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.

COOPERATIVE ENERGY ECOSYSTEM

Through the Cooperative Energy Ecosystem project, the Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association (Tri-State G&T) will optimize energy efficiency, renewable energy consumption, and grid resilience through collaboration between 42 local distribution members, four states, and Tri-State G&T. The project will serve over 230 disadvantaged communities (DACs) by integrating over 200 MW of controllable load utilizing a distributed energy resource management system (DERMS) over the next five years.

Anticipated Outcomes and Benefits

The proposed work aims to improve the efficiency, capacity, flexibility, reliability, and resilience of the power grid while integrating renewable energy resources, managing controllable loads, and ensuring measurable benefits to local communities, including:

› Optimizing the grid, enhancing reliability, shifting loads, and providing ancillary services.
› Enabling Tri-State G&T to monitor the impact of distributed energy resources (DERs) and ensure member assets are secured by cybersecurity policies.
› Contributing $24.3 million to local economies through increased home weatherization, energy audits, mechanical system upgrades, commercial and industrial efficiency improvements, community solar projects, and installed electric vehicle (EV) charging.
› Increasing spending on electrification and efficiency rebates by $5 million.
› Targeting low-income and energy-burdened communities within Tri-State G&T’s service territory for improvement.
› Reducing power disruptions, increasing access to clean power, supporting minority businesses, and saving 114 GWH of energy annually from 2025–2040 in DACs.
› Making progress towards Tri-State G&T’s goals of 90% reduction in CO2 emissions across their generation assets while bringing online an additional 1,000 MW of utility-scale wind and solar projects by 2025.
› Engaging with more than 15 local, state, and community leaders across four states, including the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) Local 111, on energy transition issues, opportunities, quality jobs, and apprenticeships.

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