Grid Innovation Program

Funded through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL), the Grid Innovation Program (40103(b)) support projects that use innovative approaches to transmission, storage, and distribution infrastructure to enhance grid resilience and reliability. Projects selected under this program will include interregional transmission projects, investments that accelerate interconnection of clean energy generation, and utilization of distribution grid assets to provide backup power and reduce transmission requirements. Innovative approaches can range from use of advanced technologies to innovative partnerships to the deployment of projects identified by innovative planning processes.

The Grid Innovation Program will invest up to $5 billion ($1 billion/year for Fiscal Years 2022-2026) in innovation and new approaches to transmission, distribution, storage, and regional resilience. The first funding cycle will include both FY22 and FY23, up to $2 billion. Projects are subject to a 50% cost share minimum.

Eligible entities include:

- A State
- A combination or 2 or more States
- An Indian Tribe
- A unit of local government
- A Public Utility Commission

Concept Papers are due January 13, 2023. DOE will provide a response to Concept Papers by March 2023. Full Applications are due May 19, 2023. Applicants are allowed to submit more than one Concept Paper, provided that each describes a unique project.

Grid Innovation Program Primary Objectives:

- Ensure reliable grid operations
- Improve overall grid resilience
- Enhance collaboration between and among eligible entities and private and public sector owners and operators on grid resilience
- Contribute to the decarbonization of the electricity and broader energy system
- Provide enhanced system value, improve current and future system cost-effectiveness and deliver economic benefits

Areas of Interest for Applications:

- Transmission capacity enhancements
- Advanced distribution grid assets and functionality
- Combined systems demonstrating innovative approaches

***UPDATED AS OF DECEMBER 15, 2022. SUBJECT TO CHANGE***