Energy Innovation Grant Program 2023 Grant Summary



Activity One: Increase the Deployment of Renewable Energy and Energy Storage

Aurora Health Care, Inc.

\$486,900

Aurora Health Care (Aurora) is committed to achieving 100% renewable electricity by 2030. At the Pleasant Prairie Campus, Aurora is implementing a phased approach to become the first renewably powered microgrid Hospital in Wisconsin. Building off a previous PSC funded microgrid feasibility study, Aurora completed Phase 1 of the project which installed a 208kW rooftop solar PV system. Phase 2 will add a 400kW ground mounted solar PV system and 440kWh battery storage system.

Bayview Foundation, Inc.

\$500,000.00

Bayview Foundation, Inc. (Bayview) plans a 36 kW solar array with a 90 kW/173 kWh battery at its new community center in Madison. The installation will boost Phius+ building performance while minimizing operating costs, shed peak load, and offset greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. As Madison's first Community Resilience Center, this project will provide residents access to safe shelter, reliable power and critical services during severe weather events and power outages that can serve as a replicable model for low-income communities across WI.

Cooperative Educational Service Agency 10

\$86,439.66

Cooperative Educational Service Agency 10 (CESA 10) will develop and create a consortium of school districts in Northwestern WI to install fixed, ground-mounted 100 kW solar PV systems. The Districts will benefit from a cleaner energy source, lower utility bills and the ability to divert that ongoing expense to learning outcomes. By developing a consortium, the districts will increase purchasing power and enhance negotiating leverage, as well as utilize expertise from CESA 10 to manage the project and integrate learning opportunities.

Couleecap, Inc.

\$277,876.00

This project will pair a rooftop solar PV system, new heat pump technology, and battery storage system to improve long term outcomes, energy equity, rural housing preservation for a multi-unit housing complex serving seniors and/or persons with disabilities with very low income, and resiliency for the entire community in Ontario, Wisconsin.

Habitat for Humanity of the Greater La Crosse Region, Inc.

\$294,000.00

Empowering rural communities with solar & energy storage, this innovative project fosters resilience, job creation, & sustainability in underserved populations. Through inclusive methodologies & strategic partnerships, Habitat for Humanity of the Greater La Crosse Region harnesses cutting-edge technology to deliver tangible benefits, setting a replicable model for other affiliates.

Hope Village

\$85,682.00

The Chippewa Falls High School Green Team is proposing the installation of a renewable energy system at Hope Village. This 37.8 kW DC ground and roof mounted solar array will have 70 panels and a battery backup with 68 kWh storage capacity. The project will result in 85% energy savings, create a Community Resilience Center (CRC) and increased equitable access to renewable energy education for our most vulnerable, low income, community members.

Lac du Flambeau Chippewa Housing Authority

\$500,000.00

Installation of 60kW-DC ground mount solar and 115 kW battery storage at Elk Point East, a 13-unit multifamily building owned and managed by the Lac du Flambeau Chippewa Housing Authority, located on the Lac du Flambeau Indian Reservation, and serving tenants at or below 80% AMI. This project proposal

compliments the energy efficiency proposal awarded to convert the building's electric resistance heating system to cold-climate air source heat pumps under Activity 2.

Lake Mills Area School District

\$416,899.00

In collaboration with the City of Lake Mills and the Red Cross, the Lake Mills Area School District (LMASD) is updating its Elementary & Middle Schools to be Community Resilience Centers (CRC) to provide critical care/power in the event of an emergency. Critical power will come from the proposed solar energy systems combined with an energy storage system consisting of 100 kW AC (Elementary School) and 200 kW AC (Middle School) rooftop solar systems, 233 kWh of battery storage and optimization system. Centrally located, ideal and already designated for emergency response, these schools will provide relief with shelter, refrigeration, plug power, locker rooms and electric vehicle charging. A public energy dashboard will be accessible to the public and displayed on the LMASD main webpage, and also shared with the Solar Schools webpage/dashboard maintained by the UW-Stevens Point KEEP program. Energy management training, incorporating solar and emerging technology into curriculum, and educational tours focusing on CRC(s) are also a priority.

Northeast Wisconsin Technical College

\$250,000.00

This project will install a scalable solar PV system at Northeast Wisconsin Technical College's Marinette Campus to reduce the electric demand charges associated with its direct expansion cooling systems. Annually, it will decrease electric usage by 72,000 kWh and eliminate 50 metric tons of carbon dioxide emissions. The project will involve associate degree students in the design and operation of the solar PV arrays and enhance learning opportunities for the community and College.

