

**State of Maine
Master Score Sheet**

RFA# 202312239						
Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program						
Bidder Name:		Sunnova Energy	Van Buren Light and Power District	Eastern Maine Electric Cooperative	Madison Electric Works	
Proposed Cost:		\$689,737	\$674,750	\$2,000,000	\$510,633	
Scoring Sections	Points Available					
Section I: Preliminary Information	Compliance Review	Complete	Complete	Complete	Complete	
Section II: Project Summary and Alignment with Program Narrative Objectives	25	21	19	17	17	
Section III: Grid & Community Benefits	30	26	25	24	22	
Section IV: Technical Merit & Feasibility	30	25	25	25	24	
Section V. Partnerships and Letters of Support	15	12	13	12	8	
TOTAL	<u>100</u>	<u>84</u>	<u>82</u>	<u>78</u>	<u>71</u>	
Bidder Name:		Fox Islands Electric Cooperative	Central Maine Power Company – Shaw Mill	Portland International Jetport	Central Maine Power Company – Brunswick Harpswell	
Proposed Cost:		\$1,080,626	\$2,000,000	\$1,382,000	\$2,000,000	
Scoring Sections	Points Available					
Section I: Preliminary Information	Compliance Review	Complete	Complete	Complete	Complete	

Section II: Project Summary and Alignment with Program Narrative Objectives	25	16	15	16	13
Section III: Grid & Community Benefits	30	21	20	15	17
Section IV: Technical Merit & Feasibility	30	23	26	25	20
Section V: Partnerships and Letters of Support	15	9	7	10	0
TOTAL	<u>100</u>	<u>69</u>	<u>68</u>	<u>66</u>	<u>50</u>



**STATE OF MAINE
GOVERNOR'S ENERGY OFFICE**

**Janet T. Mills
Governor**

**Dan Burgess
Director**

Christopher Morin
Central Maine Power
83 Edison Dr.
Augusta, ME 04330

July 12, 2024

SUBJECT: Notice of Conditional Awards under RFA #202312239 Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

Dear Christopher Morin:

This letter is in regard to the subject Request for Application (RFA), issued by the State of Maine Governor's Energy Office for the Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program. The Department has evaluated the proposals received using the evaluation criteria identified in the RFA, and the Department is hereby announcing its conditional contract awards to the following applicants:

1. Sunnova Energy
2. Van Buren Light and Power District
3. Eastern Maine Electric Cooperative
4. Madison Electric Works
5. Fox Islands Electric Cooperative, Inc.
6. Central Maine Power – Shaw Mill

The applicants listed above received the evaluation team's highest scores. The Department will be contacting the aforementioned applicants soon to negotiate a contract. As provided in the RFA, the Notice of Conditional Contract Award is subject to execution of a written contract and, as a result, this Notice does NOT constitute the formation of a contract between the Department and the apparent successful vendor. The vendor shall not acquire any legal or equitable rights relative to the contract services until a contract containing terms and conditions acceptable to the Department is executed. The Department further reserves the right to cancel this Notice of Conditional Contract Award at any time prior to the execution of a written contract.

As stated in the RFA, following announcement of this award decision, all submissions in response to the RFA are considered public records available for public inspection pursuant to the State of Maine Freedom of Access Act (FOAA). 1 M.R.S. §§ 401 et seq.; 5 M.R.S. § 1825-B (6).

This award decision is conditioned upon final approval by the State Procurement Review Committee and the successful negotiation of a contract. A Statement of Appeal Rights has been provided with this letter; see below.

Thank you for your interest in doing business with the State of Maine.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ethan Tremblay". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "E" and a distinct "T".

Ethan Tremblay
Policy and Markets Program Manager
Governor's Energy Office

STATEMENT OF APPEAL RIGHTS

Any person aggrieved by an award decision may request an appeal hearing. The request must be made to the Director of the Bureau of General Services, in writing, within 15 days of notification of the contract award as provided in 5 M.R.S. § 1825-E (2) and the Rules of the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Bureau of General Services, Division of Purchases, Chapter 120, § (2) (2).



**STATE OF MAINE
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**Dan Burgess
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Scott Hallowell
Eastern Maine Electric Cooperative
21 Union St.
Calais, ME 04619-1819

July 12, 2024

SUBJECT: Notice of Conditional Awards under RFA #202312239 Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

Dear Scott Hallowell:

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Ethan Tremblay
Policy and Markets Program Manager
Governor's Energy Office

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**STATE OF MAINE
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**Dan Burgess
Director**

Amy M.W. Turner
Fox Islands Electric Cooperative, Inc.
66 Main Street
Vinalhaven, ME 04863

July 12, 2024

SUBJECT: Notice of Conditional Awards under RFA #202312239 Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

Dear Amy Turner:

This letter is in regard to the subject Request for Application (RFA), issued by the State of Maine Governor's Energy Office for the Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program. The Department has evaluated the proposals received using the evaluation criteria identified in the RFA, and the Department is hereby announcing its conditional contract awards to the following applicants:

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Ethan Tremblay
Policy and Markets Program Manager
Governor's Energy Office

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**STATE OF MAINE
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**Dan Burgess
Director**

Martin Berry
Madison Electric Works
6 Business Park Dr.
Madison, ME 04950

July 12, 2024

SUBJECT: Notice of Conditional Awards under RFA #202312239 Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

Dear Martin Berry:

This letter is in regard to the subject Request for Application (RFA), issued by the State of Maine Governor's Energy Office for the Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program. The Department has evaluated the proposals received using the evaluation criteria identified in the RFA, and the Department is hereby announcing its conditional contract awards to the following applicants:

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Policy and Markets Program Manager
Governor's Energy Office

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**Dan Burgess
Director**

Paul Bradbury
Portland International Jetport
1001 Westbrook Street
Portland, Maine 04102

July 12, 2024

SUBJECT: Notice of Conditional Awards under RFA #202312239 Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

Dear Paul Bradbury:

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Policy and Markets Program Manager
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**STATE OF MAINE
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**Dan Burgess
Director**

Bill Schofield
Van Buren Light and Power District
320 Main St.
Van Buren, ME 04785

July 12, 2024

SUBJECT: Notice of Conditional Awards under RFA #202312239 Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

Dear Bill Schofield:

This letter is in regard to the subject Request for Application (RFA), issued by the State of Maine Governor's Energy Office for the Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program. The Department has evaluated the proposals received using the evaluation criteria identified in the RFA, and the Department is hereby announcing its conditional contract awards to the following applicants:

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**Dan Burgess
Director**

Adam Miller
Sunnova Energy
20 Greenway Plaza, Ste 540
Houston, TX 77046

July 12, 2024

SUBJECT: Notice of Conditional Awards under RFA #202312239 Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

Dear Adam Miller:

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**STATE OF MAINE
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER: Central Maine Power – Proposal 1, Brunswick Harpswell

DATE: 4/5/2023

Instructions: The purpose of this form is to record all evaluation notes and scoring that is obtained through consensus discussions among the full evaluation team for this Request for Proposals (RFP) process. The RFP Coordinator or Lead Evaluator should complete this form and maintain the only copy. This form should reflect the full team’s consensus evaluations, and this form is **not** meant to take the place of individual evaluation notes, which are still required from each member of the evaluation team. A separate form is available for individual evaluation notes. Please submit a copy of this document to the Division of Procurement Services as part of your contract award selection documents.

SUMMARY PAGE

Department Name: Maine Governor’s Energy Office

Name of RFP Coordinator: Allie Rand

Names of Evaluators: Nat Haslett, Allie Rand, Bob Snook, Claire Swingle, Ethan Tremblay

<u>Pass/Fail Criteria</u>	<u>Pass</u>	<u>Fail</u>
Section I. Preliminary Information (Eligibility)		
• Applicable uses	x	
• Entity eligibility	x	
<u>Scoring Sections</u>	<u>Points Available</u>	<u>Points Awarded</u>
Section II. Project Summary and Alignment with Program Narrative Objectives: <i>Objective #1 - Increased Grid Resilience</i> <i>Objective #2 – Increased Community Resilience</i> <i>Objective #3 – Workforce and Quality Jobs</i> <i>Objective #4 – Grid Modernization and Policy Alignment</i>	25	13
Section III. Grid & Community Benefits	30	17
Section IV. Technical Merit & Feasibility	30	20
Section V. Partnerships and Letters of Support	15	0
<u>Total Points</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>50</u>

**STATE OF MAINE
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER: Central Maine Power – Proposal 1, Brunswick Harpswell

DATE: 4/5/2023

**OVERVIEW OF SECTION I
Preliminary Information**

Section I. Preliminary Information

Evaluation Team Comments:

- I. **General Information, Eligibility, Completeness and Cost Match – Compliance Review**
 - A. *All components provided:*
 - *Application Form – Included*
 - *Environmental Questionnaire – Included*
 - *Budget Justification Workbook – Included*
 - *Appendix A: Performance Metrics Checklist? – Included*
 - B. *Eligibility of entity and proposed uses*
 - *Applicant is eligible as an electric grid operator*
 - *Uses are eligible and include:*
 - 1. *Monitoring and control technologies*
 - 2. *Utility pole mgmt.*
 - 3. *Hardening of power lines, facilities, substations and systems*
 - 4. *Replacement of old overhead conductors*
 - C. *Cost match*
 - *Indication of Large or Small Utility cost match applicability - yes, CMP indicated it is a large utility*
 - D. *Federal policy acknowledgements – yes, acknowledged.*
 - E. *Project Performance metrics complete and attached.*

**STATE OF MAINE
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER: Central Maine Power – Proposal 1, Brunswick Harpswell

DATE: 4/5/2023

**EVALUATION OF SECTION II
Organization Qualifications and Experience**

	<u>Points Available</u>	<u>Points Awarded</u>
Section II. <i>Project Summary and Alignment with Program Narrative Objectives</i>	25	13

Evaluation Team Comments:

For each applicable objective as listed in Section G, an indication of how the proposed project meets stated objective, while also at a minimum not undermining the other core program objectives. Applicant should include a description of how success will be tracked through a description of how the applicant will provide reporting on metrics, drawing upon applicable metrics from the example metrics listed in the U.S. DOE Grid Deployment Office’s Guidance for Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Grid Resilience Formula Grant Metrics

- *Objective #1 - Increased Grid Resilience*
 - i. Proposed project would harden infrastructure at circuit 217D3. Circuit experienced 300+ outages impacting 36000 customers in past three years*
 - ii. Steel or composite poles; tree wire reconductoring*
 - iii. Estimations of SAIFI improvements excluding storm and including storm*
 - iv. Improvements to result in estimated \$2,178 in annual O&M savings*
- *Objective #2 – Increased Community Resilience*
 - i. Same as grid resilience; did not indicate critical infrastructure or other community resilience aspects*
 - ii. Large number of customer benefitting*
- *Objective #3 – Workforce and Quality Jobs*
 - i. No additional workforce training is noted*
 - ii. Statement that workforce opportunities would be increased because more DERs would be enabled, specifics not described*
- *Objective #4 – Grid Modernization and Policy Alignment*
 - i. General statement on importance of hardening and resilience for beneficial electrification; specifics to the circuit not listed*

**STATE OF MAINE
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER: Central Maine Power – Proposal 1, Brunswick Harpswell

DATE: 4/5/2023

**EVALUATION OF SECTION III
Grid & Community Benefits**

	<u>Points Available</u>	<u>Points Awarded</u>
Section III. Grid & Community Benefits	30	17

Evaluation Team Comments:

- a. *The extent to which the proposed project provides benefits to the electric grid, customer, and community. Where possible, data should consider current conditions and forecasted load increase from beneficial electrification and increased frequency of storms as a result of climate change, and indicate methods and data used. See the Guidance for Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Grid Resilience Formula Grant Metrics for examples of metrics to track benefits associated with the electric grid, customer, and communities;*
- *Project demonstrates need based on historical outages and projected SAIFI improvements*
 - *While a grid need was identified, reason for why the identified solution was the best option to meet grid need was not described in the application*
 - *Project does not include workforce training*
 - *Not all metrics are supported by the narrative, including number of protection/control devices installed, number of assets purchased to assist with power restoration, and description of how project incorporates customer/community participation/feedback mechanisms*
 - *Metrics included:*
 - a. *Miles of:*
 - a. *New lines*
 - b. *Dist. lines reconductored*
 - c. *Dist. poles replaced*
 - b. *Number of:*
 - a. *devices installed*
 - b. *assets purchased*
 - c. *outages, SAIDI, SAIFI, and CAIDI*
 - d. *resi, commercial and industrial customers benefiting from project*
 - e. *customers that have access to real time or hourly usage...*
 - c. *Zip code, description of how project incorporates community input*

**STATE OF MAINE
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER: Central Maine Power – Proposal 1, Brunswick Harpswell

DATE: 4/5/2023

**EVALUATION OF SECTION IV
Technical Merit & Feasibility**

	<u>Points Available</u>	<u>Points Awarded</u>
Section IV. Technical Merit & Feasibility	30	20

Evaluation Team Comments:

- a. *A description of the current stage of project planning; Please provide a detailed explanation of your proposed project expenses organized by task using the provided SF-424 Budget Justification Form*
 - *Budget justification not sufficiently detailed; applicant did not find enough itemization or historical reference points to provide confidence to the review team that the budget is reasonable*
 - *485k for personnel and remaining funds for equipment*
 - *No itemization of cost per utility pole*
- b. *Proposed project cost*
 - *\$4M*
- c. *Financial need to the applicant and demonstration of how the funds will aid in the successful completion of the project within one to five years;*
 - *Lack of budget availability is noted and states that funding would allow project to begin in 2024 with one year design phase and one year construction period*
- d. *Description of other federal or state funding sources the applicant has or could consider, including whether the project is eligible or may be eligible for cost recovery, if the applicant is a regulated entity*
 - *States that CMP is not aware of other funding sources and the project cost match may be eligible for cost recovery*
- e. *Description of how the project meets the goals of Maine Won't Wait, including achieving 80% of electricity generated by 2030 per the state's Renewable Portfolio Standard, with a goal of 100% by 2040; indication of how project will not increase reliance on non-renewable sources;*
 - *Includes general description of meeting MWW goals through improved reliability to better enable integration of electric end uses*
 - *Not clear from proposal that project would lead to increased capacity of grid to handle additional DERs*

**STATE OF MAINE
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER: Central Maine Power – Proposal 1, Brunswick Harpswell

DATE: 4/5/2023

- f. *A description of how the project will fulfil at a minimum one of the core program objectives, while also at a minimum not undermining the other core program objectives;*
 - *Application addresses objective 1 as primary objective*
 - *Other objectives minimally addressed in the application*
- g. *Efficient use of program funds, for example through leveraging, matching, securitization;*
 - *Does not explicitly address*
 - *Cost match proposed is in addition to what is required*
- h. *Indication whether the proposed project location(s) is within a floodplain, including how the floodplain is defined;*
 - *Not in a floodplain*
- i. *Demonstrated ability to comply with all applicable federal requirements, including Buy America and Davis-Bacon Act requirements.*
 - *Confirmed compliance with BABA and DBA*

**EVALUATION OF SECTION V
Partnerships and Letters of Support**

	<u>Points Available</u>	<u>Points Awarded</u>
Section V. Partnerships and Letters of Support	15	0

Evaluation team comments

- No letters provided or indication of partnership efforts within application narrative, no points awarded

**STATE OF MAINE
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239
RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program
BIDDER: EMEC
DATE: 4/9/2023

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SUMMARY PAGE

Department Name: Maine Governor’s Energy Office
Name of RFP Coordinator: Allie Rand
Names of Evaluators: Nat Haslett, Allie Rand, Bob Snook, Ethan Tremblay, Claire Swingle

<u>Pass/Fail Criteria</u>	<u>Pass</u>	<u>Fail</u>
Section I. Preliminary Information (Eligibility)		
• Applicable uses	x	
• Entity eligibility	x	
<u>Scoring Sections</u>	<u>Points Available</u>	<u>Points Awarded</u>
Section II. Project Summary and Alignment with Program Narrative Objectives: <i>Objective #1 - Increased Grid Resilience</i> <i>Objective #2 – Increased Community Resilience</i> <i>Objective #3 – Workforce and Quality Jobs</i> <i>Objective #4 – Grid Modernization and Policy Alignment</i>	25	17
Section III. Grid & Community Benefits	30	24
Section IV. Technical Merit & Feasibility	30	25
Section V. Partnerships and Letters of Support	15	12
<u>Total Points</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>78</u>

**STATE OF MAINE
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239
RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program
BIDDER: EMEC
DATE: 4/9/2023

**OVERVIEW OF SECTION I
Preliminary Information**

Section I. Preliminary Information

Evaluation Team Comments:

- I. General Information, Eligibility, Completeness and Cost Match – Compliance Review**
 - A. All components provided:
 - Application Form? - Included
 - Environmental Questionnaire (NEPA)? - Included
 - Budget Justification Workbook? - Included
 - Appendix A: Performance Metrics Checklist? - Included
 - B. Eligibility of entity and proposed uses – confirmed, distribution provider
 - C. Cost match
 - Indication of Large or Small Utility cost match applicability – small utility match, 34% of total project cost totaling \$1,036,478 – 51.8% for cost match
 - Cash match source – in kind, cash
 - D. Federal policy acknowledgements - yes
 - E. Project Performance metrics complete and attached – attached

**STATE OF MAINE
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239
RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program
BIDDER: EMEC
DATE: 4/9/2023

**EVALUATION OF SECTION II
Organization Qualifications and Experience**

	<u>Points Available</u>	<u>Points Awarded</u>
Section II. <i>Project Summary and Alignment with Program Narrative Objectives</i>	25	17

Evaluation Team Comments:

Refer to the sections and content of your RFP to develop a bulleted outline for notes for each section. Delete the sample below and these directions and replace with your own outline based on your RFP.

