Cohorts of eligible parties may submit a joint proposal. See Attachment 2 for details.

Eligible projects include:

1. Hardening of power lines (pole or conductor management), facilities, substations, or other systems, including but not limited to flood prevention or recovery or adaptive protection technologies.
2. Vegetation and fuel-load management.
3. Relocation of power lines where improving the reliability and resiliency of the grid is the primary motivation.
4. Replacing old overhead conductors and underground cables.
5. Undergrounding of electrical equipment, especially for critical infrastructure facilities.
6. Activities capable of growing Michigan's skilled workforce for grid resilience.
7. Non-wires alternatives that use distributive energy resources (DERs), battery storage, and capacity relief, including microgrids.

Impacted facilities must be occupied and have long range plans of continued use. All eligible applicants must provide a Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) number from the System for Award Management (SAM.gov) website. **UEI registration can take up to 10 business days to become active.**

I-E Ineligible Projects

For purposes of this RFP, the following types of projects are not eligible:

1. Projects deemed illegal under the law or inappropriate under contract management standards.
2. Projects considered scientifically unsound or significantly increase risks to workers and/or the public.
3. Projects that will not be conducted in Michigan.
4. Projects involving demonstration of non-commercially available equipment and technologies.
5. Projects that cannot be shared with or have restricted transferability to other entities in Michigan.
6. Projects that involve construction of a new electric generating facility or large-scale battery-storage facility that is not used for enhancing system adaptive capacity during disruptive events.
7. Projects with the main goal of cybersecurity.
8. Projects not directed to or lacking significant increase in grid resiliency and other energy benefits.

I-F Issuing Office and Point of Contact

This RFP has been issued by EGLE's Energy Unit. Questions that arise as a result of this RFP must be submitted to the Energy Unit by *email only*. All questions must be submitted on or before 5:00 p.m. (ET), January 31, 2025. All questions regarding this solicitation should be directed to:

Nicki Guggemos
GuggemosN1@Michigan.gov

I-G Changes to the RFP and Responses to Questions

Written answers to questions, changes, and/or clarifications will be posted on the [program webpage](#) by February 7, 2025.

I-H Proposals

To be considered, applicants must submit a complete response to this RFP, addressing the Program Objectives, Program Priorities, and Applicant Tasks listed in the Program Description I-B, and using the format and attachments provided in Part II.

Applicants have the option to use a pre-reviewed project. The pre-reviewed projects have been reviewed for the technical merit and meet the goal of BIL 40101(d), and they meet the NEPA categorical exclusions. A pre-reviewed project should reduce administrative burdens for the applicants by eliminating the need for the applicant to describe the assets that need infrastructure

investments. The use of one of the following projects does not pre-approve or grantee approval of a proposal:

1. Dead and Dangerous Tree Removal
2. Right-of-Way Enhancement
3. Aging Infrastructure Replacement such as Poles and Conductors
4. Overcurrent Protective such as Three-phase Reclosers and Fuses on tap lines
5. Overvoltage Protection

I-I Response Date

Proposals must be submitted by 5:00 p.m. on April 30, 2025.

All proposal will be reviewed for completeness. If something is missing in an application, EGLE will reach out to the applicant and allow one week for the application to submit the missing information before we start the technical reviews.

PART II INFORMATION REQUIRED FROM APPLICANTS

NOTE: The following information must be submitted by all applicants to be considered. *Failure to attach/include the requested information will result in the rejection of the proposal.*

1. Application (see link and instructions below)
2. Approved Budget Form (see link and instructions below)
3. If an indirect cost rate is used in the budget, the Certificate of Indirect Costs must be selected, signed, and submitted.
4. Additional Attachments:
 - a. Detailed Timeline – timeline for successfully completing each required task, including key sub-tasks and critical decision points to be undertaken during the grant.
 - b. Applicant Organizational Chart – organizational chart detailing the management structure of the applicant organization, with a secondary chart detailing the team responsible for the project, including subcontractors.
 - c. Most recent copy of the A-133 or outside audit OR the most recent financial statements (balance sheet and income statement). Applicants that receive cumulative federal funding of over \$750,000, or that receive a single state award over \$500,000 are required to provide an A-133 single audit.
5. If Applicable:
 - a. Charitable organizations and professional fundraisers (unless exempt) must complete Michigan Charitable Trust Registration
For more information, please visit the [Attorney General's website](#).
 - b. Parent Organizational Chart – organizational chart detailing the management hierarchy of the Parent Organization, and its relationship to

- the applicant organization.
- c. Partner Organizational Chart – organizational chart detailing the management hierarchy of the Partner Organization, and its relationship to the applicant organization. Attach an organizational chart for each Partner Organization.
 - d. Letter(s) of support / commitment from Partner Organization(s).
 - e. State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) Section 106 Review Form (see link and instructions below)
 - f. National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Form (see link and instructions below).

