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# PSC Now Accepting Applications for Grid Resilience Program

MADISON – The Public Service Commission of Wisconsin (PSC) announced the PSC is currently accepting applications for the Grid Resilience Program. The program is designed to enhance the reliability of the electric grid by supporting activities to reduce the likelihood, consequences of, and impacts to the electric grid from extreme weather, wildfire, and natural disaster.

Entities eligible to apply include electric grid operators; electricity storage operators; electricity generators; transmission owners or operators; distribution providers; and fuel suppliers. The Commission reserved 75 percent of funding for small utilities that sell no more than 4,000,000 MWh of electricity each year because they may have less resources available to undertake infrastructure projects that support grid resilience.

Grid Resilience Program funding is available to meet the following program objectives:

- invest in the modernization and hardening of Wisconsin's electric grid to protect it from current and future threats to infrastructure;
- reduce the frequency and duration of service interruptions in rural and disadvantaged communities and;
- increase the skilled workforce to support resilience-related activities.

There are a broad range of activities eligible for Grid Resilience Program funding. The Commission particularly encourages project proposals related to weatherization technologies and equipment; fire-resistant technologies and fire prevention systems; monitoring and control technologies; undergrounding of electrical equipment; adaptive protection technologies; hardening of power lines, facilities, substations, and other systems; and training, recruitment, retention, and reskilling of skilled and properly credentialled workers in order to perform the work required for the particular resilience activities in this program. A full list of eligible activities is available in the PSC Order.

This is the second round of the Grid Resilience Program. In June 2024, the Commission awarded $8.5 million in the inaugural round to support nineteen grid resilience projects.

Funding for the Grid Resilience Program is from the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA). The Commission has allocated a total budget of $7.2 million for immediate award in Program Round 2 and an additional estimated budget of $9.7 million for

conditional awards to be executed as long as additional funding becomes available from the U.S. Department of Energy (U.S. DOE) by December 31, 2029.

The Grid Resilience Program application period started October 15, 2026. Phase One Applications are due by February 22, 2027, at 1:30 pm CT. Commission staff will request additional, project-specific information from Phase One applications to support merit evaluation. Responses to those follow-up requests will be due by April 12, 2027, at 1:30 pm CT.

The PSC's Office of Energy Innovation will hold a webinar on application instructions for the Grid Resilience Program on November 5, 2026. Register for the webinar here.

Additional information on the Grid Resilience Program is available here.

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