For each applicable objective as listed in Section G, an indication of how the proposed project meets stated objective, while also at a minimum not undermining the other core program objectives. Applicant should include a description of how success will be tracked through a description of how the applicant will provide reporting on metrics, drawing upon applicable metrics from the example metrics listed in the U.S. DOE Grid Deployment Office’s Guidance for Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Grid Resilience Formula Grant Metrics

- *Objective #1 - Increased Grid Resilience*
 - *Distribution line upgrade, 3 phase wire*
 - *Upgrading to AAAC cable*
 - *10.6 miles of distribution line upgrade adding step down transformers, placing individual distribution transformers and replacing some poles and cross arms*
 - *“Eliminating antiquated distribution lines with numerous splices”*
- *Objective #2 – Increased Community Resilience*
 - *Anticipated benefits of reduced line losses and outages*
 - *Listed hospital, EMS, fire department, water/sewer facilities, schools as emergency shelters in service territory*
 - *14 disadvantaged communities and tribal area per CJEST tool*
- *Objective #3 – Workforce and Quality Jobs*
 - *No funds requested for additional workers*
 - *Proposed to report on workforce metrics*
 - *Describe potential for adoption of increased DERs*
- *Objective #4 – Grid Modernization and Policy Alignment*

**STATE OF MAINE
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER: EMEC

DATE: 4/9/2023

- *Supporting integration of DERs and improving reliability*
- *Advanced conductors and increased substation backfeed capability aligned with grid modernization priorities*

**STATE OF MAINE
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239
RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program
BIDDER: EMEC
DATE: 4/9/2023

**EVALUATION OF SECTION III
Grid & Community Benefits**

	<u>Points Available</u>	<u>Points Awarded</u>
Section III. Grid & Community Benefits	30	24

Evaluation Team Comments:

- a. *The extent to which the proposed project provides benefits to the electric grid, customer, and community. Where possible, data should consider current conditions and forecasted load increase from beneficial electrification and increased frequency of storms as a result of climate change, and indicate methods and data used. See the Guidance for Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Grid Resilience Formula Grant Metrics for examples of metrics to track benefits associated with the electric grid, customer, and communities;*
- *Increasing the distance of 25 kV on the distribution system by replacing 10.6 miles of small, aged wire (includes ACSR and copper) with 3/0 AAAC three phase wire, adding stepdown transformers, replacing individual distribution transformers that are upgraded to 25 kV, along with replacing some poles and crossarms*
 - *Resilience metrics include:*
 - a. *Miles of distribution lines recondored*
 - b. *Number of distribution poles replaced*
 - c. *Number of distribution poles with other upgrade*
 - d. *System Average Interruption Duration Index (SAIDI)*
 - e. *Customer Average Interruption Duration Index (CAIDI)*
 - f. *System Average Interruption Frequency Index (SAIFI)*
 - g. *Zip code(s) where funds are deployed*
 - h. *Number of Maine businesses and contractors engaged in resilience project activities*
 - i. *Location (zip codes) of businesses and subcontractors receiving funds from the project*
 - j. *Total Outages*
 - *3000 meters would have better access to back feed ability*
 - *Historical number of customer outages and anticipated impacts resulting from this project are not quantified in the application*
- b. *The extent to which the proposed project demonstrates reduced energy burden within the community or communities;*

**STATE OF MAINE
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER: EMEC

DATE: 4/9/2023

- *Qualitatively describes: “Without grant support we are forced to rely on our annual budgeting process and rate revenue, which is challenging and limited due to the income demographics of our area”*
- c. *A description of how the project will incorporate customer and community participation and feedback mechanisms, including but not limited to customer and community benefits, and community engagement in identifying critical facilities; description should include description of consultation and engagement with communities to date and identify areas where community input was sought on the project. Refer to “Equity and community benefit metrics” in DOE’s metrics guidance document.*
- *Notes letters of support from several towns and organizations (included in application), commits to address projects at annual meeting attended by 350-600 customers, posting info on the website and a bill insert, and commitment following grant approval to develop and implement an engagement strategy along with community partners*
- d. *A description of how the project will lead to the creation of high-quality jobs in Maine; metrics of interest include but are not limited to number of new clean energy jobs in the state in the years following the resilience project; number of Maine businesses and contractors engaged in resilience project activities; number of Maine high school and secondary career and technical education (CTEs) engaged in resilience project activities; location of businesses and subcontractors receiving funds from the project. Refer to “Equity and community benefit metrics” in DOE’s metrics guidance document for additional information.*
- *Applicant states majority of project to employ use of skilled contractors, including regional union labor.*
 - *Local contractors to clear vegetation*
 - *Hardening and back feeding capability is expected to allow for economic and business growth*
- e. *The extent to which the proposed project contributes to or goes beyond the Justice40 objective of 40% of the benefits of climate and clean energy investments flowing to disadvantaged communities.*
- *Notes communities where work is located in as well as DACs benefitting from project work*
 - *14 DACs total identified by CEJST tool*

**STATE OF MAINE
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239
RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program
BIDDER: EMEC
DATE: 4/9/2023

**EVALUATION OF SECTION IV
Technical Merit & Feasibility**

	<u>Points Available</u>	<u>Points Awarded</u>
Section IV. Technical Merit & Feasibility	30	25

Evaluation Team Comments:

- a. *A description of the current stage of project planning; Please provide a detailed explanation of your proposed project expenses organized by task using the provided SF-424 Budget Justification Form*
 - *Preliminary planning complete; project has been evaluated by EMECs engineering dept, operations dept and CEO*
 - *Engineering consultant along with EMEC staff to conduct labor bid process; procurement dept will requires bids for materials and EMEC operations will oversee and monitor the work performed by the contractor*
 - *Based on the budget, in kind match indicates some portion of materials have been procured*
 - *Unclear if this material has been purchased or not*
- b. *Proposed project cost - \$3,036,478*
- c. *Financial need to the applicant and demonstration of how the funds will aid in the successful completion of the project within one to five years;*
 - *Applicant states that without funding assistance the project would be “unlikely to occur in the near future” due to concern about ratepayer impacts*
- d. *Description of other federal or state funding sources the applicant has or could consider, including whether the project is eligible or may be eligible for cost recovery, if the applicant is a regulated entity*
 - *As a coop, applicant has access to Rural Utilities Service to borrow funds; notes that this program would result in a lower annual cost to be recovered than RUS*
- e. *Description of how the project meets the goals of Maine Won't Wait, including achieving 80% of electricity generated by 2030 per the state's Renewable Portfolio Standard, with a goal of 100% by 2040; indication of how project will not increase reliance on non-renewable sources;*
 - *Emphasis on resilience benefits of backup power in a rural location and the critical facilities named earlier in application*

**STATE OF MAINE
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER: EMEC

DATE: 4/9/2023

- *Increased electrification and deployment of heat pumps and electric vehicles*
- *Climate ready infrastructure*
- f. *A description of how the project will fulfil at a minimum one of the core program objectives, while also at a minimum not undermining the other core program objectives;*
 - *Primary objectives achieved are improved resiliency of the grid and communities*
- g. *Efficient use of program funds, for example through leveraging, matching, securitization; Match requirement proposed exceeds minimum, applicant notes that EMEC could contribute more cash for cost match if needed*
- h. *Indication whether the proposed project location(s) is within a floodplain, including how the floodplain is defined;*
 - *Confirmed project is not in a floodplain*
- i. *Demonstrated ability to comply with all applicable federal requirements, including Buy America and Davis-Bacon Act requirements.*
 - *Confirmed RFPs for all work involved will include language specifying DOE requirements on materials and labor*

**EVALUATION OF SECTION V
Partnerships and Letters of Support**

	<u>Points Available</u>	<u>Points Awarded</u>
Section V. Partnerships and Letters of Support	15	12

Evaluation team comments

- *Letters of support from multiple organizations and municipal entities; application narrative describes plans to discuss projects including specific examples of methods of outreach. Application includes commitment to development of engagement strategy.*
- *Letters provided:*
 - *City of Calais*
 - *Town of Charlotte*
 - *Town of Robbinston*
 - *Calais Community Hospital*
 - *Washington County Community College*
 - *Town of Princeton*

**STATE OF MAINE
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239
RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program
BIDDER: Fox Island
DATE: 4/9/2023

Instructions: The purpose of this form is to record all evaluation notes and scoring that is obtained through consensus discussions among the full evaluation team for this Request for Proposals (RFP) process. The RFP Coordinator or Lead Evaluator should complete this form and maintain the only copy. This form should reflect the full team’s consensus evaluations, and this form is **not** meant to take the place of individual evaluation notes, which are still required from each member of the evaluation team. A separate form is available for individual evaluation notes. Please submit a copy of this document to the Division of Procurement Services as part of your contract award selection documents.

SUMMARY PAGE

Department Name: Maine Governor’s Energy Office
Name of RFP Coordinator: Allie Rand
Names of Evaluators: Nat Haslett, Allie Rand, Bob Snook, Claire Swingle, Ethan Tremblay

<u>Pass/Fail Criteria</u>	<u>Pass</u>	<u>Fail</u>
Section I. Preliminary Information (Eligibility)		
• Applicable uses	x	
• Entity eligibility	x	
<u>Scoring Sections</u>	<u>Points Available</u>	<u>Points Awarded</u>
Section II. Project Summary and Alignment with Program Narrative Objectives: <i>Objective #1 - Increased Grid Resilience</i> <i>Objective #2 – Increased Community Resilience</i> <i>Objective #3 – Workforce and Quality Jobs</i> <i>Objective #4 – Grid Modernization and Policy Alignment</i>	25	16
Section III. Grid & Community Benefits	30	21
Section IV. Technical Merit & Feasibility	30	23
Section V. Partnerships and Letters of Support	15	9
<u>Total Points</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>69</u>

**STATE OF MAINE
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239
RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program
BIDDER: Fox Island
DATE: 4/9/2023

**OVERVIEW OF SECTION I
Preliminary Information**

Section I. Preliminary Information

Evaluation Team Comments:

- I. General Information, Eligibility, Completeness and Cost Match – Compliance Review**
 - A. All components provided:
 - Application Form? – Included
 - Environmental Questionnaire (NEPA)? – Included
 - Budget Justification Workbook? – Included
 - Appendix A: Performance Metrics Checklist? – Included
 - B. Eligibility of entity and proposed uses – confirmed
 - C. Cost match
 - Indication of Large or Small Utility cost match applicability – 37% small utility
 - Cash match source – included
 - D. Federal policy acknowledgements acknowledged
 - E. Project Performance metrics complete and attached -attached

**STATE OF MAINE
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239
RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program
BIDDER: Fox Island
DATE: 4/9/2023

**EVALUATION OF SECTION II
Organization Qualifications and Experience**

	<u>Points Available</u>	<u>Points Awarded</u>
Section II. <i>Project Summary and Alignment with Program Narrative Objectives</i>	25	16

Evaluation Team Comments:

For each applicable objective as listed in Section G, an indication of how the proposed project meets stated objective, while also at a minimum not undermining the other core program objectives. Applicant should include a description of how success will be tracked through a description of how the applicant will provide reporting on metrics, drawing upon applicable metrics from the example metrics listed in the [U.S. DOE Grid Deployment Office’s Guidance for Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Grid Resilience Formula Grant Metrics](#)

- **Objective #1 - Increased Grid Resilience**
 - i. Installation of approximately 6000 linear feet of new distribution and replacement of one distribution pole to decrease outages caused by the existing 12.47 kV line to harden against risk of future outages*
 - ii. Currently inaccessible riser pole, duration of distribution service repair would be reduced*
- **Objective #2 – Increased Community Resilience**
 - i. Existing 12.47 kV submarine cable delivers energy to North Haven and is a “critical asset – without the cable, North Haven’s residents, government offices, the school, emergency services, businesses or communications infrastructure will not have electric service”*
 - ii. Applicant states that project is located in low social vulnerability community*
- **Objective #3 – Workforce and Quality Jobs**
 - i. No plans to allocate funds to workforce initiatives explicitly*
 - ii. Notes tracking of metrics associated with contracting with Maine companies*
- **Objective #4 – Grid Modernization and Policy Alignment**
 - i. Hardening of the grid*
 - ii. Reduced line losses, improving efficiency of delivery of Fox Island Wind generation and renewables already installed*

**STATE OF MAINE
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239
RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program
BIDDER: Fox Island
DATE: 4/9/2023

**EVALUATION OF SECTION III
Grid & Community Benefits**

	<u>Points Available</u>	<u>Points Awarded</u>
Section III. Grid & Community Benefits	30	21

Evaluation Team Comments:

a. *The extent to which the proposed project provides benefits to the electric grid, customer, and community. Where possible, data should consider current conditions and forecasted load increase from beneficial electrification and increased frequency of storms as a result of climate change, and indicate methods and data used. See the Guidance for Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Grid Resilience Formula Grant Metrics for examples of metrics to track benefits associated with the electric grid, customer, and communities;*

- *Metrics*

- a. *miles of:*
 - a. *new distribution lines*
- b. *Number of:*
 - a. *Distribution poles replaced*
 - b. *Outages*
 - c. *Customers with more than 5 interruptions*
 - d. *Outages that extend beyond 24hrs*
 - e. *Resi customers benefitting from project*
 - f. *Commercial customers benefitting*
 - g. *Industrial customers benefitting*
 - h. *Customers that provide community services/emergency centers benefitted by the project*
 - i. *Number of customers that provide water services benefitted by the project*
- c. *Description of how the project incorporates community participation*
- d. *Avoided air pollutants*
- e. *Zip code*
- f. *Number of ME businesses and contractors engaged in project activities*
- g. *Location of businesses*

**STATE OF MAINE
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER: Fox Island

DATE: 4/9/2023

- h. Total outages, outage type caused by Hurricane, Flooding, equipment failure and other storms*
- *Expected to reduce line loss rate, indicates an estimated 1% line loss rate currently due to the cable underperforming*
 - *Relocation of the delivery point to Browns Cove expected to reduce frequency and length of outages specifically from over 24hrs for all customer to under 2 hours*
 - *Support of load growth from electrification*
- a. *The extent to which the proposed project demonstrates reduced energy burden within the community or communities;*
- *Reduced energy burden by reducing the duration and length of outages and relocating a vulnerable submarine cable*
 - *Notes FIEC has some of the highest electric rates in the country with 2023 average cost of \$0.35/kWh*
 - *Low density of 12 customers / mile of cable*
- c. *A description of how the project will incorporate customer and community participation and feedback mechanisms, including but not limited to customer and community benefits, and community engagement in identifying critical facilities; description should include description of consultation and engagement with communities to date and identify areas where community input was sought on the project. Refer to “Equity and community benefit metrics” in DOE’s metrics guidance document.*
- *Project has already had a series of community meetings and proposes additional meetings in June and August 2024*
 - *Letters of support included*
 - *Project has been discussed at past three annual meetings*
- d. *A description of how the project will lead to the creation of high-quality jobs in Maine; metrics of interest include but are not limited to number of new clean energy jobs in the state in the years following the resilience project; number of Maine businesses and contractors engaged in resilience project activities; number of Maine high school and secondary career and technical education (CTEs) engaged in resilience project activities; location of businesses and subcontractors receiving funds from the project. Refer to “Equity and community benefit metrics” in DOE’s metrics guidance document for additional information.*
- *Not directly addressed*
 - *Project will track metrics related to workforce*
- e. *The extent to which the proposed project contributes to or goes beyond the Justice40 objective of 40% of the benefits of climate and clean energy investments flowing to disadvantaged communities.*

**STATE OF MAINE
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER: Fox Island

DATE: 4/9/2023

- *Applicant notes Fox Island's low social vulnerability; North Haven is not a disadvantaged community as defined by CEJST*

**STATE OF MAINE
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239
RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program
BIDDER: Fox Island
DATE: 4/9/2023

**EVALUATION OF SECTION IV
Technical Merit & Feasibility**

	<u>Points Available</u>	<u>Points Awarded</u>
Section IV. Technical Merit & Feasibility	30	23

Evaluation Team Comments:

- a. *A description of the current stage of project planning; Please provide a detailed explanation of your proposed project expenses organized by task using the provided [SF-424 Budget Justification Form](#)*
 - *April – May 2026 as tentative project timeline*
 - *Early in the planning process, have worked with an engineer to select a site*
 - *Submarine cable estimate is current as of March 27, 2024*
 - *Includes certification letter that products are BABA compliant*
 - *In the process of securing easement rights*
 - *Environmental review and permitting not complete*
 - *Engineering firm RLC Engineering selected for design, indicates plans to procure for project construction and materials and permitting.*
 - *Community engagement efforts began in 2020*
- b. *Proposed project cost - \$1,480,626*
- c. *Financial need to the applicant and demonstration of how the funds will aid in the successful completion of the project within one to five years;*
 - *Without DOE funding, would need to raise rates*
- d. *Description of other federal or state funding sources the applicant has or could consider, including whether the project is eligible or may be eligible for cost recovery, if the applicant is a regulated entity*
 - *Identifies ratepayer funds and RUS loan as cost match*
- e. *Description of how the project meets the goals of [Maine Won't Wait](#), including achieving 80% of electricity generated by 2030 per the state's Renewable Portfolio Standard, with a goal of 100% by 2040; indication of how project will not increase reliance on non-renewable sources;*
 - *Reduction of line losses would increase load served by renewable sources, decreased FIEC purchases from energy market*
 - *Investment in climate ready infrastructure*

**STATE OF MAINE
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239
RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program
BIDDER: Fox Island
DATE: 4/9/2023

- *New line increase from 12.5 to 15kV would support EV, heat pump deployment, and marine electrification*
- f. *A description of how the project will fulfil at a minimum one of the core program objectives, while also at a minimum not undermining the other core program objectives;*
 - *Notes that proposed project does not undermine any core program objectives*
 - *Project addresses objectives 1 and 2 primarily through grid hardening and improved community resilience*
- g. *Efficient use of program funds, for example through leveraging, matching, securitization;*
 - *FIEC intends to fund \$100,000 of the project with ratepayer funds and secure loan funds for \$300,000 to finance over thirty years for the balance of the project*
- h. *Indication whether the proposed project location(s) is within a floodplain, including how the floodplain is defined;*
 - *Project is within a floodplain, utilizing Army Corps definition*
- i. *Demonstrated ability to comply with all applicable federal requirements, including Buy America and Davis-Bacon Act requirements.*
 - *Confirmed*

**EVALUATION OF SECTION V
Partnerships and Letters of Support**

	<u>Points Available</u>	<u>Points Awarded</u>
Section V. Partnerships and Letters of Support	15	9

Evaluation team comments

- *Includes letters from affected communities and Community Resilience Partnership Region 1 Coordinator Collaborative; application narrative describes community engagement process to date as well as planned engagement processes related to resilience project*
- *Letters provided:*
 - *Town of North Haven*
 - *Town of Vinalhaven*
 - *Maine CRP Region 1 Coordinator Collaborative*

**STATE OF MAINE
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER: Madison Electric Works

DATE: 4/11/2023

Instructions: The purpose of this form is to record all evaluation notes and scoring that is obtained through consensus discussions among the full evaluation team for this Request for Proposals (RFP) process. The RFP Coordinator or Lead Evaluator should complete this form and maintain the only copy. This form should reflect the full team’s consensus evaluations, and this form is **not** meant to take the place of individual evaluation notes, which are still required from each member of the evaluation team. A separate form is available for individual evaluation notes. Please submit a copy of this document to the Division of Procurement Services as part of your contract award selection documents.