Please see instructions below for additional information:

II-A Online Application

Complete the [Online Application](#). Questions marked with an asterisk (*) require a response. Applicable materials listed in Section II must be uploaded within the Online Application. Applicants can submit their completed Online Application by clicking the “Submit” button on the bottom of the application page. **Applicants can preview all the [Application Questions](#) prior to starting an Online Application.**

II-B Approved Budget Form

1. Applicant(s) *must* use the [Approved Budget Form](#) All budget categories must be addressed. Please use “N/A” or “None” to indicate there are no costs associated with a given budget category.
2. The following costs are **disallowed**: sick pay, holiday pay, paid vacation time, payroll taxes, vehicles, computers, real property (e.g., land and buildings), parking, tuition reimbursement/remission, vehicle allowance, car rental, subscriptions, dues, memberships, and repair of buildings and structures.
3. Large operators must provide a **minimum of 100 percent (1:1) match** of the total requested grant funds. Small operators must provide a **minimum (1/3) match** of the total requested grant funds. The sum of the State share plus the recipient share will equal the total allowable project cost.
4. **Fringe Benefits** –Applicant(s) will be required to justify the fringe rates given in their proposed budget prior to an agreement being finalized. If fringe cost rates are approved by a federal agency, identify the agency and date of latest rate agreement, and include a copy of the rate agreement. If fringe cost rates are not approved by a federal agency, explain how total fringe benefit costs were calculated. Your calculations should identify all rates used and the base amount they were applied to. Please include how the base was derived, and a total for each.
5. **Equipment** –All Equipment expenses must be justified in your proposal. If the equipment is being proposed as cost match and was previously acquired, provide the value of its contribution to the project and a rationale for the estimated value shown. If it is new equipment that will retain a useful life upon completion of the project, provide a rationale for the estimated value shown. Also, indicate whether the equipment is being used for other projects or is

100 percent dedicated to this project. Equipment purchases over \$5,000 will require additional documentation, such as Lien or Uniform Commercial Code Filing, and the State of Michigan listed as the lienholder/creditor for 5 years prior to reimbursement.

6. **Travel** – Applicants may follow their own internal travel policy, which must be submitted to the issuing office contact prior to entering into a Grant Agreement. If an applicant does not have an internal travel policy, they must use the most recent State of Michigan Travel Rates posted by the [Michigan Department of Technology, Management & Budget](#).
7. **Indirect Rate** – Provide the indirect rate (up to 10 percent maximum) used by applicant's organization as a percentage of **total direct cost**. If the applicant's indirect cost rate has been approved by a federal agency, identify the agency, date of the latest rate agreement, and submit a copy of the agreement with the application.

Note: Applicant(s) will be required to justify their indirect rate given in their budget if it exceeds 10 percent. All applicants including an indirect rate must sign and submit the [Certificate of Indirect Costs](#).

8. **Incurring Costs** – The State is not liable for any costs incurred by an applicant prior to issuance of a [Grant Agreement](#). The following documentation will be required by selected applicants to receive reimbursement:
 - a. Receipt/Invoice or payroll summary for cost incurred.
 - b. Proof of payment via bank statement, ACH payment, or scanned cashed check.

Note: *All match types (cash, in-kind, third-party) will be held to the same documentation requirements.*

Additional Budget Information:

1. In the event of a partially funded proposal, selected applicant(s) will be required to submit a revised proposal before entering into a Grant Agreement. The proportion of direct costs to indirect costs will remain the same as in their original request. *New line items to the revised budget are not allowed.*
2. Selected applicant(s) assumes the responsibility for ensuring the grant project is performed within the established timeline.
3. If the entire State share of the grant award is expended, the entire in-kind and/or matched funds must be spent and supported by source documentation. If the entire State share of the grant award is not spent, the in-kind and/or matched funds may be reduced proportionately by the percentage of the grant award not spent.
4. Selected applicant(s) may not commingle award funds with current or future awards received from the U.S. DOE. Financial assistance from each funding source must be managed, reported, and accounted for separately from all other funding sources.

5. Should selected applicant(s) cease business operations or dissolve the program established under the grant agreement, existing capital must be returned to the State of Michigan.

II-C **Certificate of Indirect Costs**

If an indirect cost is included in the proposed budget, it must be certified using the Certificate of Indirect Costs. The certificate must be signed on behalf of the organization by an individual at a level no lower than vice president or chief financial officer of the organization that submits the proposal.