Town of La Pointe

\$142,310.00

This project will create an energy resilient microgrid for the Town's Emergency Services Building, capable of retaining power during a utility power outage. The town will install 37.4kW of solar PV and 30kW/63.6kWh of battery storage to limit utility demand charge, forming a microgrid without the need for backup generator assistance. Similarly, it will integrate existing propane generator into microgrid to charge battery when state of charge is low. Lastly, it will update to the existing solar PV inverter in Town Hall to eliminate RF interference with police radios.

WHPC-Villa West-Green Bay, LLC

\$386,750.00

The Green Bay Affordable Housing Campus Microgrid Project seeks to be the first campus-wide microgrid for affordable housing in Wisconsin. The project creates a resiliency hub for low-income seniors and disabled residents, ensuring heating, cooling, and medication storage are available during outages or climate emergencies, allowing the most vulnerable citizens to shelter in place.

Activity 2: Support Energy Innovation and Demand Response

ATI Ladish, LLC \$125,000.00

This project will install bypass pipes and valves on 21 point-of-use desiccant dryers and replace with a centralized, energy-efficient cycling refrigerated dryer. This action will offset an average of 40 hp from the facility's compressed air plant, reduce electrical demand by 33 kW and reduce site energy consumptior by 295,000 kWh/year. In addition, this project will reduce carbon emissions by 206 metric tons CO2e.

City of Kaukauna \$1,000,000.00

Kaukauna Utilities (KU) is required to replace an aging HVAC System. KU considered the potential environmental impact and found geothermal was a clean and efficient alternative. The project will use geothermal technology to reduce the use of fossil fuels to heat and cool the headquarters building as well as add solar panel use for additional energy need offset. Implementing a geothermal system with a solar array will reduce the buildings energy usage, provide 100% carbon emissions savings from the building, and has a positive return on investment within the project lifecycle.

City of La Crosse \$755,875.92

Through complimentary home energy assessments and a menu of energy efficiency updates, this project aims to increase energy efficiency for approximately 300-500 homes in the City of La Crosse, with an initial target of improving 350 low-income households. Energy efficiency upgrades could include: (1) atticinsulation and air sealing work, (2) duct sealing and rim joist sealing in basements; (3) furnace replacements to high efficiency (96% AFUE), especially fuel oil furnaces, and (4) half-wall foundation rigid fire-rated insulation.

City of Racine \$22,086.74

This project proposes an Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging Station to provide critical infrastructure to support the City's current EV investment while creating capacity to buy or lease five (5) additional EVs, totaling ten (10) City EVs. This pioneering project for the City will demonstrate leadership by incorporating sustainability and resiliency into all public operations, leading to better outcomes for the City, its residents, and the planet. City-owned and operated fleet vehicle carbon emissions will be reduced by 66%.

Lac du Flambeau Chippewa Housing Authority

\$523,894.00

Installation of energy efficiency and resiliency measures at Elk Point East Apartments; a 13-unit multifamily, affordable housing building owned and managed by Lac du Flambeau Chippewa Housing Authority, located on the Lac du Flambeau Indian Reservation, and serving tenants at 80% AMI. This project will be the first of its kind for the housing authority to convert a whole building electric resistance heating system to cold-climate air source heat pumps.

Revitalize Milwaukee, Inc.

\$1,000,000.00

This proposal would deepen the investment in the energy efficiency of up to 100 Milwaukee/Waukesha County homes, in preparation for increases in moderate income funding from the Inflation Reduction Act, expected in late 2024. The proposal includes providing up to 100 homes receiving either (1) attic insulation & air sealing work, (2) furnace replacements to high efficiency (96% AFUE), especially fuel oil furnaces, or (3) half-wall foundation rigid fire-rated insulation.

Activity 3: Facilitate Comprehensive Energy Planning

Aurora Health Care, Inc.

\$30,000.00

Aurora Health Care, Inc. (Aurora) has made a pledge to offset its health care operation with 100% renewable electricity by 2030. As part of these energy goals, Aurora intends to accelerate their efforts to reduce its environmental impact associated with the Southern Lakes Surgery Center. This proposed decarbonization feasibility study will evaluate displacing natural gas boilers with heat pumps, installing solar PV and storage, and developing concepts for microgrid implementation with existing fossil generators.