SUMMARY PAGE

Department Name: Maine Governor’s Energy Office

Name of RFP Coordinator: Allie Rand

Names of Evaluators: Nat Haslett, Allie Rand, Bob Snook, Claire Swingle, Ethan Tremblay

<u>Pass/Fail Criteria</u>	<u>Pass</u>	<u>Fail</u>
Section I. Preliminary Information (Eligibility)		
• Applicable uses	x	
• Entity eligibility	x	
<u>Scoring Sections</u>	<u>Points Available</u>	<u>Points Awarded</u>
Section II. Project Summary and Alignment with Program Narrative Objectives: <i>Objective #1 - Increased Grid Resilience</i> <i>Objective #2 – Increased Community Resilience</i> <i>Objective #3 – Workforce and Quality Jobs</i> <i>Objective #4 – Grid Modernization and Policy Alignment</i>	25	17
Section III. Grid & Community Benefits	30	22
Section IV. Technical Merit & Feasibility	30	24
Section V. Partnerships and Letters of Support	15	8
<u>Total Points</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>71</u>

**STATE OF MAINE
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239
RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program
BIDDER: Madison Electric Works
DATE: 4/11/2023

**OVERVIEW OF SECTION I
Preliminary Information**

Section I. Preliminary Information

Evaluation Team Comments:

- I. General Information, Eligibility, Completeness and Cost Match – Compliance Review**
 - A. All components provided:
 - Application Form? – Included
 - Environmental Questionnaire (NEPA)? – Included
 - Budget Justification Workbook? – Included. Full budget not included in original submission due to upload error, provided by applicant.
 - Appendix A: Performance Metrics Checklist? – Included
 - B. Eligibility:
 - Applicant is eligible as a distribution provider
 - Uses are eligible
 - C. Cost match
 - Indication of Large or Small Utility cost match applicability – yes, small utility
 - Cash match source – yes, cash
 - D. Federal policy acknowledgements acknowledged
 - E. Project Performance metrics complete and attached – yes, attached

**STATE OF MAINE
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239
RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program
BIDDER: Madison Electric Works
DATE: 4/11/2023

**EVALUATION OF SECTION II
Organization Qualifications and Experience**

	<u>Points Available</u>	<u>Points Awarded</u>
Section II. <i>Project Summary and Alignment with Program Narrative Objectives</i>	25	17

Evaluation Team Comments:

For each applicable objective as listed in Section G, an indication of how the proposed project meets stated objective, while also at a minimum not undermining the other core program objectives. Applicant should include a description of how success will be tracked through a description of how the applicant will provide reporting on metrics, drawing upon applicable metrics from the example metrics listed in the [U.S. DOE Grid Deployment Office’s Guidance for Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Grid Resilience Formula Grant Metrics](#)

- **Objective #1 - Increased Grid Resilience**
 - i. Hardening of critical power lines to enhance flood resilience, vegetation management*
 - ii. Increase reliability to eliminate “the risk from up to 1.5 days a year of long-duration outages”*
 - iii. Reducing annual outage minutes*
 - iv. Mitigation of impacts of flooding*
- **Objective #2 – Increased Community Resilience**
 - i. Support community resilience maintaining essential services during extreme weather*
 - ii. Community is identified as disadvantaged per CEJST*
- **Objective #3 – Workforce and Quality Jobs**
 - i. Notes that increased utilization of 4.3MW solar project would positively impact this objective, though application did not support claim*
 - 1. Project would support one existing clean energy job and work with 4 Maine businesses*
- **Objective #4 – Grid Modernization and Policy Alignment**
 - i. Project will increase utilization of 4.3MW solar project*
 - ii. Project would enable renewables and end use electrification*

**STATE OF MAINE
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239
RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program
BIDDER: Madison Electric Works
DATE: 4/11/2023

**EVALUATION OF SECTION III
Grid & Community Benefits**

	<u>Points Available</u>	<u>Points Awarded</u>
Section III. Grid & Community Benefits	30	22

Evaluation Team Comments:

a. *The extent to which the proposed project provides benefits to the electric grid, customer, and community. Where possible, data should consider current conditions and forecasted load increase from beneficial electrification and increased frequency of storms as a result of climate change, and indicate methods and data used. See the Guidance for Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Grid Resilience Formula Grant Metrics for examples of metrics to track benefits associated with the electric grid, customer, and communities;*

- *Metrics*

- Miles of distribution lines of vegetation clearing*
- Miles of distribution lines reconductored*
- Number of distribution poles inspected*
- Number of distribution poles replaced*
- Number of distribution poles with other upgrades*
- Number of substations with added sensors/monitors*
- Number of communications assets purchased to assist with power restoration*
- Largest outage cause*
- Number of outages*
- Hours to repair outages*
- Number of residential customers benefitted by project*
- Number of commercial customers benefitted by project*
- Number of industrial customers benefitted by project*
- Number of customers that provide communication services benefitted by project*
- Number of customers that provide water services benefitted by project*
- Number of customers that provide food services benefitted by project*

**STATE OF MAINE
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER: Madison Electric Works

DATE: 4/11/2023

☒ Number and duration of outages to critical facilities providing essential community services during disruptive or emergency events

☒ Size (MWh) and/or number of clean energy resources the project supports

☒ Zip code(s) where funds are deployed

☒ Number of Maine businesses and contractors engaged in resilience project activities

☒ Location (zip codes) of businesses and subcontractors receiving funds from the project

Outage by types: vegetation, hurricane, flooding, ice/snow

- *Benefits from project would include improvement in grid stability and outage reduction*
- *Applicant estimates project would result in reduction in annual outage minutes of 86%, further detail not provided*
- *Estimates avoided CO2 at 35,234.2 lbs/year*

b. The extent to which the proposed project demonstrates reduced energy burden within the community or communities;

- *Funds would support keeping ratepayer costs low*
- *Reduced energy burden attributed to enabling more solar output, resulting in 12% lower cost for the solar energy consumed (applicant's estimate)*

c. A description of how the project will incorporate customer and community participation and feedback mechanisms, including but not limited to customer and community benefits, and community engagement in identifying critical facilities; description should include description of consultation and engagement with communities to date and identify areas where community input was sought on the project. Refer to "Equity and community benefit metrics" in DOE's metrics guidance document.

- *Describes plan to conduct "town hall meetings and focus groups to gather input on the project's design and impact"*
- *Project would serve disadvantaged communities as defined by CEJST*

d. A description of how the project will lead to the creation of high-quality jobs in Maine; metrics of interest include but are not limited to number of new clean energy jobs in the state in the years following the resilience project; number of Maine businesses and contractors engaged in resilience project activities; number of Maine high school and secondary career and technical education (CTEs) engaged in resilience project activities; location of businesses and subcontractors receiving funds from the project.

**STATE OF MAINE
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER: Madison Electric Works

DATE: 4/11/2023

Refer to “Equity and community benefit metrics” in DOE’s metrics guidance document for additional information.

- *Application checked box for including workforce component, though narrative did not address role of funds to support workforce initiatives*
 - *Applicant notes that increased up time for the solar facility would support existing 1 job and would involve 4 Maine businesses*
- e. *The extent to which the proposed project contributes to or goes beyond the Justice40 objective of 40% of the benefits of climate and clean energy investments flowing to disadvantaged communities.*
- *Applicant states this project will serve more than 70% CEJST disadvantaged communities*

**STATE OF MAINE
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239
RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program
BIDDER: Madison Electric Works
DATE: 4/11/2023

**EVALUATION OF SECTION IV
Technical Merit & Feasibility**

	<u>Points Available</u>	<u>Points Awarded</u>
Section IV. Technical Merit & Feasibility	30	24

Evaluation Team Comments:

- a. *A description of the current stage of project planning; Please provide a detailed explanation of your proposed project expenses organized by task using the provided [SF-424 Budget Justification Form](#)*
 - *Project is currently in “final planning stage,” details to support this not provided in narrative*
 - *Task 1: Permitting, procurement and site prep, including community consultation*
 - *Construction includes:*
 - a. *Reconstruction of lines to enhance flood resilience*
 - b. *Bridge River Crossing notes that funds the engineering estimate for modifying lines*
 - c. *Advanced vegetation management beyond typical, though does not qualify volume of vegetation management or line rebuild*
 - *Identified roles and responsibilities*
- b. *Proposed project cost - \$510,633*
- c. *Financial need to the applicant and demonstration of how the funds will aid in the successful completion of the project within one to five years;*
 - *Applicant notes it is a small utility with limited budget to support project at this time*
 - *Notes that vegetation management project would go beyond what is typical*
- d. *Description of other federal or state funding sources the applicant has or could consider, including whether the project is eligible or may be eligible for cost recovery, if the applicant is a regulated entity*
 - *Applicant states they have not identified other matching funding sources*
- e. *Description of how the project meets the goals of [Maine Won't Wait](#), including achieving 80% of electricity generated by 2030 per the state's Renewable Portfolio Standard, with a goal of 100% by 2040; indication of how project will not increase reliance on non-renewable sources;*

**STATE OF MAINE
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER: Madison Electric Works

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- *Project states it is aligned with MWW through expanded use of PV, increased resilience to disadvantaged communities, and improved reliability*
- f. *A description of how the project will fulfil at a minimum one of the core program objectives, while also at a minimum not undermining the other core program objectives;*
 - *Proposed grid hardening would primarily support grid and community resilience, Objectives 1 and 2*
- g. *Efficient use of program funds, for example through leveraging, matching, securitization;*
 - *Applicant notes commitment to this, notes they are unable to secure other matching funding sources at this time.*
- h. *Indication whether the proposed project location(s) is within a floodplain, including how the floodplain is defined;*
 - *Project takes place on or near a flood prone area*
- i. *Demonstrated ability to comply with all applicable federal requirements, including Buy America and Davis-Bacon Act requirements.*
 - *Acknowledged DBA and BABA requirements*

**EVALUATION OF SECTION V
Partnerships and Letters of Support**

	<u>Points Available</u>	<u>Points Awarded</u>
Section V. Partnerships and Letters of Support	15	8

Evaluation team comments

- Letters of support provided by municipal entities; narrative provides general description of engagement approach moving forward
- Letters of Support:
 - Town of Madison
 - Anson-Madison Sanitary District

**STATE OF MAINE
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239
RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program
BIDDER: Portland International Jetport
DATE: 4/11/2023

Instructions: The purpose of this form is to record all evaluation notes and scoring that is obtained through consensus discussions among the full evaluation team for this Request for Proposals (RFP) process. The RFP Coordinator or Lead Evaluator should complete this form and maintain the only copy. This form should reflect the full team’s consensus evaluations, and this form is **not** meant to take the place of individual evaluation notes, which are still required from each member of the evaluation team. A separate form is available for individual evaluation notes. Please submit a copy of this document to the Division of Procurement Services as part of your contract award selection documents.

SUMMARY PAGE

Department Name: Maine Governor’s Energy Office
Name of RFP Coordinator: Allie Rand
Names of Evaluators: Nat Haslett, Allie Rand, Bob Snook, Claire Swingle, Ethan Tremblay

<u>Pass/Fail Criteria</u>	<u>Pass</u>	<u>Fail</u>
Section I. Preliminary Information (Eligibility)		
• Applicable uses	x	
• Entity eligibility	x	
<u>Scoring Sections</u>	<u>Points Available</u>	<u>Points Awarded</u>
Section II. Project Summary and Alignment with Program Narrative Objectives: <i>Objective #1 - Increased Grid Resilience</i> <i>Objective #2 – Increased Community Resilience</i> <i>Objective #3 – Workforce and Quality Jobs</i> <i>Objective #4 – Grid Modernization and Policy Alignment</i>	25	16
Section III. Grid & Community Benefits	30	15
Section IV. Technical Merit & Feasibility	30	25
Section V. Partnerships and Letters of Support	15	10
<u>Total Points</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>66</u>

**STATE OF MAINE
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239
RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program
BIDDER: Portland International Jetport
DATE: 4/11/2023

**OVERVIEW OF SECTION I
Preliminary Information**

Section I. Preliminary Information

Evaluation Team Comments:

- I. **General Information, Eligibility, Completeness and Cost Match – Compliance Review**
 - A. *All components provided:*
 - *Application Form? – Included*
 - *Environmental Questionnaire (NEPA)? – Included*
 - *Budget Justification Workbook? – Included*
 - *Appendix A: Performance Metrics Checklist? – Included*
 - B. *Eligibility*
 - *Applicant is eligible as an electric storage operator*
 - 1. *DOE has indicated this likely will not need to go through designation by the Secretary of DOE*
 - *Uses are eligible and include:*
 - 1. *Use or construction of DERs for enhancing systems adaptive capacity*
 - 2. *Notes that effort includes a training component*
 - C. *Cost match*
 - *Indication of Large or Small Utility cost match applicability –68% of total project cost (\$2,879,202 match to be provided by applicant)*
 - 1. *Applicant indicates they will contribute 208% match - \$1382000 requested, \$2879202 cost match provided*
 - *Cash match source – cash*
 - *Federal policy acknowledgements acknowledged - Yes, all acknowledged*
 - 1. *Draft BABA waiver is included. Seeking a non availability waiver or unreasonable cost waiver*
 - 2. *NEPA form attached*
 - D. *Project Performance metrics complete and attached - attached*

**STATE OF MAINE
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239
RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program
BIDDER: Portland International Jetport
DATE: 4/11/2023

**EVALUATION OF SECTION II
Organization Qualifications and Experience**

	<u>Points Available</u>	<u>Points Awarded</u>
Section II. <i>Project Summary and Alignment with Program Narrative Objectives</i>	25	16

Evaluation Team Comments:

For each applicable objective as listed in Section G, an indication of how the proposed project meets stated objective, while also at a minimum not undermining the other core program objectives. Applicant should include a description of how success will be tracked through a description of how the applicant will provide reporting on metrics, drawing upon applicable metrics from the example metrics listed in the [U.S. DOE Grid Deployment Office’s Guidance for Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Grid Resilience Formula Grant Metrics](#)

- *Objective #1 - Increased Grid Resilience*
 - i. Proposed BESS project would support continued airport operations during outages*
 - ii. Planned dispatches to reduce load during system peak*
 - iii. Historic outage data not included*
- *Objective #2 – Increased Community Resilience*
 - i. Reduced load at the airport*
 - ii. Applicant references three DAC census tracts identified by CEJST tool*
 - iii. Applicant notes airport as a critical transportation service*
- *Objective #3 – Workforce and Quality Jobs*
 - i. Applicant demonstrates support of workforce objective*
 - ii. Project includes apprenticeship component; Included % of work hours completed by apprentices*
- *Objective #4 – Grid Modernization and Policy Alignment*
 - i. Project supports reduction of peak demand*
 - ii. Project will “showcase how large end users can utilize battery storage” to minimize large user impact on the grid as demand grows due to beneficial electrification*

**STATE OF MAINE
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239
RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program
BIDDER: Portland International Jetport
DATE: 4/11/2023

**EVALUATION OF SECTION III
Grid & Community Benefits**

	<u>Points Available</u>	<u>Points Awarded</u>
Section III. Grid & Community Benefits	30	15

Evaluation Team Comments:

a. *The extent to which the proposed project provides benefits to the electric grid, customer, and community. Where possible, data should consider current conditions and forecasted load increase from beneficial electrification and increased frequency of storms as a result of climate change, and indicate methods and data used. See the Guidance for Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Grid Resilience Formula Grant Metrics for examples of metrics to track benefits associated with the electric grid, customer, and communities;*

- *Metrics:*

- a. *Power Rating of battery system installed (MW)*
- b. *Energy rating of battery installed (MWh)*

Other metrics to be tracked and reported by PWM:

- c. *Local grid outage event count and duration*
- d. *Avoided outage hours from battery microgrid operation*
- e. *Battery power and energy discharge levels during local grid outage event(s)*
- f. *Total monthly operations cycles*
- g. *Round-trip efficiency performance*
- h. *Average grid demand reduction during discharges*
- i. *Grid demand reduction during CMP's monthly peak load hour*
- j. *Grid demand reduction during ISO New England's annual peak load hour*
- k. *Estimated marginal grid emissions avoided by load shifting*
- l. *Number of new clean energy jobs in the state in years following the resilience project*
- m. *Number of Maine businesses and contractors engaged in resilience project activities*
- n. *Number of Maine high school and secondary career and technical education (CTEs) engaged in resilience project activities*
- o. *Location (zip codes) of businesses and subcontractors receiving funds from the project*

**STATE OF MAINE
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER: Portland International Jetport

DATE: 4/11/2023

- *Project benefits described included planned dispatches to reduce load during system peak, mitigate outages at the airport; highlights this is a constrained region of the Maine grid*
 - *Community benefits identified by applicant include the development of “an effective template for developing similar customer-sited BESS projects in other cities throughout Maine”*
- b. *The extent to which the proposed project demonstrates reduced energy burden within the community or communities;*
- *Application highlights ratepayer savings associated with avoiding the need for transmission upgrades in the Portland area*
 - *Application suggests that the project will indirectly reduce energy burden on the CMP grid including three local DACs by discharging during peak hours and by supporting a major transportation hub during outages*
 - *Direct project impact not specified*
- c. *A description of how the project will incorporate customer and community participation and feedback mechanisms, including but not limited to customer and community benefits, and community engagement in identifying critical facilities; description should include description of consultation and engagement with communities to date and identify areas where community input was sought on the project. Refer to “Equity and community benefit metrics” in DOE’s metrics guidance document.*
- *Proposed to site the project in highly visible location at the entrance to the airport*
 - *PWM issued an RFP consistent with City of Portland’s procurement process*
 - *Describes intention to engage with public and key City of Portland stakeholders*
- d. *A description of how the project will lead to the creation of high-quality jobs in Maine; metrics of interest include but are not limited to number of new clean energy jobs in the state in the years following the resilience project; number of Maine businesses and contractors engaged in resilience project activities; number of Maine high school and secondary career and technical education (CTEs) engaged in resilience project activities; location of businesses and subcontractors receiving funds from the project. Refer to “Equity and community benefit metrics” in DOE’s metrics guidance document for additional information.*
- *Application notes project implementation to be completed by three local teams: Ameresco, CES, Newtivity*
 - *Support an estimated 15 high quality jobs during construction, construction would include electrician and labor/mechanic apprentices*
 - *Applicant indicated they will track workforce metrics*

