



# Community Microgrid Assistance Partnership

The Community Microgrid Assistance Partnership (C-MAP) program supports microgrid development in electrically isolated areas, provides easy-to-access funding to plan or improve microgrid systems, and offers wraparound services to help participants succeed and share lessons learned.

## Enhancing Energy Reliability

Microgrids are an increasingly popular way to supply reliable and affordable energy, particularly in isolated communities facing frequent outages and fluctuating prices on imported fuel. But the systems come in many forms, which makes project development difficult.

### Microgrid Innovation Network

The Microgrid Innovation Network brings together individuals and organizations to exchange, compile, and disseminate knowledge relevant to or generated by C-MAP. Any communities interested in microgrids, vendors, energy providers, researchers, and government officials are encouraged to participate.



Advanced microgrids can stabilize and lower energy costs in areas with long and precarious supply chains. Photo of Unalakleet, Alaska, by the National Renewable Energy Laboratory.

With C-MAP, remote communities and Tribes can build self-sufficiency and economic growth through microgrid development assistance provided by the U.S. Department of Energy Office of Electricity (OE).

## Microgrid Questions Answered

C-MAP participants plan new microgrids and improve operations of existing ones through projects that match local resources, needs, and opportunities. Energy experts from research institutions and nonprofit organizations use infrastructure development approaches suited to the context and conditions of a remote community.

Communities interested in building a microgrid can solicit support for engineering designs, financial assessments, or other development support. Communities that already use microgrids can apply to C-MAP to repair, improve, monitor, or expand existing systems.

C-MAP project coordinators can connect participants to further support services, whether that means workforce development, raising capital, or other challenges they face in maintaining microgrid systems.

## Off-Grid Innovation

Remote and isolated communities pay some of the highest prices for energy yet are vulnerable to more frequent disruptions in service due to aging infrastructure, natural disasters, and volatile supply chains. Nonetheless, these conditions position rural communities to be at the forefront of implementing innovative microgrid solutions.

Built for long-term sustainability, the microgrids developed in partnership with C-MAP will demonstrate technology solutions and operations improvements, that can be replicated nationwide and provide practical insights for developers and industry.

## How to Participate

C-MAP leadership will issue a request for proposals with opportunities for funding, though interested applicants can contact the program at any time. Proposals may be submitted by nonprofit entities, including energy cooperatives; state and local governmental entities; and any federally recognized American Indian and Alaska Native Tribes and villages.

Resources distributed through the Microgrid Innovation Network are open to all; you do not need to be awarded funding through C-MAP to participate in this knowledge-sharing forum.

## About the Program

To ensure that every American home and business has reliable access to affordable energy, OE works closely with industry and other stakeholders to drive technological and operational advancements. The office promotes microgrids as a core solution for increasing energy reliability and resilience. Decreasing microgrid capital costs and reducing project development, construction, and commissioning times are strategic priorities.

## Learn More

Dan Ton manages the OE Microgrid R&D Program and is the OE lead for C-MAP.

For more information about C-MAP or to join the technical assistance partnership, contact [cmap@nrel.gov](mailto:cmap@nrel.gov) or visit our website: [www.energy.gov/c-map](http://www.energy.gov/c-map). ■



C-MAP participants will define microgrid projects based on local resources, needs, and opportunities. *Photo by the Alaska Municipal League.*



C-MAP offers various channels for providing targeted assistance and funding that enhances energy reliability and affordability.



[www.energy.gov/c-map](http://www.energy.gov/c-map)



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