



FACT SHEET

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.

REDUCING WILDFIRES AND INCREASING RESILIENCE IN CENTRAL AND WESTERN STATES

Holy Cross Energy, in conjunction with NRECA Research, is launching a wildfire mitigation project with a consortium of 39 small, rural, not-for-profit electric co-ops in high-threat areas. The Wildfire Assessment and Resilience for Networks (WARN) will enable co-op consortium members to harden their networks by utilizing existing methods and advanced technologies to reduce wildfires and increase wildfire resilience. WARN will provide co-op grid designers with an analysis tool that quantitatively reveals the expected direct impacts of utility-ignited wildfires to the regional electricity supply and the local community, such as loss of property and natural and community resources.

Anticipated Outcomes and Benefits

- › Willingness of at least 77% of WARN cooperatives to sign a statement committing to negotiate a **community benefits agreement**, good neighbor agreement, workforce agreement, or similar agreement. To date, 38% of cooperatives in the consortium have experience with these types of agreements. Agreements will seek to include provisions such as commitment to high-quality jobs, local hiring, minimizing environmental impact, allocation of benefits to **disadvantaged communities** (DACs), and more.
- › Creation of a Community Partnership Team (CPT), where relevant community groups will engage with the cooperative through in-person and written feedback on the cooperative's grid upgrade plan, raise any concerns about the plan's impact, and cite concerns about other potential grid-related wildfire threats.
- › Creation of approximately 100 full-time jobs and many short term-jobs in consortium members' local communities over the five-year project performance period.
- › Commitment to prioritize contracts that advance good-paying, family-supporting jobs – including opportunities for minority, women, and veteran-owned businesses.
- › Commitment to assist in the development of diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility (DEIA) plans for consortium members. DEIA plans will reduce barriers to access and project benefits, such as jobs and affordable energy.

PROJECT DETAILS

- › **Project:**
Wildfire Assessment and Resilience for Networks (WARN)
- › **Applicant/Selectee:**
Holy Cross Energy
- › **GRIP Program:**
Grid Resilience Utility and Industry Grants (Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, Section 40101(c))
- › **Federal cost share:**
\$99,328,430
- › **Recipient cost share:**
\$45,762,816
- › **Project Location:**
Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Kansas, Minnesota, Montana, North Dakota, Nebraska, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Dakota, Utah, Washington, Wyoming
- › **Project type:**
Wildfire Mitigation

HELPFUL LINKS

- › [Grid Resilience and Innovation Partnerships Program](#)
- › [About the Grid Deployment Office](#)