**STATE OF MAINE
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER: Portland International Jetport

DATE: 4/11/2023

- e. *The extent to which the proposed project contributes to or goes beyond the Justice40 objective of 40% of the benefits of climate and clean energy investments flowing to disadvantaged communities.*
- *Notes three DACs located within City of Portland and one DAC adjacent to PWM located in South Portland*
 - *Applicant does not draw clear link between communities benefitting from the project vs communities identified as DACs by CEJST tool that are located close to the project*

**STATE OF MAINE
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239
RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program
BIDDER: Portland International Jetport
DATE: 4/11/2023

**EVALUATION OF SECTION IV
Technical Merit & Feasibility**

	<u>Points Available</u>	<u>Points Awarded</u>
Section IV. Technical Merit & Feasibility	30	25

Evaluation Team Comments:

- a. *A description of the current stage of project planning; Please provide a detailed explanation of your proposed project expenses organized by task using the provided [SF-424 Budget Justification Form](#)*
- *Preliminary BESS feasibility analysis completed in December 2022*
 - *Site selection has occurred, applicant notes key factors in determining location include:

 - *Highly visible to public*
 - *Direct access to tie into CMPs main feed to the terminal*
 - *Producing minimal disturbance**
 - *Project team has been assembled following PWM's RFP process in 2023*
 - *Level 3 3 IX application determined by CMP that the BESS can interconnect and operate without adverse effects, PWM not required to make distribution system upgrades*
 - *ISO NE may require a transmission level study*
 - *Notes track record of previous energy projects at PWM including 2011 completion of geothermal heating and cooling system and 2017 installation of solar PV canopy*
- b. *Proposed project cost - \$4.26M, PWM requesting \$1.38M represents 32% of the project cost*
- c. *Financial need to the applicant and demonstration of how the funds will aid in the successful completion of the project within one to five years;*
- *Applicant states funding is necessary for the project to proceed due to competing capital investment needs*
- d. *Description of other federal or state funding sources the applicant has or could consider, including whether the project is eligible or may be eligible for cost recovery, if the applicant is a regulated entity*
- *Applicant notes plans to pursue ITC for BESS through direct pay*
 - *Performance based payments from EMT*

**STATE OF MAINE
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER: Portland International Jetport

DATE: 4/11/2023

- e. *Description of how the project meets the goals of [Maine Won't Wait](#), including achieving 80% of electricity generated by 2030 per the state's Renewable Portfolio Standard, with a goal of 100% by 2040; indication of how project will not increase reliance on non-renewable sources;*
 - *Applicant highlights that project supports state energy storage goals*
 - *Project aligns with grid modernization and renewable energy objectives*
- f. *A description of how the project will fulfil at a minimum one of the core program objectives, while also at a minimum not undermining the other core program objectives;*
 - *Notes that project primarily addresses #1, supports #2 and #3 and aligns with #4*
- g. *Efficient use of program funds, for example through leveraging, matching, securitization;*
 - *funding requested is 32% of project cost, remaining will be matched by PWM "using its unrestricted fund balance" which is generated from annual operating surplus.*
- h. *Indication whether the proposed project location(s) is within a floodplain, including how the floodplain is defined;*
 - *Applicant notes that project is not located within a floodplain*
- i. *Demonstrated ability to comply with all applicable federal requirements, including Buy America and Davis-Bacon Act requirements.*
 - *Confirms BABA and DBA, provided draft BABA waiver for battery components*

**EVALUATION OF SECTION V
Partnerships and Letters of Support**

	<u>Points Available</u>	<u>Points Awarded</u>
Section V. Partnerships and Letters of Support	15	10

Evaluation team comments

**STATE OF MAINE
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER: Portland International Jetport

DATE: 4/11/2023

- *Letters of support from local, regional and state level government as well as airlines; project narrative describes competitive process through City of Portland to select project team*
- *Letters of Support:*
 - *City of Portland*
 - *City of South Portland*
 - *American Airlines, Delta Airlines, Southwest Airlines and United*
 - *GPCOG*
 - *MDOT*

**STATE OF MAINE
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239
RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program
BIDDER: Central Maine Power – Shaw Mill
DATE: 4/5/2023

SUMMARY PAGE

Department Name: Maine Governor’s Energy Office
Name of RFP Coordinator: Allie Rand
Names of Evaluators: Nat Haslett, Bob Snook, Claire Swingle, Ethan Tremblay

<u>Pass/Fail Criteria</u>	<u>Pass</u>	<u>Fail</u>
Section I. Preliminary Information (Eligibility)		
• Applicable uses	x	
• Entity eligibility	x	
<u>Scoring Sections</u>	<u>Points Available</u>	<u>Points Awarded</u>
Section II. Project Summary and Alignment with Program Narrative Objectives: <i>Objective #1 - Increased Grid Resilience</i> <i>Objective #2 – Increased Community Resilience</i> <i>Objective #3 – Workforce and Quality Jobs</i> <i>Objective #4 – Grid Modernization and Policy Alignment</i>	25	15
Section III. Grid & Community Benefits	30	20
Section IV. Technical Merit & Feasibility	30	26
Section V. Partnerships and Letters of Support	15	7
<u>Total Points</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>68</u>

**STATE OF MAINE
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239
RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program
BIDDER: Central Maine Power – Shaw Mill
DATE: 4/5/2023

**OVERVIEW OF SECTION I
Preliminary Information**

Section I. Preliminary Information

Evaluation Team Comments:

- I. General Information, Eligibility, Completeness and Cost Match – Compliance Review**
 - A. All components provided:
 - Application Form? - Included
 - Environmental Questionnaire (NEPA)? - Included
 - Budget Justification Workbook? - Included
 - Appendix A: Performance Metrics Checklist? - Included
 - B. Eligibility of entity and proposed uses - confirmed
 - C. Cost match
 - Indication of Large or Small Utility cost match applicability – large utility, 112% cost match
 - D. Federal policy acknowledgements – acknowledged
 - E. Project Performance metrics complete and attached – yes

**STATE OF MAINE
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239
RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program
BIDDER: Central Maine Power – Shaw Mill
DATE: 4/5/2023

**EVALUATION OF SECTION II
Organization Qualifications and Experience**

	<u>Points Available</u>	<u>Points Awarded</u>
Section II. <i>Project Summary and Alignment with Program Narrative Objectives</i>	25	15

Evaluation Team Comments:

For each applicable objective as listed in Section G, an indication of how the proposed project meets stated objective, while also at a minimum not undermining the other core program objectives. Applicant should include a description of how success will be tracked through a description of how the applicant will provide reporting on metrics, drawing upon applicable metrics from the example metrics listed in the U.S. DOE Grid Deployment Office’s Guidance for Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Grid Resilience Formula Grant Metrics

- *Objective #1 - Increased Grid Resilience*
 - i. Proposed work to improve reliability at the third worst performing circuit in the system with circuit tie between 660D1 (Shaw Mill) and 691D (Baldwin)*
 - ii. Project will upgrade 10.3 miles of overhead conductor and add new 1.3 mile 3 phase; pole upgrades, reconductoring, SCADA switch, new regulators*
 - iii. Applicant states circuit serves approximately 3,000 customers, though the service area affected by the project has experienced 171 outages affecting 36,000 customers*
 - iv. O&M savings of \$18,622*
- *Objective #2 – Increased Community Resilience*
 - i. Same as above*
 - ii. Notes improvements to circuit 660D1 are made adjacent to DAC (Hiram and near Cornish), per CJEST, but the benefits to reliability improvements would benefit the circuit that directly services DAC*
- *Objective #3 – Workforce and Quality Jobs*
 - i. No plans indicated to fund workforce initiatives explicitly*
 - ii. States that application will support DER penetration that will increase jobs, but does not provide support for this*
- *Objective #4 – Grid Modernization and Policy Alignment*

**STATE OF MAINE
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER: Central Maine Power – Shaw Mill

DATE: 4/5/2023

- i. Notes enabling interconnection of DERs on the circuits and supports beneficial electrification*
- ii. Project work to be undertaken in historically underperforming section of the grid*

**STATE OF MAINE
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239
RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program
BIDDER: Central Maine Power – Shaw Mill
DATE: 4/5/2023

**EVALUATION OF SECTION III
Grid & Community Benefits**

	<u>Points Available</u>	<u>Points Awarded</u>
Section III. Grid & Community Benefits	30	20

Evaluation Team Comments:

- a. *The extent to which the proposed project provides benefits to the electric grid, customer, and community. Where possible, data should consider current conditions and forecasted load increase from beneficial electrification and increased frequency of storms as a result of climate change, and indicate methods and data used. See the Guidance for Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Grid Resilience Formula Grant Metrics for examples of metrics to track benefits associated with the electric grid, customer, and communities;*
- *Applicant details SAIFI improvements including and excluding storms*
 - *O&M savings of \$18,622*
 - *Historical outage data reflective of need: proposal notes 171 outages impacting 35,800 customers in past three years and on circuit 660D1 which experienced 58 outages impacting 5,000 customers in past three years*
 - a. *Metrics*
 - a. *miles of:*
 - a. *New lines*
 - b. *Dist. lines reconducted*
 - c. *Dist. poles replaced*
 - b. *Number of:*
 - a. *Poles replaced*
 - b. *Other protection or control devices installed*
 - c. *Other assets purchased to assist with power restoration*
 - d. *outages, SAIDI, SAIFI, and CAIDI*
 - e. *residential, commercial and industrial customers benefiting from project*
 - f. *customers that have access to real time or hourly usage...*
 - c. *Zip code, description of how project incorporates community input*
 - d. *Number of ME businesses and contractors engaged in project activities*
 - e. *Location of businesses*
 - f. *Outage types caused by veg, hurricane, flooding, ice/snow, other*

**STATE OF MAINE
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER: Central Maine Power – Shaw Mill

DATE: 4/5/2023

- b. *The extent to which the proposed project demonstrates reduced energy burden within the community or communities;*
- *No direct demonstration*
- c. *A description of how the project will incorporate customer and community participation and feedback mechanisms, including but not limited to customer and community benefits, and community engagement in identifying critical facilities; description should include description of consultation and engagement with communities to date and identify areas where community input was sought on the project. Refer to “Equity and community benefit metrics” in DOE’s metrics guidance document.*
- *CMP experience with community engagement*
 - *Letters of support provided*
 - *Process for community engagement or feedback in identifying this project was not included*
- d. *A description of how the project will lead to the creation of high-quality jobs in Maine; metrics of interest include but are not limited to number of new clean energy jobs in the state in the years following the resilience project; number of Maine businesses and contractors engaged in resilience project activities; number of Maine high school and secondary career and technical education (CTEs) engaged in resilience project activities; location of businesses and subcontractors receiving funds from the project. Refer to “Equity and community benefit metrics” in DOE’s metrics guidance document for additional information.*
- *No workforce initiatives funded*
 - *Workforce linked to DER and expansion of 3 phase; minimal discussion*
- e. *The extent to which the proposed project contributes to or goes beyond the Justice40 objective of 40% of the benefits of climate and clean energy investments flowing to disadvantaged communities.*
- *Applicant notes reliability benefits to DAC tract 23017966900 along Baldwin circuit in western Oxford county*

**STATE OF MAINE
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239
RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program
BIDDER: Central Maine Power – Shaw Mill
DATE: 4/5/2023

**EVALUATION OF SECTION IV
Technical Merit & Feasibility**

	<u>Points Available</u>	<u>Points Awarded</u>
Section IV. Technical Merit & Feasibility	30	26

Evaluation Team Comments:

- a. *A description of the current stage of project planning; Please provide a detailed explanation of your proposed project expenses organized by task using the provided SF-424 Budget Justification Form*
 - *Breakdown included only personnel and equipment, no further itemization*
 - *Project would begin in 2024, one year design phase would be required*
 - *One year construction period*
 - *Applicant states that the “project has been fully planned and a budget has been developed”*
 - *Information on not included on alternative approaches to achieve resilience benefits*
- b. *Proposed project cost - \$4.5M*
- c. *Financial need to the applicant and demonstration of how the funds will aid in the successful completion of the project within one to five years;*
 - *Application states budget is not available to fund project under this timeline*
- d. *Description of other federal or state funding sources the applicant has or could consider, including whether the project is eligible or may be eligible for cost recovery, if the applicant is a regulated entity*
 - *States that CMP is not aware of other funding sources and the project cost match may be eligible for cost recovery*
- e. *Description of how the project meets the goals of Maine Won’t Wait, including achieving 80% of electricity generated by 2030 per the state’s Renewable Portfolio Standard, with a goal of 100% by 2040; indication of how project will not increase reliance on non-renewable sources;*
 - *Includes a description of meeting MWW goals through improved reliability and additional 3 phase service to better enable integration of electric end uses*
- f. *A description of how the project will fulfil at a minimum one of the core program objectives, while also at a minimum not undermining the other core program objectives;*

**STATE OF MAINE
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER: Central Maine Power – Shaw Mill

DATE: 4/5/2023

- *Project describes how it would meet objective #1*
- g. *Efficient use of program funds, for example through leveraging, matching, securitization;*
 - *Cost match 112%*
- h. *Indication whether the proposed project location(s) is within a floodplain, including how the floodplain is defined;*
 - *Not in a floodplain*
- i. *Demonstrated ability to comply with all applicable federal requirements, including Buy America and Davis-Bacon Act requirements.*
 - *Confirmed ability to comply with BABA and DBA*

**EVALUATION OF SECTION V
Partnerships and Letters of Support**

	<u>Points Available</u>	<u>Points Awarded</u>
Section V. Partnerships and Letters of Support	15	7

Evaluation team comments

- *Letters provided from affected communities; letters described in application, one of which appears to be included as a duplicate*
- *2 letters included*
 - *Town of Standish*
 - *Sebago Lakes Chamber of Commerce letter referenced, though appears duplicated Standish letter was inadvertently included.*

**STATE OF MAINE
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239
RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program
BIDDER: Sunnova
DATE: 4/12/2023

Instructions: The purpose of this form is to record all evaluation notes and scoring that is obtained through consensus discussions among the full evaluation team for this Request for Proposals (RFP) process. The RFP Coordinator or Lead Evaluator should complete this form and maintain the only copy. This form should reflect the full team’s consensus evaluations, and this form is **not** meant to take the place of individual evaluation notes, which are still required from each member of the evaluation team. A separate form is available for individual evaluation notes. Please submit a copy of this document to the Division of Procurement Services as part of your contract award selection documents.

SUMMARY PAGE

Department Name: Maine Governor’s Energy Office
Name of RFP Coordinator: Allie Rand
Names of Evaluators: Nat Haslett, Allie Rand, Bob Snook, Claire Swingle, Ethan Tremblay

<u>Pass/Fail Criteria</u>	<u>Pass</u>	<u>Fail</u>
Section I. Preliminary Information (Eligibility)		
• Applicable uses	x	
• Entity eligibility	x	
<u>Scoring Sections</u>	<u>Points Available</u>	<u>Points Awarded</u>
Section II. Project Summary and Alignment with Program Narrative Objectives: <i>Objective #1 - Increased Grid Resilience</i> <i>Objective #2 – Increased Community Resilience</i> <i>Objective #3 – Workforce and Quality Jobs</i> <i>Objective #4 – Grid Modernization and Policy Alignment</i>	25	21
Section III. Grid & Community Benefits	30	26
Section IV. Technical Merit & Feasibility	30	25
Section V. Partnerships and Letters of Support	15	12
<u>Total Points</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>84</u>

**STATE OF MAINE
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239
RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program
BIDDER: Sunnova
DATE: 4/12/2023

**OVERVIEW OF SECTION I
Preliminary Information**

Section I. Preliminary Information

Evaluation Team Comments:

- I. **General Information, Eligibility, Completeness and Cost Match – Compliance Review**
 - A. *All components provided:*
 - *Application Form? – Included*
 - *Environmental Questionnaire (NEPA)? – Included*
 - *Budget Justification Workbook? – Included*
 - *Appendix A: Performance Metrics Checklist? – Not included, however reporting workbook attached*
 - B. *Eligibility*
 - *Applicant indicates it is eligible as an electricity storage operator*
 - 1. *Applicant has 1,090 MWh of energy storage under management as of 12/31*
 - *Uses are eligible*
 - C. *Cost match*
 - *Indication of Large or Small Utility cost match applicability – large utility per EIA 861*
 - *Cash match source – cash*
 - D. *Federal policy acknowledgements acknowledged - Yes, all acknowledged*
 - E. *Effort includes component for training and recruitment*

**STATE OF MAINE
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239
RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program
BIDDER: Sunnova
DATE: 4/12/2023

**EVALUATION OF SECTION II
Organization Qualifications and Experience**

	<u>Points Available</u>	<u>Points Awarded</u>
Section II. <i>Project Summary and Alignment with Program Narrative Objectives</i>	25	21

Evaluation Team Comments:

For each applicable objective as listed in Section G, an indication of how the proposed project meets stated objective, while also at a minimum not undermining the other core program objectives. Applicant should include a description of how success will be tracked through a description of how the applicant will provide reporting on metrics, drawing upon applicable metrics from the example metrics listed in the [U.S. DOE Grid Deployment Office’s Guidance for Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Grid Resilience Formula Grant Metrics](#)

- *Objective #1 - Increased Grid Resilience*
 - i. Project proposes to support decreased frequency of outages*
 - ii. Deployment of 500kW storage alongside existing solar PV*
- *Objective #2 – Increased Community Resilience*
 - i. Project focuses on improved resilience at two facilities in the community, mitigating risk of prolonged outages at community center*
- *Objective #3 – Workforce and Quality Jobs*
 - i. Applicant does not explicitly address in narrative form, budget includes plan for local labor training*
- *Objective #4 – Grid Modernization and Policy Alignment*
 - i. Grid modernization and solar + storage policy alignment*

**STATE OF MAINE
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239
RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program
BIDDER: Sunnova
DATE: 4/12/2023

**EVALUATION OF SECTION III
Grid & Community Benefits**

	<u>Points Available</u>	<u>Points Awarded</u>
Section III. Grid & Community Benefits	30	26

Evaluation Team Comments:

- a. *The extent to which the proposed project provides benefits to the electric grid, customer, and community. Where possible, data should consider current conditions and forecasted load increase from beneficial electrification and increased frequency of storms as a result of climate change, and indicate methods and data used. See the Guidance for Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Grid Resilience Formula Grant Metrics for examples of metrics to track benefits associated with the electric grid, customer, and communities;*
- *Sunnova (applicant) is partnering with Penobscot Nation to develop a 1,960 kWh BESS to integrate with existing solar PV system to create a Community Microgrid. Indian Island experienced more than 5 days of outages during winter 2023*
 - *Community microgrid would support two community facilities, a health services center and a commerce center*
 - *Metrics appendix not included, however reporting workbook includes following metrics:*
 - *SAIDI (full utility territory?)*
 - *Average hours to restore 100% of customers*
 - *2023 value: 96 minutes*
 - *Average hours to restore 100% of customers – full service territory*
 - *Average hours to restore 100% of customers at Indian Island*
 - *2023 value: 120 minutes*
- b. *The extent to which the proposed project demonstrates reduced energy burden within the community or communities;*
- *Applicant notes tribal communities often bear a disproportionate energy burden and stand to benefit significantly*
 - *Applicant models BESS could deliver economic savings through demand charge reduction equivalent to \$16,466*
- c. *A description of how the project will incorporate customer and community participation and feedback mechanisms, including but not limited to customer and community benefits, and community engagement in identifying critical facilities; description should*

**STATE OF MAINE
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER: Sunnova

DATE: 4/12/2023

include description of consultation and engagement with communities to date and identify areas where community input was sought on the project. Refer to “Equity and community benefit metrics” in DOE’s metrics guidance document.

