

40101(d) Formula Grant Funding Public Hearing



State of Rhode Island
Office of Energy Resources
2/20/2023

Please complete
this 2-minute
survey before we
get started!



<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/40101d>

40101(d) Background

40101(d): Preventing Outages and Enhancing the Resiliency of the Electric Grid

Outlined in Section 40101 of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA, aka the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law)

Formula grant program aimed at increasing resilience of the grid against threats from climate change

Resilience is distinct from **reliability** – more focused on how the power system responds to extreme events (vs. day-to-day performance)

The goals of
40101(d) is to
support the
Biden
Administration's
objectives:

1. Demonstrate **measurable improvements** in energy resilience to all hazards in the United States, and mitigate climate-related risk
2. Ensuring that **AT LEAST 40%** of the resulting benefits from 40101(d) investments are **delivered to Disadvantaged Communities**
3. Invest in **modernized grid infrastructure** that can enable consumer access to lower-cost energy and **accommodate increased electrification**, increased penetrations of variable renewable electricity and distributed energy resources, and other evolving system needs over the coming decades
4. Invest in **decarbonization solutions** that help Rhode Island achieve its ambitious goals of **100% Renewable Electricity by 2033** and net-zero greenhouse gas emissions economy-wide by 2050

40101(d) Formula Allocation for Rhode Island



Rhode Island's annual Formula Funding allocation is approximately **\$1.8 million** per year for the next 5 years



Funding will be allocated to the RI Office of Energy Resources



OER will operate a competitive grant funding opportunity to sub-allocate the funding to projects that meet DOE and Rhode Island's resilience goals



Rhode Island will submit a comprehensive Program Narrative to DOE by 3/31/2023 outlining the goals, objectives and deliverables of the anticipated program



RI OER anticipates a program which will seek projects that meet the following goals:

- Use of non-generational clean energy assets to prevent outages and enhance the resiliency of the grid
- collaboration between electric grid operators and communities for grid resiliency projects
- Projects will meaningfully reduce energy burden and inequitable impacts of electric grid outages, with a priority on disadvantaged communities (DACs)
- Incorporates a Community-Prioritized stakeholder engagement strategy for identifying resilience threats

DOE Program Requirements



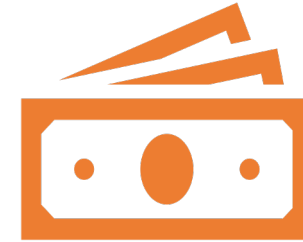
Eligible subgrant recipients:

Electric grid operators (including transmission)

Electricity generators or energy storage operators

Distribution providers

Fuel suppliers



Cost - Match Requirements

Small utilities have a 1/3 cost match of DOE grant amount

All other recipients have a 100% cost match

Small utilities set-aside

D. Small Utilities Set Aside – 40101(d)(6)

A State or Indian Tribe receiving a grant under the program shall ensure that, of the amounts made available to eligible entities, the percentage made available to eligible entities that sell not more than 4,000,000 megawatt hours of electricity per year is not less than the percentage of all customers in the State or Indian Tribe that are served by those eligible entities.

Potential project types include

Electric Grid
hardening

Monitoring and
control technologies

Use of non-
generational assets
to reduce the
likelihood of outages

Grid modernization
for enhanced grid
resilience

Use of Energy
Storage for “adaptive
capacity”

Important Dates and Logistics



Stakeholder public comment will be due in 2 weeks on **March 6th**



Application for 5-year Funding due from OER to DOE on March 31



OER will post any RFP(s) to state purchasing upon DOE approval of program narrative



Sub-grantees would enter into a contract with the approved sub-awardee of funds



RHODE ISLAND LEAGUE OF CITIES AND TOWNS

*Distinctive Communities
Powerful Alliance*

League of Cities and Towns Annual Convention: Open Office Hours

- March 23rd
- after the public comment period ends
- OER will have booth specific to federal funding, and welcome municipal feedback
- <https://www.rileague.org/100/Annual-Convention>

Questions for Stakeholders

What criteria should OER use in evaluating project proposals, relative to the goals and objectives outlined in this hearing?

How can OER best support formation of meaningful partnerships between communities and electric grid operators?

How should OER consider proposed use of innovative approaches to resilience?

How should OER best measure the impact of resilience?

Should OER set a minimum or maximum award value?

How can OER best support and encourage DAC participation?

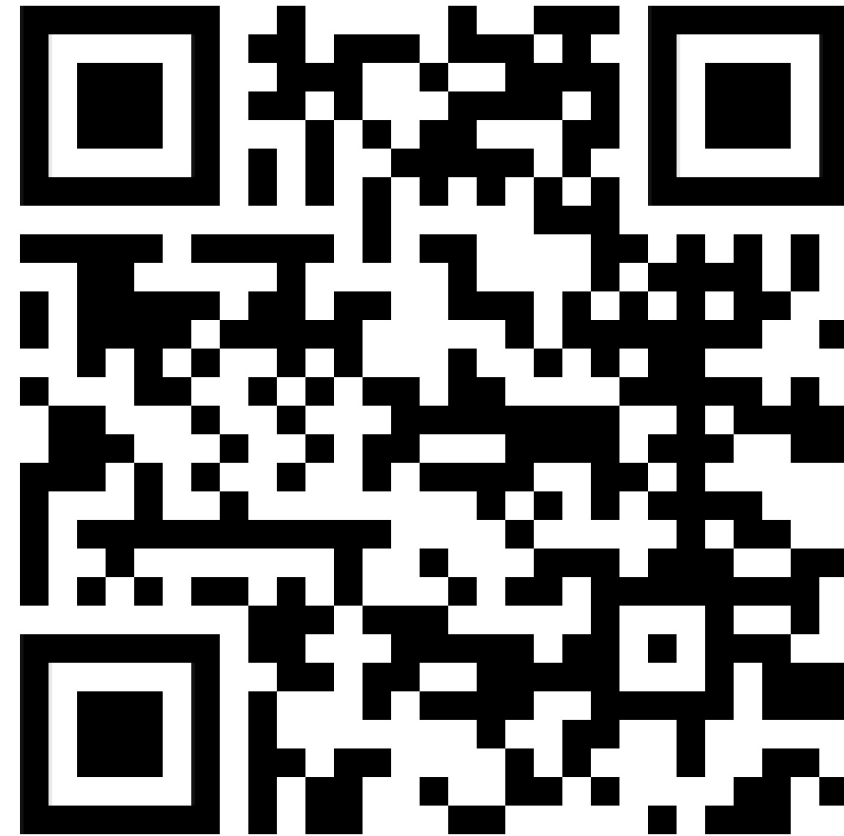
Before you leave, please make sure you've completed the entrance survey!

OER Values your feedback!

Please submit your public comments via SmartComment to:

<https://ri.commentinput.com/?id=WDJpB>

Public Comments will close in 2 weeks by COB on
March 6, 2023



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