GRID RESILIENCE AND INNOVATION PARTNERSHIPS PROGRAM

Established by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, the U.S. Department of Energy's Grid Deployment Office is administering a historic $10.5 billion investment via the Grid Resilience and Innovation Partnerships (GRIP) program to enhance grid flexibility, improve the resilience of the power system against growing threats of extreme weather and climate change, and ensure American communities have access to affordable, reliable, clean electricity when and where they need it.

BUILDING A MORE RESILIENT HAWAI'I GRID

The Hawaiian Electric (HE) project is a comprehensive and transformative hardening of the electric transmission and distribution system across HE's entire service territory that will limit damage from severe events such as hurricanes or wildfires. HE's project addresses these growing risks through seven different solutions across the transmission, sub-transmission, distribution, and grid operations facets of the electric infrastructure. Solutions include hardening of critical transmission lines, customer circuits, control center, and critical poles. Additionally, the project will perform work on lateral undergrounding and wildfire prevention and mitigation efforts such as hazard tree removal and improved situational awareness measures.

Anticipated Outcomes and Benefits

› Decreased likelihood of outages to critical customer facilities and community lifelines.
› Decreased restoration times, resulting in fewer customers being out of power for extended periods of time, allowing for a faster economic and quality of life recovery.
› Decreased risk of wildfire events caused by electric power lines and faster response times and mitigations if an event were to occur.
› Increased grid operations resilience during both severe events and blue-sky conditions.
› Two-thirds of the areas identified as priority for wildfire mitigation efforts contain disadvantaged communities (DACs), which will directly benefit from the reduction in wildfire risk.
› Provide high-quality jobs through apprenticeship programs, partnerships with local education institutions, and the Hawai'i Department of Education to create a Career and Technical Education (CTE) Energy Pathway.
› Set a goal for 40% of the overall benefits of clean energy investments flow to DACs.
› Commitment to develop a Community Benefits Agreement and share diversity, equity, and inclusion policies with contractors and vendors.
› Commitment to listen and solicit input from stakeholders and community into decision making, including diverse perspectives. HE will leverage existing community engagement efforts to ensure the project is responsive to the needs of communities.
› Commitment to utilize union labor for all high-voltage work in accordance with an existing Collective Bargaining Agreement in place with the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) Local 1260.

PROJECT DETAILS

› Project: Climate Adaption Resilience Program
› Applicant/Selectee: Hawaiian Electric Company Inc.
› GRIP Program: Grid Resilience Grants (Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, Section 40101(c))
› Federal cost share: $95,313,716
› Recipient cost share: $95,313,718
› Project Location: Hawai‘i Island, O‘ahu, Moloka‘i, Lāna‘i, and Maui Island
› Project type: System Hardening and Wildfire Mitigation

HELPFUL LINKS

› Grid Resilience and Innovation Partnerships Program
› About the Grid Deployment Office

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