- *Applicant provides brief description on community engagement to date and prior experience*
- *Budget includes marketing and community engagement item*
- *\$15,000 allocated to developing a community engagement program*
- *Applicant references previous engagement with Penobscot Nation*

d. *A description of how the project will lead to the creation of high-quality jobs in Maine; metrics of interest include but are not limited to number of new clean energy jobs in the state in the years following the resilience project; number of Maine businesses and contractors engaged in resilience project activities; number of Maine high school and secondary career and technical education (CTEs) engaged in resilience project activities; location of businesses and subcontractors receiving funds from the project. Refer to “Equity and community benefit metrics” in DOE’s metrics guidance document for additional information.*

- *References budget allocations and plan for training of “Penobscot members and preferred partners to work alongside Sunnova to learn to develop future microgrids and service them”*

e. *Justice40*

- *Not explicitly noted in this section of application, federally recognized tribes are CEJST eligible*

**STATE OF MAINE
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239
RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program
BIDDER: Sunnova
DATE: 4/12/2023

**EVALUATION OF SECTION IV
Technical Merit & Feasibility**

	<u>Points Available</u>	<u>Points Awarded</u>
Section IV. Technical Merit & Feasibility	30	25

Evaluation Team Comments:

- a. *A description of the current stage of project planning; Please provide a detailed explanation of your proposed project expenses organized by task using the provided SF-424 Budget Justification Form*
 - *Adequate breakdown of budget proposal*
 - *Estimated engineering construction at 18-30 months*
 - *Anticipated COD by Oct 2026*
 - *Early stage interconnection process*
 - *Using Sunnova Sentient for grid operations as a proprietary software*
 - *Project description could benefit from further detail regarding PPA structures*
- b. *Proposed project cost:*
 - *Total project cost is \$1,424,974 before application of grant and ITC. Applicant notes “Sunnova has modeled the grant to maximize the contribution to Penobscot Nation and will develop a third party financing solution to fund the remainder of the project.”*
- c. *Financial need to the applicant and demonstration of how the funds will aid in the successful completion of the project within one to five years;*
 - *Financial need is not explicitly addressed*
- d. *Description of other federal or state funding sources the applicant has or could consider, including whether the project is eligible or may be eligible for cost recovery, if the applicant is a regulated entity*
 - *No reference in application to other state or federal*
 - *Notes that investment tax credit not taken into consider at this stage*
- e. *Description of how the project meets the goals of Maine Won't Wait, including achieving 80% of electricity generated by 2030 per the state's Renewable Portfolio Standard, with a goal of 100% by 2040; indication of how project will not increase reliance on non-renewable sources;*

**STATE OF MAINE
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER: Sunnova

DATE: 4/12/2023

- *Though description is unclear, project would promote use of renewables within the community and would support achievement of state storage goals*
 - *Project would improve resilience in a DAC as defined by CEJST*
 - *Potential grid modernization applications with DERs moving forward*
- f. *A description of how the project will fulfil at a minimum one of the core program objectives, while also at a minimum not undermining the other core program objectives;*
- *Not explicitly noted, though application demonstrates alignment with overall objectives*
- g. *Efficient use of program funds, for example through leveraging, matching, securitization;*
- *Not clear from description of financing*
- h. *Indication whether the proposed project location(s) is within a floodplain, including how the floodplain is defined;*
- *Not addressed in application*
- i. *Demonstrated ability to comply with all applicable federal requirements, including Buy America and Davis-Bacon Act requirements.*
- *Confirms DBA and BABA acknowledgements.*

**EVALUATION OF SECTION V
Partnerships and Letters of Support**

	<u>Points Available</u>	<u>Points Awarded</u>
Section V. Partnerships and Letters of Support	15	12

Evaluation team comments

- *Letter of support provided; application narrative describes project partnership and budget justification includes specific engagement items*
- *Penobscot Nation Housing Department provided Letter of Support*

**STATE OF MAINE
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239
RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program
BIDDER: Van Buren Power and Light
DATE: 4/19/2024

Instructions: The purpose of this form is to record all evaluation notes and scoring that is obtained through consensus discussions among the full evaluation team for this Request for Proposals (RFP) process. The RFP Coordinator or Lead Evaluator should complete this form and maintain the only copy. This form should reflect the full team’s consensus evaluations, and this form is **not** meant to take the place of individual evaluation notes, which are still required from each member of the evaluation team. A separate form is available for individual evaluation notes. Please submit a copy of this document to the Division of Procurement Services as part of your contract award selection documents.

SUMMARY PAGE

Department Name: Maine Governor’s Energy Office
Name of RFP Coordinator: Allie Rand
Names of Evaluators: Nat Haslett, Allie Rand, Bob Snook, Claire Swingle, Ethan Tremblay

<u>Pass/Fail Criteria</u>	<u>Pass</u>	<u>Fail</u>
Section I. Preliminary Information (Eligibility)		
• Applicable uses	x	
• Entity eligibility	x	
<u>Scoring Sections</u>	<u>Points Available</u>	<u>Points Awarded</u>
Section II. Project Summary and Alignment with Program Narrative Objectives: <i>Objective #1 - Increased Grid Resilience</i> <i>Objective #2 – Increased Community Resilience</i> <i>Objective #3 – Workforce and Quality Jobs</i> <i>Objective #4 – Grid Modernization and Policy Alignment</i>	25	19
Section III. Grid & Community Benefits	30	25
Section IV. Technical Merit & Feasibility	30	25
Section V. Partnerships and Letters of Support	15	13
<u>Total Points</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>82</u>

**STATE OF MAINE
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239
RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program
BIDDER: Van Buren Power and Light
DATE: 4/19/2024

**OVERVIEW OF SECTION I
Preliminary Information**

Section I. Preliminary Information

Evaluation Team Comments:

- I. **General Information, Eligibility, Completeness and Cost Match – Compliance Review**
 - A. *All components provided:*
 - *Application Form? – Included*
 - *Environmental Questionnaire (NEPA)? – Included*
 - *Budget Justification Workbook? – Included*
 - *Appendix A: Performance Metrics Checklist? – not complete; applicant states they will compile the metrics in the “next phase”*
 - B. *Eligibility*
 - *Applicant indicates it is eligible as a distribution provider*
 - *Uses are eligible*

SUMMARY: Upgrades to poles and wires. Project work would include setting and removing poles in existing right of way.
 - C. *Cost match*
 - *Indication of Large or Small Utility cost match applicability – proposed match was under the small utility requirement; match is in compliance when removing ineligible uses*
 - *Cost match source – in kind contributions*
 - D. *Federal policy acknowledgements acknowledged*
 - E. *Effort includes component for training and recruitment*

**STATE OF MAINE
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239
RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program
BIDDER: Van Buren Power and Light
DATE: 4/19/2024

**EVALUATION OF SECTION II
Organization Qualifications and Experience**

	<u>Points Available</u>	<u>Points Awarded</u>
Section II. <i>Project Summary and Alignment with Program Narrative Objectives</i>	25	19

Evaluation Team Comments:

For each applicable objective as listed in Section G, an indication of how the proposed project meets stated objective, while also at a minimum not undermining the other core program objectives. Applicant should include a description of how success will be tracked through a description of how the applicant will provide reporting on metrics, drawing upon applicable metrics from the example metrics listed in the [U.S. DOE Grid Deployment Office’s Guidance for Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Grid Resilience Formula Grant Metrics](#)

- *Objective #1 - Increased Grid Resilience*
 - i. Proposed upgrades would improve system resilience through distribution system upgrades, replacing and upgrading poles and related equipment*
 - ii. Existing infrastructure is aging and vulnerable*
- *Objective #2 – Increased Community Resilience*
 - i. Applicant notes disadvantaged communities served per CEJST tool definition*
 - ii. Applicant notes that funds to support lower rates may help to attract new investment and economic activity in the area*
- *Objective #3 – Workforce and Quality Jobs*
 - i. All work to install new poles and wires would be “used as training for line worker apprentices”*
 - ii. Applicant notes upcoming retirement workforce impacts*
 - iii. Budget includes funding for training, through it is not clear if it will support proposed positions*
- *Objective #4 – Grid Modernization and Policy Alignment*
 - i. System does not have SCADA or modern reclosures, funds would support deployment of SCADA per budget*
 - ii. Notes funds would support applicant’s ability to proactively invest in technologies to meet demands of electrification*

**STATE OF MAINE
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239
RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program
BIDDER: Van Buren Power and Light
DATE: 4/19/2024

**EVALUATION OF SECTION III
Grid & Community Benefits**

	<u>Points Available</u>	<u>Points Awarded</u>
Section III. Grid & Community Benefits	30	25

Evaluation Team Comments:

- a. *The extent to which the proposed project provides benefits to the electric grid, customer, and community. Where possible, data should consider current conditions and forecasted load increase from beneficial electrification and increased frequency of storms as a result of climate change, and indicate methods and data used. See the Guidance for Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Grid Resilience Formula Grant Metrics for examples of metrics to track benefits associated with the electric grid, customer, and communities;*
 - *Applicant did not include metrics checklist, but indicated they would “compile the proper metrics decided upon in the next phase to maximize how we compile the data requested”*
 - *Grid is currently vulnerable given aging infrastructure; historical data not referenced*
 - *Applicants plan includes installation of 350 poles and 150,000 feet of wire*

- b. *The extent to which the proposed project demonstrates reduced energy burden within the community or communities;*
 - *Applicant highlights ratepayer benefit of grant funding to lower energy burden; proposed work would increase resilience though applicant does not directly describe this as an energy burden benefit*

- c. *A description of how the project will incorporate customer and community participation and feedback mechanisms, including but not limited to customer and community benefits, and community engagement in identifying critical facilities; description should include description of consultation and engagement with communities to date and identify areas where community input was sought on the project. Refer to “Equity and community benefit metrics” in DOE’s metrics guidance document.*
 - *Applicants notes they will prioritize critical infrastructure upgrades and align with community needs*

- d. *A description of how the project will lead to the creation of high-quality jobs in Maine; metrics of interest include but are not limited to number of new clean energy jobs in*

**STATE OF MAINE
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER: Van Buren Power and Light

DATE: 4/19/2024

the state in the years following the resilience project; number of Maine businesses and contractors engaged in resilience project activities; number of Maine high school and secondary career and technical education (CTEs) engaged in resilience project activities; location of businesses and subcontractors receiving funds from the project. Refer to “Equity and community benefit metrics” in DOE’s metrics guidance document for additional information.

- *Currently 3 line worker apprentices all in training to be 1st class line workers, four year apprenticeship is required to become a first call line worker*
- *Notes competition against larger companies with more resources to attract workforce*
- *Funds from this grant could support “one or two part time or full-time employees dedicated to training”; budget includes funding for training*
- *Description of upcoming retirements that could impact workforce*
- *Indication that workforce training would be put towards cost match requirement*

e. Justice40

- *Applicant noted Van Buren has a disadvantaged status per Department of Energy definition (CEJST)*
- *Notes that the three communities served by VBPL struggle with economic opportunities*

**STATE OF MAINE
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239
RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program
BIDDER: Van Buren Power and Light
DATE: 4/19/2024

**EVALUATION OF SECTION IV
Technical Merit & Feasibility**

	<u>Points Available</u>	<u>Points Awarded</u>
Section IV. Technical Merit & Feasibility	30	25

Evaluation Team Comments:

- a. *A description of the current stage of project planning; Please provide a detailed explanation of your proposed project expenses organized by task using the provided [SF-424 Budget Justification Form](#)*
 - *Project will replace and upgrade obsolete poles wires and equipment, replacing with new poles and distribution cables including cut outs and reclosures necessary to maintain resiliency, safety and reliability*
 - *Project will also involve development of SCADA which similar would improve the system*
 - *Applicant states timeline for work to occur from 2024-2025, though timeline wasn't further specified; unclear from application materials how cost match reference to in kind spending over 5 years would apply*
 - *Budget includes breakdown with standby generator, which is not an allowable use of funds*
 - *Notes procurement landscape for essential supplies as a challenge*
 - *Budget references "storm inventory on hand"*
- c. *Proposed project cost – \$674,750*
- d. *Financial need to the applicant and demonstration of how the funds will aid in the successful completion of the project within one to five years;*
 - *Financial need is noted by the applicant, "This investment ensures that in five years, when current senior team members are ready to retire, we'll have adequately trained staff to sustain operations seamlessly. However, without projects like these to justify additional hiring, expanding the team may not be feasible"*
- d. *Description of other federal or state funding sources the applicant has or could consider, including whether the project is eligible or may be eligible for cost recovery, if the applicant is a regulated entity*
 - *Applicant indicated they previously applied for GRIP funding*

**STATE OF MAINE
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER: Van Buren Power and Light

DATE: 4/19/2024

- e. *Description of how the project meets the goals of [Maine Won't Wait](#), including achieving 80% of electricity generated by 2030 per the state's Renewable Portfolio Standard, with a goal of 100% by 2040; indication of how project will not increase reliance on non-renewable sources;

 - *Aligned with MWW workforce objectives and community resilience**
- f. *A description of how the project will fulfil at a minimum one of the core program objectives, while also at a minimum not undermining the other core program objectives;

 - *Notes that project primarily addresses #1, supports 2 and 3 and aligns with 4**
- g. *Efficient use of program funds, for example through leveraging, matching, securitization;

 - a. *Not directly addressed**
- h. *Indication whether the proposed project location(s) is within a floodplain, including how the floodplain is defined;*
- i. *Demonstrated ability to comply with all applicable federal requirements, including Buy America and Davis-Bacon Act requirements. Confirmed DBA and BABA acknowledgements in beginning of application*

**EVALUATION OF SECTION V
Partnerships and Letters of Support**

	<u>Points Available</u>	<u>Points Awarded</u>
Section V. Partnerships and Letters of Support	15	13

Evaluation team comments

- *Strong indication of partnership through multiple letters from a range of affected entities supported throughout application narrative*
- *Letters provided:*
 - *Troy Jackson, President of the Senate*
 - *Van Buren Town Manager*
 - *Van Buren Wastewater Dept*
 - *Chairman of Van Buren Water District*
 - *President – Grand Prix Inc*
 - *LaJoie Growers LLC*

**STATE OF MAINE
TEAM CONSENSUS EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER: Van Buren Power and Light

DATE: 4/19/2024

- *Marquis Farms*
- *Saucier's Groceries*

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER NAME: CMP- Brunswick/Harpswell Project

DATE: April 5, 2024

EVALUATOR NAME: Nat Haslett

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: EMT

Instructions: *The purpose of this form is to record proposal review notes written by individual evaluators for this Request for Proposals (RFA) process. It is required that each individual evaluator make notes for each proposal that he or she reviews. No numerical scoring should take place on these notes, as that is performed only during team consensus evaluation meetings. A separate form is available for team consensus evaluation notes and scoring. Once complete, please submit a copy of this document to your Department's RFP Coordinator or Lead Evaluator for this RFA.*

Individual Evaluator Comments:

- I. **General Information, Eligibility, Completeness and Cost Match – Compliance Review**
 1. *All components provided: Yes, all required components provided*
 2. *Eligibility – Yes, large utility*
 3. *Cost match proposed match meets, is >50% of project costs*
 4. *Federal policy acknowledgements – Required application materials included*
 5. *Project Performance metrics complete and attached - Yes*
- II. **Project Summary and Alignment with Program Narrative Objectives**

For each applicable objective as listed in Section G, an indication of how the proposed project meets stated objective, while also at a minimum not undermining the other core program objectives. Applicant should include a description of how success will be tracked through a description of how the applicant will provide reporting on metrics, drawing upon applicable metrics from the example metrics listed in the U.S. DOE Grid Deployment Office's Guidance for Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Grid Resilience Formula Grant Metrics

 1. **Objective #1 - Increased Grid Resilience**
 - Core focus of the project– 3rd worst performing circuit (217D3)
 - Grid hardening – steel & concrete poles, tree wire
 - Improvements describe SAIFI and SAIDI metrics proposed
 2. **Objective #2 – Increased Community Resilience**
 - P: Hardening to reduce outages (348 outages impacting approximately 35,900 customers in the past three years)
 - P: Large # of customers to benefit
 - P: Proposed upgrades qualify under grant description
 - Q: Operational savings \$2,178
 - Electrification central to MWW goals
 - Q: Letters of support forthcoming
 3. **Objective #3 – Workforce and Quality Jobs**
 - Agrees to comply with DBA

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER NAME: CMP- Brunswick/Harpswell Project

DATE: April 5, 2024

EVALUATOR NAME: Nat Haslett

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: EMT

4. *Objective #4 – Grid Modernization and Policy Alignment*

- P: General support for electrification by improving reliability, resilience
- P/Q: Support integration of new solar- unclear if this specifically would be savings to ratepayers vs. costs to be borne by developer
- Q: Proposes monitoring metering control devices as part of project?