PART III SELECTION CRITERIA

All proposals received shall be subject to an evaluation by EGLE's Energy Unit. The evaluation will be conducted in a manner appropriate to select the applicant(s) for the purpose of entering into a [Grant Agreement](#) to perform the proposed project within the established timeline. Initial screening of the applications will be conducted to ensure applicants and projects meet all eligibility requirements.

*Proposals failing to meet the eligibility requirements described in Sections I-C, that do not comply with the requirements of the Grant Agreement, and/or which are incomplete, **will be rejected automatically**.* Proposals meeting the eligibility requirements will be evaluated according to the scoring criteria and weighting factors below.

III-A Scoring of Proposals

Total maximum points are 80. (Proposals could receive 85 points, if the proposal receives full points in all categories plus full bonus points.)

Project Scope & Objectives (20 Points)

Proposals will be evaluated based on the scope of work, its merit, and the quality of information submitted. The proposal problem statement, goals and objectives, and timeline are of special interest.

Project Feasibility (10 Points)

Proposals will be evaluated on their likelihood of success and feasibility to achieve the purpose, outcomes, and tasks required by this RFP within the established timeframe. Projects must be completed within two years.

Project Impact

(35 Points)

Proposals will be evaluated on their anticipated short and long-term impacts. The anticipated short and long-term effects are measurable, appropriate, and reasonable. Applicants should explain how 40101(d) funding will improve the reliability of the grid and/or the resiliency of the grid as specifically and clearly as possible. Favorable consideration is granted to projects that generate the greatest project impact.

Project impact is measured by both resiliency and reliability impacts such as:

- Reduction in the frequency of power outages.
- Reduction in the time it takes for customers to have power restored when outages occur.
- Number of customers directly benefiting from the investment project.
- Number and type of community(s) benefiting from an investment in critical grid infrastructure.
- Reduction in the average energy burden (for communities above 6 percent).
- Magnitude of infrastructure improvement for poor and failing systems. Poor and failing systems may be segments of the grid that are performing well below the mean in terms of CAIDI, SAIDI, SAIFI, or other important measures of reliability and resiliency.
- Number of newly trained or reskilled workers capable of implementing grid resilience projects.
- Number of grid resilience-related businesses that develop the capacity to install, operate, and/or maintain grid resilience projects and are qualified in any of the categories recognized by the Small Business Administration.
- Availability of emergency backup power to those affected by an outage (for example, a community hub, mobile generators)
- Improved communication between utility, local government, and residents, especially on safety and access to community resources
- Improved Outage Mapping & Data (including greater granularity and temporality) and that allows for greater customer understanding.

Applications that maximize the impact of 40101(d) funding on one or more of these project impacts will receive favorable consideration. In general, applicants should also seek to distribute these project impacts towards portions of the grid that are performing poorly relative to the rest of the grid in terms of reliability and/or resiliency.

Program Priorities

(15 Points)

Proposals will be evaluated on the incorporation of the program priorities, Grid Resiliency (see Part I, Section I-B).

Bonus Points

(5 Points)

Additional points will be given if the applicant organization was not selected in previous funding rounds of this program.

III-B Project Clarifications/Revisions

During the proposal review process, applicants may be contacted for clarification and for the purpose of negotiating changes in project activities, timetables, and budgeted costs. The Issuing Office reserves the right to award funds for an amount other than that requested and/or request changes to, or clarification of, the proposed project.

III-C Rejection of Proposals

EGLE's Energy Unit reserves the right to reject any and all proposals received as a result of this RFP or to negotiate separately with any source whatsoever in any manner necessary to serve the best interest of the State and the Energy Unit. The Energy Unit will not pay for the information solicited or obtained as a result of a consultant/vendor's response to any RFP.

III-D Acceptance of Proposal Content

The contents of this RFP and the proposal of the selected applicant become grant obligations if a grant award ensues. Failure of the selected applicant to accept these obligations shall result in cancellation of the award.

The successful applicant(s) will be required to accept all terms and enter into a Grant Agreement with the State within 45 calendar days of being notified of funding availability. The Agreement consists of standard contract language, applicant's work plan, timetable, and budget information, a compensation clause that adheres to guidelines in this solicitation, and terms and conditions that outline additional requirements.

PART IV ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

IV-A Acceptable Match Types

Applicants may use cash, bond proceeds, tax-exempt leasing and/or loan financing, such as through Michigan SAVES, financing for some or all of their match, and those that do will receive favorable consideration. Match may be categorized as in-kind or monetary from a third-party, or in-kind or monetary from the applicant organization. Match is subject to the same backup documentation as expenses incurred and must adhere to the 2 CFR 200 cost sharing requirements.

