

Bipartisan Infrastructure Law - SECTION 40101(d)

PREVENTING OUTAGES AND ENHANCING THE RESILIENCE OF THE ELECTRIC GRID

NOTICE OF AWARD FROM DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

The Kansas Corporation Commission (KCC) has received notice of award from the Department of Energy (DOE) on KCC's Formula Grant application submitted in response to Section 40101(d) of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA), also known as the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL). These DOE grant awards are intended to help modernize the State electric grid to reduce impacts of extreme weather and natural disasters while also ensuring power sector reliability with a primary goal to demonstrate measurable improvements in energy resilience, support grid modernization investments in underserved and disadvantaged communities, invest in modernized grid infrastructure and create good-paying jobs. The KCC's allocation from the DOE will total \$13,313,126 for fiscal years 2022 and 2023. The allocation for each fiscal year thereafter is expected to be approximately \$6,647,000 for the next three years.

Under the Program, States may make subawards to eligible entities for projects that implement resilience measures to meet the stated goals of the Program. The KCC will manage and administer activities in order to achieve project goals. Eligible entities include electric grid operators, electricity storage operators, electricity generators, transmission owners or operators, distribution providers, and fuel suppliers or other entities determined by the DOE. However, the KCC shall give preference to only entities that deliver electricity to the public. Eligible subaward projects include the following:

- Weatherization technologies and equipment
- Fire-resistant technologies and fire prevention systems
- Monitoring and control technologies
- The undergrounding of electrical equipment
- Utility pole management
- The relocation of power lines or the reconductoring of power lines with low-sag, advanced conductors
- Vegetation and fuel-load management
- Use or construction of distributed energy resources for enhancing system adaptive capacity during disruptive events, including:
 - Microgrids; and
 - Battery-storage subcomponents
- Adaptive protection technologies
- Advanced modeling technologies
- Hardening of power lines, facilities, substations, of other systems
- Replacement of old overhead conductors and underground cables.

The KCC is currently developing solicitation documents for eligible entity project subawards. It is expected that the solicitation for projects will be available to eligible entities by mid-August.