III. *Grid & Community Benefits*

1. *Project plan to provide grid and community benefits. Does the applicant address questions in Section 3.1 of the application?*

a. The extent to which the proposed project provides benefits to the electric grid, customer, and community. Where possible, data should consider current conditions and forecasted load increase from beneficial electrification and increased frequency of storms as a result of climate change, and indicate methods and data used. See the Guidance for Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Grid Resilience Formula Grant Metrics for examples of metrics to track benefits associated with the electric grid, customer, and communities;

P: Clear benefit from increased resilience, data provided on historical outages to demonstrate scale of need

b. The extent to which the proposed project demonstrates reduced energy burden within the community or communities;

P: Reduced outages reduce costs to customers associated with extended outages

c. A description of how the project will incorporate customer and community participation and feedback mechanisms, including but not limited to customer and community benefits, and community engagement in identifying critical facilities; description should include description of consultation and engagement with communities to date and identify areas where community input was sought on the project. Refer to “Equity and community benefit metrics” in DOE’s metrics guidance document.

N: CMP cites general experience

d. A description of how the project will lead to the creation of high-quality jobs in Maine; metrics of interest include but are not limited to number of new clean energy jobs in the state in the years following the resilience project; number of Maine businesses and contractors engaged in resilience project activities; number of Maine high school and secondary career and technical education (CTEs) engaged in resilience project activities; location of businesses and subcontractors receiving funds from the project. Refer to “Equity and community benefit metrics” in DOE’s metrics guidance document for additional information.

2. *Workforce impact linked to future capacity for DERs*

e. Throughout the qualitative and quantitative components of the project proposals, the extent to which the proposed project contributes to or goes beyond the Justice40 objective of 40% of the benefits of climate and clean energy investments flowing to disadvantaged communities.

N/Q: Does not appear project would support J40 as described by CEJST

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER NAME: CMP- Brunswick/Harpswell Project

DATE: April 5, 2024

EVALUATOR NAME: Nat Haslett

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: EMT

IV. Technical Merit and Feasibility

1. A description of the current stage of project planning; Please provide a detailed explanation of your proposed project expenses organized by task using the provided SF-424 Budget Justification Form (see #6 below).

- Budget form provided, limited granularity

2. Financial need to the applicant and demonstration of how the funds will aid in the successful completion of the project within one to five years;

- P: Application states budget not otherwise available for upgrades on the timeline proposed

3. Description of other federal or state funding sources the applicant has or could consider, including whether the project is eligible or may be eligible for cost recovery, if the applicant is a regulated entity

- Match may be eligible for cost recovery, per applicant

4. Description of how the project meets the goals of Maine Won't Wait, including achieving 80% of electricity generated by 2030 per the state's Renewable Portfolio Standard, with a goal of 100% by 2040; indication of how project will not increase reliance on non-renewable sources;

- Applicant proposes project will improve capacity for DER interconnection;

5. A description of how the project will fulfil at a minimum one of the core program objectives, while also at a minimum not undermining the other core program objectives;

- Clear description of how project will reduce outages at a poorly performing circuit, consistent with objectives 1&2

6. Efficient use of program funds, for example through leveraging, matching, securitization;

- CMP exceeds min cost match requirement

7. Indication whether the proposed project location(s) is within a floodplain, including how the floodplain is defined;

- Yes provided, project not in floodplain

8. Demonstrated ability to comply with all applicable federal requirements, including Buy America and Davis-Bacon Act requirements

- Commitment to comply with both provided, Budget Justification Form Included- Yes

V. Partnerships and Letters of Support

1. *Indication of quality partnerships – no letters provided to date*

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER NAME: Central Maine Power – Brunswick Harpswell

DATE: 4/3/2024

EVALUATOR NAME: Allie Rand

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Governor’s Energy Office

Instructions: *The purpose of this form is to record proposal review notes written by **individual** evaluators for this Request for Proposals (RFA) process. It is **required** that each individual evaluator make notes for each proposal that he or she reviews. No numerical scoring should take place on these notes, as that is performed only during team consensus evaluation meetings. A separate form is available for team consensus evaluation notes and scoring. Once complete, please submit a copy of this document to your Department’s RFP Coordinator or Lead Evaluator for this RFA.*

Individual Evaluator Comments:

I. General Information, Eligibility, Completeness and Cost Match – Compliance Review

- 1. All components provided:*
 - *Application Form? - Included*
 - *Environmental Questionnaire (NEPA)? - Included*
 - *Budget Justification Workbook? - Included*
 - *Appendix A: Performance Metrics Checklist? - Included*
- 2. Eligibility*
 - *Applicant is eligible as an electric grid operator*
 - *Uses are eligible*
- 3. Cost match*
 - *Indication of Large or Small Utility cost match applicability – yes*
 - *Cash match source*
- 4. Federal policy acknowledgements*
 - *Yes, all acknowledged*
 - *NEPA form attached*
- 5. Project Performance metrics complete and attached*

II. Project Summary and Alignment with Program Narrative Objectives

For each applicable objective as listed in Section G, an indication of how the proposed project meets stated objective, while also at a minimum not undermining the other core program objectives. Applicant should include a description of how success will be tracked through a description of how the

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER NAME: Central Maine Power – Brunswick Harpswell

DATE: 4/3/2024

EVALUATOR NAME: Allie Rand

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Governor's Energy Office

applicant will provide reporting on metrics, drawing upon applicable metrics from the example metrics listed in the [U.S. DOE Grid Deployment Office's Guidance for Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Grid Resilience Formula Grant Metrics](#)

1. Objective #1 - Increased Grid Resilience

- *Grid hardening measures at circuit 217D3 include steel or composite polls, tree wire reconductoring*

2. Objective #2 – Increased Community Resilience

- *35900 customers impacted over the last three years*

3. Objective #3 – Workforce and Quality Jobs

- *No plans to allocate funds to workforce initiatives explicitly*
- *Hardening will “increase clean energy workforce opportunities by enabling interconnection of DERs on circuits, which were recently upgraded to accommodate a new solar facility”*

4. Objective #4 – Grid Modernization and Policy Alignment

- *Focus on improved performance in a historically underperforming area*
- *Notes energy burden reduction due to “relatively stable electricity pricing, as well as the relative efficiency of electric powered alternatives such as heat pumps”*

III. Grid & Community Benefits

1. Project plan to provide grid and community benefits. Does the applicant address questions in Section 3.1 of the application?

• **Metrics**

1. miles of:

- a. *New lines*
- b. *Dist. lines recondotored*
- c. *Dist. poles replaced*

2. Number of:

- a. *devices installed*
- b. *assets purchased*
- c. *outages, SAIDI, SAIFI, and CAIDI*
- d. *Residential, commercial and industrial customers benefiting from project*
- e. *customers that have access to real time or hourly usage...*

3. Zip code, description of how project incorporates community input

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER NAME: Central Maine Power – Brunswick Harpswell

DATE: 4/3/2024

EVALUATOR NAME: Allie Rand

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Governor's Energy Office

4. *Number of ME businesses and contractors engaged in project activities*
 5. *Location of businesses*
 6. *Outage types caused by vegetation, hurricane, flooding, ice/snow, other*
 2. *Describes benefits to grid, customer and community*
 - *Preliminary anticipated SAIFI improvements estimated to result in annual O&M savings of \$2,178*
 3. *Indicates reduced energy burden through reliability improvement*
 4. *Notes applicant's experience with community engagement in identifying critical facilities in consultations and engagement with communities; not specific to project*
 5. *Does not address quality job creation or Justice40*
- IV. *Technical Merit and Feasibility*
1. *Project description addresses questions in Section 4.1 of the application:*
 - *Current stage of planning is addressed – CMP's system planning has ID'd the affected circuits as "among the worst performing in the entire system" but has faced budget availability to proceed with upgrades*
 - *Proposed project cost is \$4M*
 - *Financial need is mentioned by lack of budget availability and states that funding would allow project to begin in 2024 with one year design phase and one year construction period*
 - *Includes a description of meeting MWW goals through improved reliability to better enable integration of electric end uses*
 - *Does not address efficient use of program funds such as through leverage, match, securitization*
 - *Confirms project is not in a floodplain*
 - *Confirmed compliance with BABA and DB*
 2. *Budget Justification Form Included*
- V. *Partnerships and Letters of Support*
1. *"To be provided"*

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER NAME: Central Maine Power Brunswick Harpswell

DATE: 4/3/24

EVALUATOR NAME: Claire Swingle

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Maine Governor's Energy Office

Individual Evaluator Comments:

I. General Information, Eligibility, Completeness and Cost Match – Compliance Review

1. All components provided:
 - Application Form? Yes
 - Environmental Questionnaire (NEPA)? Yes
 - Budget Justification Workbook? Yes
 - Appendix A: Performance Metrics Checklist? Yes
2. Eligibility
 - Electric Grid Operator
3. Cost match
 - Large Utility (between 100-115% cost match required)
 - 103% cost match (\$2,060,000)
4. Federal policy acknowledgements
 - Yes, Davis Bacon, BABA
 - NEPA EQ
 - Indicated that there are foreign nationals
5. Project Performance metrics complete and attached
 - Complete and attached
 - Not all metrics are supported by the narrative, including # other protection/control devices installed, # other assets purchased to assist with power restoration, and description of how project incorporates customer/community participation/feedback mechanisms

II. Project Summary and Alignment with Program Narrative Objectives

For each applicable objective as listed in Section G, an indication of how the proposed project meets stated objective, while also at a minimum not undermining the other core program objectives. Applicant should include a description of how success will be tracked through a description of how the applicant will provide reporting on metrics, drawing upon applicable metrics from

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER NAME: Central Maine Power Brunswick Harpswell

DATE: 4/3/24

EVALUATOR NAME: Claire Swingle

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Maine Governor's Energy Office

the example metrics listed in the U.S. DOE Grid Deployment Office's Guidance for Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Grid Resilience Formula Grant Metrics

1. Project Summary

- Harden infrastructure at circuit 217D3; field design to identify most efficient upgrades of poles and wires, i.e. replacing wood poles with steel or concrete and reconductoring with tree wire
- 12 steel or composite poles; 40 miles of 1phase and 2phase tree wire

2. Objective #1 - Increased Grid Resilience

- The proposed project would mitigate outage impacts on circuit 217D3, which experienced 348 outages impacting approximately 35,900 customers in the past three years.
- CMP's preliminary initial estimates of SAIFI improvements as a result of the project are 0.002636 (excluding storm) and 0.007768 (including storm). These improvements will result in a preliminary estimated annual operations and maintenance savings of \$2,178; this savings is derived from fewer outages requiring O&M expense.

3. Objective #2 – Increased Community Resilience

- Same as increased grid resilience (35,900 customers)
- Did not indicate critical infrastructure or other impacted community resilience

4. Objective #3 – Workforce and Quality Jobs

- No workforce training indicated.
- States that workforce opportunities will be increased because more DERs will be enabled, but it is not clear how additional DERs would be enabled as a result of the work described in the project

5. Objective #4 – Grid Modernization and Policy Alignment

- General statement that increasing redundancy and hardening infrastructure to improve reliability is important for beneficial electrification, but does not provide specifics to this project location

III. Grid & Community Benefits

1. Project plan to provide grid and community benefits. Does the applicant address questions in Section 3.1 of the application?

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER NAME: Central Maine Power Brunswick Harpswell

DATE: 4/3/24

EVALUATOR NAME: Claire Swingle

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Maine Governor's Energy Office

- Describes reliability improvements and that more reliable electricity can lead to increased beneficial electrification, such as heat pumps, to reduce energy burdens
- Limited discussion regarding consultation with communities described for selection of this location or this type of solution for the identified grid need
- Limited discussion on workforce impacts
- Characterizes high need due to historical under-performance

IV. Technical Merit and Feasibility

1. Project description addresses questions in Section 4.1 of the application

- The applicant states that its system planning has identified the affected circuits as among the worst performing but budget has not been available to date.
- There is a proposed one-year design phase and a one-year construction period. Specific engineering analysis has not been done to date.
- The applicant states it is not aware of other federal or state funding sources and the project “may be eligible” for cost recovery.
- Budget justification form is provided but missing some important itemization (i.e. cost per utility pole, labor rates and indirect costs).
- Project is not in a floodplain, and will comply with federal requirements

V. Partnerships and Letters of Support

1. Indication of quality partnerships

- None provided

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER NAME: CMP Brunswick

DATE: 4/5/2024

EVALUATOR NAME: Robert Snook

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Governor's Energy Office

Instructions: *The purpose of this form is to record proposal review notes written by **individual** evaluators for this Request for Proposals (RFA) process. It is **required** that each individual evaluator make notes for each proposal that he or she reviews. No numerical scoring should take place on these notes, as that is performed only during team consensus evaluation meetings. A separate form is available for team consensus evaluation notes and scoring. Once complete, please submit a copy of this document to your Department's RFP Coordinator or Lead Evaluator for this RFA.*

Individual Evaluator Comments:

Directions: *Follow the sections of your RFA and the corresponding Application Form to develop a bulleted outline for notes.*

I. General Information, Eligibility, Completeness and Cost Match – Compliance Review

1. All components provided:

- *Application Form? Yes*
- *Environmental Questionnaire (NEPA)? Yes*
- *Budget Justification Workbook? Yes*
- *Appendix A: Performance Metrics Checklist? Yes*

2. Eligibility

- *Eligible utility*

3. Cost match

- *Application states Large Utility cost match applicability.*
- *Applicant seeks \$2,000,000 with matching \$2,060,000.*
- *Application does not break down costs beyond \$485,000 for personnel and the rest is listed as "equipment."*

4. Federal policy acknowledgements Yes

5. Project Performance metrics complete and attached. Yes

II. Project Summary and Alignment with Program Narrative Objectives Are Included

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER NAME: CMP Brunswick

DATE: 4/5/2024

EVALUATOR NAME: Robert Snook

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Governor's Energy Office

For each applicable objective as listed in Section G, an indication of how the proposed project meets stated objective, while also at a minimum not undermining the other core program objectives. Applicant should include a description of how success will be tracked through a description of how the applicant will provide reporting on metrics, drawing upon applicable metrics from the example metrics listed in the [U.S. DOE Grid Deployment Office's Guidance for Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Grid Resilience Formula Grant Metrics](#)

1. Objective #1 - Increased Grid Resilience

- Applicant states that this circuit is 4th worst performing in its service area and affects 36,000 customers with 368 outages.
- Project will improve SAIFI performance by .0026336 excluding storms and .007868 including storms and reduce O&M annually by \$2,178.

2. Objective #2 – Increased Community Resilience

- Same as above

3. Objective #3 – Workforce and Quality Jobs

- No additional training. Applicant states that project will improve DER penetration which will add jobs. Application does not provide any support for this.

4. Objective #4 – Grid Modernization and Policy Alignment

- Will improve circuit reliability which aligns with policy.

III. Grid & Community Benefits

- 1. The extent to which the proposed project provides benefits to the electric grid, customer, and community. Where possible, data should consider current conditions and forecasted load increase from beneficial electrification and increased frequency of storms, and indicate methods and data used. See the Guidance for Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Grid Resilience Formula Grant Metrics for examples of metrics to track benefits associated with the electric grid, customer, and communities.**

Application is unclear as to benefits other than listing SAIFI numbers .and a believe that it would reduce outages. No data load forecast.

- 2. The extent to which the proposed project demonstrates reduced energy burden within the community or communities.**

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER NAME: CMP Brunswick

DATE: 4/5/2024

EVALUATOR NAME: Robert Snook

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Governor's Energy Office

Application is unclear as to how the project would reduce energy burden other than reference to reduced outages.

3. *A description of how the project will incorporate customer and community participation and feedback mechanisms, including but not limited to customer and community benefits, and community engagement in identifying critical facilities; description should include description of consultation and engagement with communities to date and identify areas where community input was sought on the project. Refer to "Equity and community benefit metrics".*

Application states only the CMP has conducted community outreach before.

4. *A description of how the project will lead to the creation of high-quality jobs in Maine; metrics of interest include but are not limited to number of new clean energy jobs in the state in the years following the resilience project; number of Maine businesses and contractors engaged in resilience project activities; number of Maine high school and secondary career and technical education (CTEs) engaged in resilience project activities; location of businesses and subcontractors receiving funds from the project. Refer to "Equity and community benefit metrics" in DOE's metrics guidance document for additional information.*

Application states that there will be no additional job training but also states that it would permit further DER penetration which would lead to jobs. No information is provided as to why this project would increase DERs.

5. *The extent to which the proposed project contributes to or goes beyond the Justice40 objective of 40% of the benefits of climate and clean energy investments flowing to disadvantaged communities.*

No reference to Justice40.

IV. Technical Merit and Feasibility

1. *A description of the current stage of project planning; Please provide a detailed explanation of your proposed project expenses organized by task*

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER NAME: CMP Brunswick

DATE: 4/5/2024

EVALUATOR NAME: Robert Snook

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Governor's Energy Office

using the provided SF-424 Budget Justification Form. Application provides no breakdown of costs other than personnel and equipment.

2. *Financial need to the applicant and demonstration of how the funds will aid in the successful completion of the project within one to five years.*

Project only states that DOE funding would permit construction in 2024.

3. *Description of other federal or state funding sources the applicant has or could consider, including whether the project is eligible or may be eligible for cost recovery, if the applicant is a regulated entity. No other funding except that project "may" be eligible for cost recovery.*
4. *Description of how the project meets the goals of Maine Won't Wait, including achieving 80% of electricity generated by 2030 per the state's Renewable Portfolio Standard, with a goal of 100% by 2040; indication of how project will not increase reliance on non-renewable sources.*

Project only states that it is compliant with MWW.

5. *A description of how the project will fulfil at a minimum one of the core program objectives, while also at a minimum not undermining the other core program objectives.*

Project would improve grid reliability.

6. *Efficient use of program funds, for example through leveraging, matching, securitization. No reference to this in the application.*
7. *Indication whether the proposed project location(s) is within a floodplain, including how the floodplain is defined.*

Not in a floodplain.

8. *Demonstrated ability to comply with all applicable federal requirements, including Buy America and Davis-Bacon Act requirements.*

Application states that it is compliant with referenced federal laws.