IV-B SIGMA Vendor Registration

All selected applicants must be registered as a vendor of the State of Michigan on the SIGMA Vendor Self Services (VSS) before entering into a Grant Agreement. If you are an existing vendor and have an account in [Sigma VSS](#), please verify that all your account information is correct. If not, please use the [Sigma VSS](#) to register. This website is for the exclusive use of the vendors and individuals' intent on doing business with the State of Michigan and allows you to be paid in the event that you are awarded a contract. **Your registration may take up to two weeks to be processed.**

- IV-C News Releases
News releases (including promotional literature and commercial advertisements) pertaining to the Grant or project to which it relates must not be made without prior written State approval, and then only in accordance with the explicit written instructions of the State.
- IV-D Disclosure of Proposal Contents
All information in a bidder's proposal and any Grant resulting from this RFP is subject to the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act, 1976 PA 442, as amended, MCL 15.231, *et seq.*
- IV-E Copyrighted Materials
See Section VI of the [Grant Agreement](#) for a summary of intellectual property provisions.
- IV-F Prime Applicant Responsibilities
The selected applicant will be required to assume responsibility for all grant activities offered in the proposal whether or not that applicant performs them. Further, the State will consider the selected applicant (Recipient) to be the sole point of contact with regard to grant matters, including but not limited to payment of any and all costs resulting from the anticipated grant. If any part of the work is to be subcontracted, the Recipient must notify their Grant Manager and identify the subcontractor(s), including firm name and address, contact person, complete description of work to be subcontracted, descriptive information concerning subcontractor's organizational abilities, Federal Employer Identification Number (FEIN), UEI number, and/or state license number. The State reserves the right to approve subcontractors for the project and to require the Recipient to replace subcontractors found to be unacceptable. The Recipient is totally responsible for adherence by the subcontractor to all provisions of the Grant. For additional information, see Section VII and VIII of the [Grant Agreement](#) for a summary of delegation provisions.
- IV-G Partner Responsibilities
Organizations partnering with selected applicant(s) must comply with the requirements of the solicitation and will be held to the same standards as prime applicants.
- IV-H State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) Section 106 Review Form
If the applicant is conducting ground-disturbing activity or work on a building(s) that is/are at least fifty years of age or older, applicant must complete in full the State Historic Preservation Office Application for Section 106 Review. The review process must be completed prior to the expenditure of federal funds. No project that results in an adverse effect to a historic property will be considered for funding. Projects may be modified to avoid adverse effects. **Submit [this form](#) with your proposal. EGLE's Energy Unit will review and forward to**

the State Historic Preservation Office, as necessary.

- IV-I National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Form
All activities undertaken with grant funds must comply with the [National Environmental Policy Act \(NEPA\) of 1969](#) (42 U.S.C., Section 4321, *et seq.*). It is the Recipient's responsibility to acquire all necessary environmental permits to operate in the State of Michigan. **Submit this form with your proposal for review.** Pre-reviewed projects are exempt from NEPA, pursuant to the [NEPA Categorical Exclusions](#).
- IV-J Davis-Bacon Act Requirements
The Davis-Bacon Act requires that all laborers and mechanics that are non-government employees receive prevailing wages. This requires that the Department of Labor wage rate report is included with agreements that are affected by the Davis-Bacon Act requirement. If applicable, all positions that are related to an agreement subject to the Davis-Bacon Act must be classified accordingly. Weekly time reporting requirements and necessary forms are listed in the Grant Agreement, Addendum to Part II. Detailed information about the Davis Bacon Act can be found at the [U.S. Department of Labor website on Federal Contracts-Working Conditions](#).
- IV-K Build America, Buy America
The Build America Buy America Act, enacted as part of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act on November 15, 2021, established a domestic content procurement preference for all Federal financial assistance obligated for infrastructure projects after May 14, 2022. The domestic content procurement preference requires that all iron, steel, manufactured products, and construction materials used in covered infrastructure projects are produced in the United States.

The U.S. Department of Commerce is working with the Made in America Office to coordinate compliance with these procurement requirements.