City of Madison \$50,000.00

The Monona Terrace is one of the most symbolic, important, and recognizable places in the State, with a deep history regarding its relationship to the environment. Besides its name, expansive views of, and its highwater foundation walls, the Monona Terrace and its infrastructure do not meaningfully interact, benefit from, or contribute to Lake Monona. This grant would support the study of transformational energy opportunities and implementation plan for a ground-source heating infrastructure.

City of Oshkosh \$55,476.96

The City of Oshkosh will assess the city's municipal buildings with the support of a consultant to develop a comprehensive energy roadmap. The project will include analyzing property characteristics, assessing solar potential, and tracking utility data across municipal buildings to prioritize energy investments with a

goal of building decarbonization. The plan will serve as a relevant, local framework for other building owners and municipalities in Wisconsin with decarbonization targets.

City of Racine \$50,000.00

As a next step in advancing towards meeting its decarbonization goals, the proposed Investment Grade Audit (IGA) will assess the feasibility and benefits of a combined geothermal and solar project at Racine Memorial Hall and the Racine Public Library. The IGA will explore the potential of using this unique site as a source of renewable energy that could reduce the City's energy consumption, greenhouse gas emissions, and operating costs, as well as improve the indoor comfort and air quality.

City of Stevens Point \$178,672.00

The City of Stevens Point, the Wisconsin Local Government Climate Coalition (WLGCC), ICLEI USA, and over 20 other WLGCC member communities are collaborating on a project to support local governments' community-wide comprehensive energy planning efforts. This proposal is to provide foundational services to complete a GHG inventory, identifying energy strategies that support Justice40 priorities, and creating a streamlined data collection process, among other services.

Ho-Chunk Nation \$100,000.00

The Ho-Chunk Nation Microgrid Feasibility Level 3 project spanning their five communities, proposes an in-depth feasibility study of the designated areas for energy development with emphasis on reduction in energy cost and usage, environmental compatibility, workforce creation, and economic sustainability as well as advantages and disadvantages to the specific community microgrid development and the Ho-Chunk Nation as a whole.

La Crosse County \$100,000.00

La Crosse County, the City of La Crosse, and Western Technical College will collaborate to explore the feasibility of a microgrid in downtown La Crosse. The study will explore (1) ownership models for the system across the three partners, (2) resiliency threats and needs for the downtown area, and (3) how a microgrid can provide power for a community resiliency center and critical government functions in the area.

Midwest Renewable Energy Association \$135,033.70

Net Zero Pathways for Schools initiative is a collaborative framework with key partners and stakeholder groups to effectively implement and support energy efficiency planning initiatives in Wisconsin schools. The collaborative efforts of this proposal aims to serve ten schools and/or school districts across Wisconsin. These include the Mineral Point Unified School District, Dodgeville School District, Menominee Indian School District, Beloit College, and the Green Bay Public School District which encompasses six individual schools: Fort Howard Elementary School, Lincoln Elementary School, Nicolet Elementary School, Southwest High School, King Elementary School, and Aldo Leopold Community School. Each of these school districts holds a unique position within the project, reflecting the diversity of Wisconsin's educational landscape. Planning efforts will include benchmarking energy use, providing recommendations for energy audits, offering low-cost energy-saving solutions, outlining electrification strategies, and conducting a request for market-based pricing and financial performance. Schools will be provided with a step-by-step roadmap to decarbonization that is clear, resource rich, and actionable.

Milwaukee Board of School Directors \$50,000.00

Milwaukee Public Schools is partnering with an engineering consultant to assess its ecological footprint and develop a comprehensive Sustainability Action Plan. This plan will guide operations and outreach efforts to address climate change's effects. The joint report by the MPS District Sustainability Team and the consultant will be presented to the MPS Board of Directors.

Walnut Way Conservation Corp. \$200,000.00

Walnut Way, in partnership with Northwest CDC, 30th Street Coordinating Committee, and Metcalf Park Community Bridges, will build upon their past work of installing solar in the Lindsey Heights neighborhood and serve as the lead organization to develop a community-based process plan to install 1 MW of solar on the northwest side of Milwaukee. The plan for this pilot project would align with the State of Wisconsin Solar for All application.

Wisconsin Housing Preservation Corp

\$77,674.00

Wisconsin Housing Preservation Corp (WHPC) proposes to conduct thorough energy and water benchmarking of all buildings in their portfolio. WHPC's portfolio consists of Section 8 subsidized housing, USDA Rural Development housing, Section 42 Low Income Housing Tax Credit Properties and affordable unsubsidized properties. WHPC will work with Elevate to benchmark 130 non-HUD subsidized properties.