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER NAME: CMP Brunswick

DATE: 4/5/2024

EVALUATOR NAME: Robertt Snook

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Governor's Energy Office

V. Partnerships and Letters of Support

- 1. Indication of quality partnerships.* Nothing listed.

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Program

BIDDER NAME: Central Maine Power – Brunswick/Harpswell Project

DATE: April 5, 2024

EVALUATOR NAME: Ethan Tremblay

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Governor’s Energy Office

Individual Evaluator Comments:

*I. General Information, Eligibility, Completeness and Cost Match – **Compliance Review***

1. All components provided:

- *Application Form: Complete*
- *Environmental Questionnaire (NEPA): Provided, appears complete*
- *Budget Justification Workbook: Provided*
- *Appendix A: Performance Metrics Checklist: Provided*

2. Eligibility

- Organization is an electric grid operator
- “Central Maine Power Company is a regulated investor-owned transmission and distribution utility that operates the electric grid for over 650,000 customers generally in the southern, central, and western portions of Maine.
- Eligible activities proposed:
 1. Monitoring and control technologies
 2. Utility pole management
 3. Hardening of power lines, facilities, substations, or other systems
 4. Replacement of old overhead conductor and underground cables

3. Cost match

- Large Utility cost match category
- Cost match of 103% proposed

4. Federal policy acknowledgements

- All acknowledgements provided

5. Project Performance metrics complete and attached

- Proposes six Build metrics, seven Impact metrics, three Additional metrics, two Workforce metrics, six Outage metrics

II. Project Summary and Alignment with Program Narrative Objectives

For each applicable objective as listed in Section G, an indication of how the proposed project meets stated objective, while also at a minimum not undermining the other core program objectives. Applicant should include a

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Program

BIDDER NAME: Central Maine Power – Brunswick/Harpswell Project

DATE: April 5, 2024

EVALUATOR NAME: Ethan Tremblay

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Governor's Energy Office

description of how success will be tracked through a description of how the applicant will provide reporting on metrics, drawing upon applicable metrics from the example metrics listed in the U.S. DOE Grid Deployment Office's Guidance for Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Grid Resilience Formula Grant Metrics

1. Objective #1 - Increased Grid Resilience

- Improve reliability and resilience by hardening infrastructure on fourth-worst-performing circuit
- Field design to identify most efficient upgrade of poles and wires
- Hardening = replacement of wood poles with steel or concrete and reconductoring with tree wire
- Preliminary initial estimates of SAIFI improvements as a result of the project are 0.002636 (excluding storm) and 0.007768 (including storm).
- Preliminary estimated annual operations and maintenance savings of \$2,178; this savings is derived from fewer outages requiring O&M expense.

2. Objective #2 – Increased Community Resilience

- Proposed project would mitigate outage impacts on circuit 217D3, which is the fourth worst performing circuit in CMP's service area and which experienced 348 outages impacting approximately 35,900 customers in the past three years.

3. Objective #3 – Workforce and Quality Jobs

- Project does not include component for training, recruitment, retention, and reskilling of skilled and properly credentialed workers

4. Objective #4 – Grid Modernization and Policy Alignment

- Increased reliability and an associated transition to greater electrification meets the objectives of Maine's Climate Action Plan, including reducing dependency on fuel sources with more volatile prices.

III. Grid & Community Benefits

- 1. Project plan to provide grid and community benefits. Does the applicant address questions in Section 3.1 of the application? Yes*

IV. Technical Merit and Feasibility

- 1. Project description addresses questions in Section 4.1 of the application*
- *Timeline: The available of Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program funding would enable CMP to begin the project in 2024, with an*

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Program

BIDDER NAME: Central Maine Power – Brunswick/Harpswell Project

DATE: April 5, 2024

EVALUATOR NAME: Ethan Tremblay

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Governor's Energy Office

estimated one year design phase and a one year construction period.

2. *Budget Justification Form Included: Yes*

V. *Partnerships and Letters of Support*

1. *Indication of quality partnerships*

- Table notes "To be provided" and narrative references "forthcoming letters of support"

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239
RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program
BIDDER NAME: CMP- Shaw
DATE: April 5, 2024
EVALUATOR NAME: Nat Haslett
EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: EMT

Instructions: *The purpose of this form is to record proposal review notes written by individual evaluators for this Request for Proposals (RFA) process. It is required that each individual evaluator make notes for each proposal that he or she reviews. No numerical scoring should take place on these notes, as that is performed only during team consensus evaluation meetings. A separate form is available for team consensus evaluation notes and scoring. Once complete, please submit a copy of this document to your Department's RFP Coordinator or Lead Evaluator for this RFA.*

Individual Evaluator Comments:

- I. General Information, Eligibility, Completeness and Cost Match
 - 1. All components provided: Yes, all required components provided
 - 2. Eligibility – Yes, qualifies as large utility
 - 3. Cost match - Cost match meets requirements - >50% of project costs
 - 4. Federal policy acknowledgements – Yes, Enviro assessment included
 - 5. Project Performance metrics complete and attached - Yes

II. *Project Summary and Alignment with Program Narrative Objectives*

For each applicable objective as listed in Section G, an indication of how the proposed project meets stated objective, while also at a minimum not undermining the other core program objectives. Applicant should include a description of how success will be tracked through a description of how the applicant will provide reporting on metrics, drawing upon applicable metrics from the example metrics listed in the U.S. DOE Grid Deployment Office's Guidance for Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Grid Resilience Formula Grant Metrics

- 1. *Objective #1 - Increased Grid Resilience*
 - P: Upgrade to improve reliability at 691D1 – 3rd worst performing circuit w new circuit tie between Shaw Mills Road (660D1) and Baldwin (691D1)
 - Pole upgrades, reconductoring, SCADA switch, new regulators
- 2. *Objective #2 – Increased Community Resilience*
 - P: Hardening to reduce outages (58 outages in past 3 years)
 - P: Clear need for reliability improvement- “The improvements would be made adjacent to a DAC, and would improve reliability along circuit 691D1, which is within DAC tract 23017966900. The proposed project would mitigate outage impacts on circuit 691D1, which experienced 171 outages impacting approximately 35,800 customers in the past

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER NAME: CMP- Shaw

DATE: April 5, 2024

EVALUATOR NAME: Nat Haslett

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: EMT

three years, and on circuit 660D1, which experienced 58 outages impacting approximately 5,000 customers in the past three years.”

- P/Q: Large # of customers to benefit; circuits serve 3k each, outages affecting much higher # of customers?
- P: O&M savings of \$18.5k/year
- P: Proposed upgrades qualify under grant description
- P: “Adjacent” to DAC and providing benefit within that circuit
- 3. *Objective #3 – Workforce and Quality Jobs*
 - P: Confirms can comply with DBA
- 4. *Objective #4 – Grid Modernization and Policy Alignment*
 - P: General support for electrification by improving reliability
 - Q: Support integration of new DERs- unclear where savings to ratepayers vs. costs to be borne by developer

III. Grid & Community Benefits

1. Project plan to provide grid and community benefits. Does the applicant address questions in Section 3.1 of the application?

a. The extent to which the proposed project provides benefits to the electric grid, customer, and community. Where possible, data should consider current conditions and forecasted load increase from beneficial electrification and increased frequency of storms as a result of climate change, and indicate methods and data used. See the Guidance for Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Grid Resilience Formula Grant Metrics for examples of metrics to track benefits associated with the electric grid, customer, and communities;

- P: Clear benefit from increased resilience, data provided on historical outages to demonstrate scale of need
- P: The proposed project benefits the grid by providing substantial reliability benefits to customers on both affected circuits and on adjoining circuits. CMP’s preliminary initial estimates of SAIFI improvements as a result of the project are 0.008679 (excluding storm) and 0.011884 (including storm). These improvements will result in a preliminary estimated annual operations and maintenance savings of \$18,622;
- P/Q: addition of 3-phase service to support EV, other electrification goals; not specified whether load growth constrained circuit
- CMP will upgrade 348 poles, add 16new poles, reconductor 10.3 miles of overhead conductor (including upgrading 1.3miles of single phase conductor to three phase conductor), install a new SCADA switch, and install three new pole-mounted regulators

b. The extent to which the proposed project demonstrates reduced energy burden within the community or communities;

- P: Reduced outages would provide benefit to communities affected by high rates of outages

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER NAME: CMP- Shaw

DATE: April 5, 2024

EVALUATOR NAME: Nat Haslett

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: EMT

c. A description of how the project will incorporate customer and community participation and feedback mechanisms, including but not limited to customer and community benefits, and community engagement in identifying critical facilities; description should include description of consultation and engagement with communities to date and identify areas where community input was sought on the project. Refer to “Equity and community benefit metrics” in DOE’s metrics guidance document.

- P: Letters of support provided from affected communities
- d. A description of how the project will lead to the creation of high-quality jobs in Maine; metrics of interest include but are not limited to number of new clean energy jobs in the state in the years following the resilience project; number of Maine businesses and contractors engaged in resilience project activities; number of Maine high school and secondary career and technical education (CTEs) engaged in resilience project activities; location of businesses and subcontractors receiving funds from the project. Refer to “Equity and community benefit metrics” in DOE’s metrics guidance document for additional information.*
- Workforce impact linked to future capacity for DERs, associated with expansion of 3-phase. Limited further discussion of workforce impact
- e. Throughout the qualitative and quantitative components of the project proposals, the extent to which the proposed project contributes to or goes beyond the Justice40 objective of 40% of the benefits of climate and clean energy investments flowing to disadvantaged communities.*
- Applicant states: “The proposed project will also contribute to Justice40 objectives by providing reliability benefits to a disadvantaged community. DAC tract 23017966900, which is located along the Baldwin circuit in western Oxford County, would benefit with new opportunities for energy efficiency and enable interconnection of clean energy resources.”

IV. Technical Merit and Feasibility

1. A description of the current stage of project planning; Please provide a detailed explanation of your proposed project expenses organized by task using the provided SF-424 Budget Justification Form (see #6 below).

- P: Materials provided, budgets and projects already scoped
- Q: Applicant states that a one-year design phase period would be required, followed by 1-year construction phase

2. Financial need to the applicant and demonstration of how the funds will aid in the successful completion of the project within one to five years;

- Application states budget not otherwise available for upgrades on this timeline

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER NAME: CMP- Shaw

DATE: April 5, 2024

EVALUATOR NAME: Nat Haslett

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: EMT

3. Description of other federal or state funding sources the applicant has or could consider, including whether the project is eligible or may be eligible for cost recovery, if the applicant is a regulated entity

- Applicant notes cost match may be recoverable in rates

4. Description of how the project meets the goals of Maine Won't Wait, including achieving 80% of electricity generated by 2030 per the state's Renewable Portfolio Standard, with a goal of 100% by 2040; indication of how project will not increase reliance on non-renewable sources;

- Description claims project will improve hosting capacity for DERs, general support for beneficial electrification

5. A description of how the project will fulfil at a minimum one of the core program objectives, while also at a minimum not undermining the other core program objectives;

- Clear description of how project will reduce outages at a poorly performing circuit

6. Efficient use of program funds, for example through leveraging, matching, securitization;

- Applicant's proposed match would exceed minimum requirement for a large utility

7. Indication whether the proposed project location(s) is within a floodplain, including how the floodplain is defined;

- Yes provided

8. Demonstrated ability to comply with all applicable federal requirements, including Buy America and Davis-Bacon Act requirements

- Commitment to comply with both provided

Budget Justification Form Included- Yes

V. *Partnerships and Letters of Support*

1. Indication of quality partnerships - *Letters provided from affected communities. Application describes Standish and Sebago letters, appears duplicate of Standish provided in error*

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER NAME: Central Maine Power – Shaw Mill

DATE: 4/3/2024

EVALUATOR NAME: Allie Rand

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Governor’s Energy Office

Instructions: *The purpose of this form is to record proposal review notes written by **individual** evaluators for this Request for Proposals (RFA) process. It is **required** that each individual evaluator make notes for each proposal that he or she reviews. No numerical scoring should take place on these notes, as that is performed only during team consensus evaluation meetings. A separate form is available for team consensus evaluation notes and scoring. Once complete, please submit a copy of this document to your Department’s RFP Coordinator or Lead Evaluator for this RFA.*

Individual Evaluator Comments:

I. General Information, Eligibility, Completeness and Cost Match – Compliance Review

- 1. All components provided:
 - *Application Form? - Included*
 - *Environmental Questionnaire (NEPA)? - Included*
 - *Budget Justification Workbook? - Included*
 - *Appendix A: Performance Metrics Checklist? - Included**
- 2. Eligibility
 - *Applicant is eligible as an electric grid operator*
 - *Uses are eligible**
- 3. Cost match
 - *Indication of Large or Small Utility cost match applicability – yes, CMP indicated it is a large utility*
 - *Cash match source**
- 4. Federal policy acknowledgements
 - *Yes, all acknowledged**
- 5. Project Performance metrics complete and attached*

II. Project Summary and Alignment with Program Narrative Objectives

For each applicable objective as listed in Section G, an indication of how the proposed project meets stated objective, while also at a minimum not undermining the other core program objectives. Applicant should include a description of how success will be tracked through a description of how the applicant will provide reporting on metrics, drawing upon applicable metrics from

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER NAME: Central Maine Power – Shaw Mill

DATE: 4/3/2024

EVALUATOR NAME: Allie Rand

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Governor's Energy Office

the example metrics listed in the [U.S. DOE Grid Deployment Office's Guidance for Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Grid Resilience Formula Grant Metrics](#)

1. Objective #1 - Increased Grid Resilience

- *Proposed upgrading and hardening activities would improve reliability of third worst performing circuit*

2. Objective #2 – Increased Community Resilience

- *Applicant notes improvements are made adjacent to disadvantaged community per CJEST*
- *Circuit 691 experienced 171 outages*

3. Objective #3 – Workforce and Quality Jobs

- *No plans to allocate funds to workforce initiatives explicitly*
- *Hardening will “increase clean energy workforce opportunities by enabling interconnection of DERs on circuits”*

4. Objective #4 – Grid Modernization and Policy Alignment

- *Notes enabling IX of DERs on the circuits*
- *“Historically underperforming section of the grid and in a historically underserved community”*

III. Grid & Community Benefits

1. Project plan to provide grid and community benefits. Does the applicant address questions in Section 3.1 of the application?

• **Metrics**

1. Miles of:

- a. *New lines*
- b. *Dist. lines reconducted*
- c. *Dist. poles replaced*

2. Number of:

- a. *Poles replaced*
- b. *Other protection or control devices installed*
- c. *Other assets purchased to assist with power restoration*
- d. *outages, SAIDI, SAIFI, and CAIDI*
- e. *Residential, commercial and industrial customers benefiting from project*
- f. *customers that have access to real time or hourly usage...*

3. Zip code, description of how project incorporates community input

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER NAME: Central Maine Power – Shaw Mill

DATE: 4/3/2024

EVALUATOR NAME: Allie Rand

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Governor's Energy Office

4. *Number of ME businesses and contractors engaged in project activities*
 5. *Location of businesses*
 6. *Outage types caused by veg, hurricane, flooding, ice/snow, other*
2. *Describes benefits to grid, customer and community*
 - *Preliminary anticipated SAIFI improvements “will result in a preliminary estimated annual operations and maintenance savings of \$18,622*
 3. *Describes how project can contribute to reduced energy burden due to relatively stable electricity pricing and efficiency of heat pumps which would be more reliable as a result of the project*
 4. *Notes applicant’s experience with community engagement in identifying critical facilities in consultations and engagement with communities, includes support letter from Town of Standish and Sebago Chamber of Commerce*
 5. *Does not address quality job creation explicitly*
 6. *Project would contribute to Justice40 through reliability benefits to DAC along Baldwin circuit in western Oxford county*
- IV. *Technical Merit and Feasibility*
1. *Project description addresses questions in Section 4.1 of the application:*
 - *Current stage of planning is addressed – “project has been fully planned and a budget has been developed”*
 - *Proposed project cost is included - \$4.5M*
 - *Financial need is mentioned by lack of budget availability and states that funding would allow project to begin in 2024 with one year design phase and one year construction period*
 - *Includes a description of meeting MWW goals through improved reliability to better enable integration of electric end uses*
 - *Does not address efficient use of program funds such as through leverage, match, securitization*
 - *Confirms project is not in a floodplain*
 - *Confirmed compliance with BABA and DB*
 2. *Budget Justification Form Included*
- V. *Partnerships and Letters of Support*
1. *Town of Standish and Sebago Lakes Chamber of Commerce*

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER NAME: CMP Shaw

DATE: 4/5/2024

EVALUATOR NAME: Robertt Snook

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Governor's Energy Office

Instructions: *The purpose of this form is to record proposal review notes written by **individual** evaluators for this Request for Proposals (RFA) process. It is **required** that each individual evaluator make notes for each proposal that he or she reviews. No numerical scoring should take place on these notes, as that is performed only during team consensus evaluation meetings. A separate form is available for team consensus evaluation notes and scoring. Once complete, please submit a copy of this document to your Department's RFP Coordinator or Lead Evaluator for this RFA.*

Individual Evaluator Comments:

Directions: *Follow the sections of your RFA and the corresponding Application Form to develop a bulleted outline for notes.*

I. General Information, Eligibility, Completeness and Cost Match – Compliance Review

1. All components provided:

- Application Form? Yes
- Environmental Questionnaire (NEPA)? Yes
- Budget Justification Workbook? Yes
- Appendix A: Performance Metrics Checklist? Yes

2. Eligibility

- Eligible utility

3. Cost match

- Application states Large Utility cost match applicability.
- Applicant seeks \$2,000,000 with matching \$2,230,000.
- Application does not break down costs beyond \$485,000 for personnel and the rest is listed as "equipment."

4. Federal policy acknowledgements Yes

5. Project Performance metrics complete and attached. Yes

II. Project Summary and Alignment with Program Narrative Objectives Are Included

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER NAME: CMP Shaw

DATE: 4/5/2024

EVALUATOR NAME: Robert Snook

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Governor's Energy Office

For each applicable objective as listed in Section G, an indication of how the proposed project meets stated objective, while also at a minimum not undermining the other core program objectives. Applicant should include a description of how success will be tracked through a description of how the applicant will provide reporting on metrics, drawing upon applicable metrics from the example metrics listed in the [U.S. DOE Grid Deployment Office's Guidance for Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Grid Resilience Formula Grant Metrics](#)

1. Objective #1 - Increased Grid Resilience

- Project will upgrade 10.3 miles of distribution line and add a new 1.3 mile three phase circuit that will improve local system reliability.
- Applicant states that this circuit is 3rd worst performing in its service area. Application is unclear and states that this circuit serves 3,180 customers but that the project will affect a service area that has had 171 outages affecting 36,000 customers.
- Project will improve SAIFI performance by .008967 excluding storms and .041884 including storms and reduce O&M annually by \$18,622.