PART V ATTACHMENTS

V-A Attachment 1: Pre-reviewed Projects

Pre-reviewed projects should reduce administrative burdens for the applicants. The use of one of these projects does not pre-approve or grantee approval of a proposal. The following pre-reviewed projects have technical merit and meet the goal of BIL 40101(d):

- Dead and Dangerous Tree Removal
- Right-of-Way Enhancement
- Aging Infrastructure Replacement such as Poles and Conductors
- Overcurrent Protective such as Three-phase Reclosers and Fuses on tap lines
- Overvoltage Protection

The utility is responsible for accurate costs and meeting federal requirements such as Build America, Buy America. Utilities and their trade associations will need to provide their cost estimates, and conditions where the costs apply. Utility provided estimates will be confirmed by the Energy Unit within the context of the recommendations below.

These pre-reviewed projects are a subset of all eligible projects. For applicant convenience, names of US manufacturers are provided. This does not represent any type of endorsement of manufacturers, only a reminder that applicants must seek products manufactured in the US.

1. Dead and Dangerous Tree Removal

Climate change, insect damage, diseased trees, dead trees adjacent to utility rights-of-way or even outside the right-of-way threaten the reliability and resiliency of a grid. Tree removal may be prioritized based on the first zone of protection (substation to first downline protective device) or by feeder with significant tree challenges.

Tree removal costs vary significantly. Cost depends on factors like: the size of the tree, vehicle access for tree removal, wood removal and often the services of an arborist to identify problem trees and to interface with customers to obtain permission to remove trees.

2. Right-of-Way Enhancement

Many utilities use a method-based approach on outage frequency to determine tree trimming timing and requirements. This method often causes challenges in restoration from significant storms. Some utilities are working to enhance vegetation management by extending vegetation trimming to the limits of the utility easement/right-of-way. The cost of trimming the full easement width often adds incremental cost to annual vegetation management. This is where 40101(d) may contribute by providing incremental funding for enhanced trimming from

previously employed trimming methods.

3. Aging Infrastructure Replacement: Poles

Established neighborhoods with no load growth and no changes to existing roadway infrastructure can have reliability risk from aging infrastructure. Pole inspections can identify poles for replacement based a defined priority. This pre-reviewed project would accelerate pole replacements and/or allow utilities to become current with pole replacements.

Pole replacement costs vary greatly based on size and class, single-phase or three-phase, accessibility, and many other factors. The budget herein is simply a based cost for pole replacements which can offset the total cost for replacement.

4. Aging Infrastructure Replacement: Conductors

Many power lines in rural America were built in the 1950s and 1960s with smaller copper conductors. These conductors have provided good service, but after 50 to 70 years, many copper conductors have become pitted and brittle making them susceptible to failure due to wind, cold temperatures, and ice loading. Priority for replacement can be set by load or by geographic region.

This pre-reviewed project provides for the replacement of small copper conductors 8A, 6A, and 4Cu with 2ACSR or larger conductors. The focus of this pre-reviewed project measure is on conductor replacement rather than pole replacements, even though pole replacements are necessary for replacing aging conductors. These come in single-phase and three-phase options. Note that the pole line is the measurement between poles, not the length of the replaced conductors.

5. Overcurrent Protective: Three-phase Recloser

Trends in the industry are to add three-phase reclosers on circuits such that the number of customers between three-phase overcurrent protective devices is 500 customers or less. Three-phase overcurrent protective devices come with many options, including communication to SCADA systems. Reclosers are easily installed on poles or in substations.

6. Overcurrent Protective: Fuses on tap lines

Adding a tap of fuses helps to sectionalize a feeder such that the faults are isolated to the smallest portion of the system. This pre-reviewed project is for the cost to add fuses to taps but does not explicitly include fuse/arrester combos. Fuses come in various capacities, for example, 200 Amp Fuse on fiberglass standoff.

7. Overvoltage Protection

Overvoltage protection combines designing and building distribution structures with a sufficient basic impulse level or Critical Flash Over level and a considerable number of lightning arresters to channel direct and indirect lightning surges to the electrical ground. This spacing of arresters is based on soil conductivity and ground flash density.

This pre-reviewed project would provide for replacing older gapped arresters and adding additional arresters to achieve desired flashover levels per 100 miles per year.

V-B Attachment 2: Joint Proposals

There is the potential for administrative efficiencies and economies of scale when utilities pool together and submit a joint application. Joint applications can be led by a utility, a trade association, or other service providers. For the purposes of this RFP, they will be referred to as aggregators.

The following principles apply:

- Aggregators will complete the full application on behalf of participating utilities.
- Each utility that participates in the joint application must submit their respective qualifications, organizational information, and pre-reviewed projects to the aggregator. The aggregator submits a single, full proposal.
- Utility requests will be evaluated individually. This means that the evaluation criteria apply to each utility.
- Utilities not selected for funding will not affect other utilities in the same joint application.
- The grant agreement will be between EGLE and the selected utility.