



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.

ADVANCED SOLUTIONS FOR WILDFIRE MITIGATION

UMS Group will partner with six utilities across the western United States to deploy wildfire mitigation technologies and advance community engagement and preparedness. The Advanced Solutions for Wildfire Mitigation project will include satellite-based vegetation management, data management & analytics, real-time grid-independent monitoring, and automated rapid wildfire detection. The project will also serve as a catalyst for widespread adoption of similar technologies across the western U.S., utilizing a coalition that includes not only utility partners, but also technology vendors, community and research organizations, and educational institutions.

Anticipated Outcomes and Benefits

The proposed work will significantly enhance grid monitoring and control capabilities, enabling wildfire mitigation and the provision of a range of benefits to local communities, including:

- › Accelerating the deployment of advanced wildfire risk mitigation technologies—particularly among smaller, publicly-owned utilities in the western U.S.—by demonstrating success and reducing technology risk perceptions.
- › Reducing the probability and consequence of ignitions from utility equipment failures, or from contact between utility equipment and vegetation or other materials.
- › Improving utility situational awareness, particularly in high fire-threat areas.
- › Reducing outage frequencies and durations.
- › Improving community awareness of the actions being taken within this project, and where they fit within the context of the full suite of fire mitigations deployed by utilities with at least 75% of outreach conducted within disadvantaged communities (DACs)
- › Increasing wildfire awareness within communities through direct engagement and providing support for specific actions that can be taken to increase wildfire resilience.
- › Decreasing environmental exposure and burdens by reducing direct impacts from fires (such as destruction of personal property, local business impacts, and human casualties) and improved air quality.
- › Using existing collective bargaining agreements between project partner utilities and local labor unions, as well as apprenticeship programs, labor-management training partnerships, and quality pre-apprenticeship programs, which will be utilized in implementation.
- › Developing and leveraging a workforce pipeline through local networks to ensure job quality and workforce continuity.
- › Increasing energy resilience and offering reliability benefits to communities, including reduced outage frequency and duration, and better decision-making that may reduce both the scope and scale of public safety power shutoff events.
- › Promoting the use of clean energy alternatives like solar and storage to support microgrids in high-risk, highly rural areas for energy autonomy and energy security.

PROJECT DETAILS

- › **Project:**
Advanced Solutions for Wildfire Mitigation
- › **Applicant/Selectee:**
UMS Group
- › **GRIP Program:**
Smart Grid Grants (Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, Section 40107)
- › **Federal cost share:**
\$38,480,244
- › **Recipient cost share:**
\$38,480,244
- › **Project Location:**
California, Idaho, Oregon, Washington
- › **Project type:**
Monitoring and Control

HELPFUL LINKS

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