2. Objective #2 – Increased Community Resilience

- Same as above

3. Objective #3 – Workforce and Quality Jobs

- No additional training. Applicant states that project will improve DER penetration which will add jobs. Application does not provide any support for this.

4. Objective #4 – Grid Modernization and Policy Alignment

- Will improve circuit reliability which aligns with policy.

III. Grid & Community Benefits

- 1. The extent to which the proposed project provides benefits to the electric grid, customer, and community. Where possible, data should consider current conditions and forecasted load increase from beneficial electrification and increased frequency of storms, and indicate methods and data used. See the Guidance for Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Grid Resilience Formula Grant Metrics for examples of metrics to track benefits associated with the electric grid, customer, and communities.**

Application is unclear as to benefits other than listing SAIFI numbers .and a believe that it would reduce outages. No data load forecast.

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER NAME: CMP Shaw

DATE: 4/5/2024

EVALUATOR NAME: Robert Snook

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Governor's Energy Office

2. *The extent to which the proposed project demonstrates reduced energy burden within the community or communities.*

Application is unclear as to how the project would reduce energy burden other than reference to reduced outages.

3. *A description of how the project will incorporate customer and community participation and feedback mechanisms, including but not limited to customer and community benefits, and community engagement in identifying critical facilities; description should include description of consultation and engagement with communities to date and identify areas where community input was sought on the project. Refer to "Equity and community benefit metrics".*

Application states only the CMP has conducted community outreach before.

4. *A description of how the project will lead to the creation of high-quality jobs in Maine; metrics of interest include but are not limited to number of new clean energy jobs in the state in the years following the resilience project; number of Maine businesses and contractors engaged in resilience project activities; number of Maine high school and secondary career and technical education (CTEs) engaged in resilience project activities; location of businesses and subcontractors receiving funds from the project. Refer to "Equity and community benefit metrics" in DOE's metrics guidance document for additional information.*

Application states that there will be no additional job training but also states that it would permit further DER penetration which would lead to jobs. No information is provided as to why this project would increase DERs.

5. *The extent to which the proposed project contributes to or goes beyond the Justice40 objective of 40% of the benefits of climate and clean energy investments flowing to disadvantaged communities.*

Application notes that there is a DAC area in Baldwin and that the project will assist that area.

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER NAME: CMP Shaw

DATE: 4/5/2024

EVALUATOR NAME: Robert Snook

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Governor's Energy Office

IV. Technical Merit and Feasibility

1. *A description of the current stage of project planning; Please provide a detailed explanation of your proposed project expenses organized by task using the provided SF-424 Budget Justification Form. Application provides no breakdown of costs other than personnel and equipment.*
2. *Financial need to the applicant and demonstration of how the funds will aid in the successful completion of the project within one to five years.*

Project only states that DOE funding would permit construction in 2024.

3. *Description of other federal or state funding sources the applicant has or could consider, including whether the project is eligible or may be eligible for cost recovery, if the applicant is a regulated entity. No other funding except that project "may" be eligible for cost recovery.*
4. *Description of how the project meets the goals of Maine Won't Wait, including achieving 80% of electricity generated by 2030 per the state's Renewable Portfolio Standard, with a goal of 100% by 2040; indication of how project will not increase reliance on non-renewable sources.*

Project only states that it is compliant with MWW.

5. *A description of how the project will fulfil at a minimum one of the core program objectives, while also at a minimum not undermining the other core program objectives.*
6. *Efficient use of program funds, for example through leveraging, matching, securitization. No reference to this in the application.*
7. *Indication whether the proposed project location(s) is within a floodplain, including how the floodplain is defined.*

Not in a floodplain.

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER NAME: CMP Shaw

DATE: 4/5/2024

EVALUATOR NAME: Robert Snook

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Governor's Energy Office

8. *Demonstrated ability to comply with all applicable federal requirements, including Buy America and Davis-Bacon Act requirements.*

Application states that it is compliant with referenced federal laws.

V. *Partnerships and Letters of Support*

1. *Indication of quality partnerships.* Town of Standish and Sebgo Lake C of C.

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER NAME: Central Maine Power Shaw Mill

DATE: 4/3/24

EVALUATOR NAME: Claire Swingle

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Maine Governor's Energy Office

Individual Evaluator Comments:

I. General Information, Eligibility, Completeness and Cost Match – Compliance Review

1. All components provided:
 - Application Form? Yes
 - Environmental Questionnaire (NEPA)? Yes, complete
 - Budget Justification Workbook? Yes, complete
 - Appendix A: Performance Metrics Checklist? Yes, complete
2. Eligibility
 - Electric grid operator
3. Cost match
 - Large Utility cost match
 - \$2,230,000, 112%
4. Federal policy acknowledgements
 - Yes, Davis Bacon, BABA, NEPA EQ, (yes on foreign nationals)
5. Project Performance metrics complete and attached
 - Yes, complete

II. Project Summary and Alignment with Program Narrative Objectives

For each applicable objective as listed in Section G, an indication of how the proposed project meets stated objective, while also at a minimum not undermining the other core program objectives. Applicant should include a description of how success will be tracked through a description of how the applicant will provide reporting on metrics, drawing upon applicable metrics from the example metrics listed in the U.S. DOE Grid Deployment Office's Guidance for Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Grid Resilience Formula Grant Metrics

1. Project Summary
 - \$2M requested
 - Create a new circuit tie between the Shaw Mills Road circuit 660D1 and the Baldwin circuit 691D1,

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER NAME: Central Maine Power Shaw Mill

DATE: 4/3/24

EVALUATOR NAME: Claire Swingle

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Maine Governor's Energy Office

- Upgrade 348 poles, add 16 new poles, reconductor 10.3 miles of overhead conductor (including upgrading 1.3 miles of single phase conductor to three phase conductor), install a new SCADA switch, and install three new pole-mounted regulators.
 - circuits serve 3,180 customers, which include residences, commercial, and industrial customers
2. Objective #1 - Increased Grid Resilience
- There is currently no tie between these circuits to provide back-up power in the event of an outage, and this is the third worst performing circuit in the CMP service area
 - Application isn't clear on customers benefiting, states that the circuit area experienced 171 outages impacting approximately 35,800 customers in the past three years, and on circuit 660D1, which experienced 58 outages impacting approximately 5,000 customers in the past three years.
 - CMP's preliminary initial estimates of SAIFI improvements as a result of the project are 0.008679 (excluding storm) and 0.011884 (including storm).
 - These improvements will result in a preliminary estimated annual operations and maintenance savings of \$18,622
3. Objective #2 – Increased Community Resilience
- Same as above
 - The improvements would be made adjacent to a DAC, benefiting a circuit that serves a DAC
4. Objective #3 – Workforce and Quality Jobs
- States that additional three phase conductors will increase clean energy workforce opportunities by enabling interconnection of distributed energy resources on the circuits.
 - No additional training indicated
 - Application does not provide support for this
5. Objective #4 – Grid Modernization and Policy Alignment
- Projects notes DER interconnection on historically underperforming and underserved part of the grid

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER NAME: Central Maine Power Shaw Mill

DATE: 4/3/24

EVALUATOR NAME: Claire Swingle

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Maine Governor's Energy Office

- Notes that the additional three phase service will better enable EV charging and heat pump adoption

III. Grid & Community Benefits

1. Project plan to provide grid and community benefits. Does the applicant address questions in Section 3.1 of the application?

- The improvements would be made adjacent to a DAC, and would improve reliability along circuit 691D1, which is within DAC tract 23017966900.
- Community engagement approach not described

IV. Technical Merit and Feasibility

1. Project description addresses questions in Section 4.1 of the application

- The project has been fully planned and a budget has been developed.
- “budget has not been available to proceed with the necessary upgrades”.
- Could begin the project almost immediately upon receiving the award, at which point a one-year design phase would begin followed by a one-year construction period.
- CMP is not aware of other federal or state funding sources; the project may be eligible for cost recovery for the portion of the cost match.
- Information as to why this is the most appropriate solution to resolve the grid need was not included in application

2. Budget Justification Form Included

- Yes, but missing some itemization (i.e. cost per utility pole, labor rates and indirect costs)

V. Partnerships and Letters of Support

1. Indication of quality partnerships

- Standish Town Manager
- Sebago Chamber of Commerce (mentioned but not included)

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Program

BIDDER NAME: Central Maine Power – Shaw Mill

DATE: April 5, 2024

EVALUATOR NAME: Ethan Tremblay

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Governor’s Energy Office

Individual Evaluator Comments:

I. General Information, Eligibility, Completeness and Cost Match – Compliance Review

1. All components provided:

- *Application Form: Complete*
- *Environmental Questionnaire (NEPA): Provided, appears complete*
- *Budget Justification Workbook: Provided*
- *Appendix A: Performance Metrics Checklist: Provided*

2. Eligibility

- Organization is an electric grid operator
- “Central Maine Power Company is a regulated investor-owned transmission and distribution utility that operates the electric grid for over 650,000 customers generally in the southern, central, and western portions of Maine.
- Eligible activities proposed:
 1. Monitoring and control technologies
 2. Utility pole management
 3. Hardening of power lines, facilities, substations, or other systems
 4. Replacement of old overhead conductor and underground cables

3. Cost match

- Large Utility cost match category
- Cost match of 112% proposed

4. Federal policy acknowledgements

- All acknowledgements provided

5. Project Performance metrics complete and attached

- Proposes six Build metrics, seven Impact metrics, three Additional metrics, two Workforce metrics, six Outage metrics

II. Project Summary and Alignment with Program Narrative Objectives

For each applicable objective as listed in Section G, an indication of how the proposed project meets stated objective, while also at a minimum not undermining the other core program objectives. Applicant should include a

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Program

BIDDER NAME: Central Maine Power – Shaw Mill

DATE: April 5, 2024

EVALUATOR NAME: Ethan Tremblay

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Governor's Energy Office

description of how success will be tracked through a description of how the applicant will provide reporting on metrics, drawing upon applicable metrics from the example metrics listed in the U.S. DOE Grid Deployment Office's Guidance for Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Grid Resilience Formula Grant Metrics

1. Objective #1 - Increased Grid Resilience

- The proposed project will upgrade conductor along 10.3 miles of existing electric distribution line, construct 1.3 miles of new three phase electric distribution line, add a new SCADA tie switch, and install three new regulators.
- The affected circuits are currently the third worst performing circuits within CMP's entire 11,000 square mile service area; the circuits serve 3,180 customers, which include residences, commercial, and industrial customers.
- The proposed project would mitigate outage impacts on a circuit which experienced 171 outages impacting approximately 35,800 customers in the past three years, and on a circuit which experienced 58 outages impacting approximately 5,000 customers in the past three years.

2. Objective #2 – Increased Community Resilience

- Preliminary initial estimates of SAIFI improvements as a result of the project are 0.008679 (excluding storm) and 0.011884 (including storm).
- These improvements will result in a preliminary estimated annual operations and maintenance savings of \$18,622; this savings is derived from fewer outages requiring O&M expense.

3. Objective #3 – Workforce and Quality Jobs

- Project does not include component for training, recruitment, retention, and reskilling of skilled and properly credentialed workers.
- DAC tract 23017966900, which is located along the Baldwin circuit in western Oxford County, would benefit with new opportunities for energy efficiency and enable interconnection of clean energy resources.

4. Objective #4 – Grid Modernization and Policy Alignment

- Increased reliability and the associated transition to greater electrification that increased reliability enables meets the objectives of Maine's Climate Action Plan, including reducing dependency on fuel sources with more volatile prices.

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Program

BIDDER NAME: Central Maine Power – Shaw Mill

DATE: April 5, 2024

EVALUATOR NAME: Ethan Tremblay

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Governor's Energy Office

- The proposed project will also contribute to Justice40 objectives by providing reliability benefits to a disadvantaged community, DAC tract 23017966900.

III. Grid & Community Benefits

1. *Project plan to provide grid and community benefits. Does the applicant address questions in Section 3.1 of the application? Yes*

IV. Technical Merit and Feasibility

1. *Project description addresses questions in Section 4.1 of the application. Yes*
2. *Budget Justification Form Included. Yes*

V. Partnerships and Letters of Support

1. *Indication of quality partnerships*
 - Two copies of same letter of support provided: Town of Standish town manager
 - Narrative references a letter of support from Sebago Chamber of Commerce, which does not appear to be included

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239
RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program
BIDDER NAME: EMEC
DATE: 4/5/2024
EVALUATOR NAME: Nat Haslett
EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: EMT

Instructions: *The purpose of this form is to record proposal review notes written by individual evaluators for this Request for Proposals (RFA) process. It is **required** that each individual evaluator make notes for each proposal that he or she reviews. No numerical scoring should take place on these notes, as that is performed only during team consensus evaluation meetings. A separate form is available for team consensus evaluation notes and scoring. Once complete, please submit a copy of this document to your Department's RFP Coordinator or Lead Evaluator for this RFA.*

Individual Evaluator Comments:

- I. General Information, Eligibility, Completeness and Cost Match – Compliance Review**
1. All components provided: Yes, all required components provided
 2. Eligibility – Yes, qualifies as small utility
 3. Cost match - Cost match meets requirements
 4. Federal policy acknowledgements – Yes, Enviro assessment included
 5. Project Performance metrics complete and attached - Yes

II. Project Summary and Alignment with Program Narrative Objectives

For each applicable objective as listed in Section G, an indication of how the proposed project meets stated objective, while also at a minimum not undermining the other core program objectives. Applicant should include a description of how success will be tracked through a description of how the applicant will provide reporting on metrics, drawing upon applicable metrics from the example metrics listed in the U.S. DOE Grid Deployment Office's Guidance for Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Grid Resilience Formula Grant Metrics

1. Objective #1 - Increased Grid Resilience

- P: Resiliency/hardening improvements via wires upgrades
- Applicant states project will provide benefit by "Increasing the distance of 25 kV on the distribution system by replacing 10.6 miles of small, aged wire (includes ACSR and copper) with 3/0 AAAC three phase wire, adding stepdown transformers, replacing individual distribution transformers that are upgraded to 25 kV, along with replacing some poles and crossarms."
- Applicant states that upgrades will allow for increased back feeding between substations

2. Objective #2 – Increased Community Resilience

- P: Benefit to DACs and critical facilities in service territory

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER NAME: EMEC

DATE: 4/5/2024

EVALUATOR NAME: Nat Haslett

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: EMT

- P: Benefit to households with high energy burden (described qualitatively)
- The extended 25 kV will reduce line losses, facilitate renewable adoption, mitigate risk by eliminating existing antiquated distribution lines with numerous splices, and replace older poles.
- Expected benefits include reduced outages and line losses
- 3. *Objective #3 – Workforce and Quality Jobs*
 - May seek BABA waiver
 - Describes potential for increased DER integration
- 4. *Objective #4 – Grid Modernization and Policy Alignment*
 - Support integration of DERs, general benefits of reliable electricity cited
 - Notes region already meets 80% RE goal

III. Grid & Community Benefits

1. *Project plan to provide grid and community benefits. Does the applicant address questions in Section 3.1 of the application?*
 - a. *The extent to which the proposed project provides benefits to the electric grid, customer, and community. Where possible, data should consider current conditions and forecasted load increase from beneficial electrification and increased frequency of storms as a result of climate change, and indicate methods and data used. See the Guidance for Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Grid Resilience Formula Grant Metrics for examples of metrics to track benefits associated with the electric grid, customer, and communities;*
 - General resiliency benefit described
 - Q: discussion of critical facilities reliant upon EMEC's overall system, unclear where/how the upgrades contemplated in this project directly serve these facilities?
 - b. *The extent to which the proposed project demonstrates reduced energy burden within the community or communities;*
 - P: Qualitatively, application describes expectation that upgrades would otherwise be recovered in rates; describes likely need to delay project without assistance given concerns about burden of increased electric bills
 - c. *A description of how the project will incorporate customer and community participation and feedback mechanisms, including but not limited to customer and community benefits, and community engagement in identifying critical facilities; description should include description of consultation and engagement with communities to date and identify areas where community input was sought on the project. Refer to "Equity and community benefit metrics" in DOE's metrics guidance document.*
 - P: Letters of support provided from affected communities/entities
 - P: Description of planned process for further community engagement

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER NAME: EMEC

DATE: 4/5/2024

EVALUATOR NAME: Nat Haslett

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: EMT

d. A description of how the project will lead to the creation of high-quality jobs in Maine; metrics of interest include but are not limited to number of new clean energy jobs in the state in the years following the resilience project; number of Maine businesses and contractors engaged in resilience project activities; number of Maine high school and secondary career and technical education (CTEs) engaged in resilience project activities; location of businesses and subcontractors receiving funds from the project. Refer to "Equity and community benefit metrics" in DOE's metrics guidance document for additional information.

- Applicant states preference for local hiring
- Intent to contract with local entities for vegetation management associated with the project
- References intent to exceed prevailing wage, support skills development
- e. Throughout the qualitative and quantitative components of the project proposals, the extent to which the proposed project contributes to or goes beyond the Justice40 objective of 40% of the benefits of climate and clean energy investments flowing to disadvantaged communities.*
- P: Service territory falls within DACs identified on CEJST tool, upgrades proposed in Meddybemps, Charlotte, Cooper, Robbinston- others provided as standing to benefit from the upgrades: Charlotte, Pembroke, Perry, Robbinston, Calais, Meddybemps, Baring, Baileyville, Cooper, Alexander, Princeton, Townships 26/30/Day Block, Wesley, Crawford.

IV. Technical Merit and Feasibility

1. A description of the current stage of project planning; Please provide a detailed explanation of your proposed project expenses organized by task using the provided SF-424 Budget Justification Form (see #6 below).

- P: preliminary planning complete, pricing quotes received from vendors, including potential line construction contractor
- Applicant states project could be completed within 5-year period of performance
- 2. Financial need to the applicant and demonstration of how the funds will aid in the successful completion of the project within one to five years;*
- Project stated as otherwise likely to be delayed to concerns about increasing customer rates in area with high energy burden
- 3. Description of other federal or state funding sources the applicant has or could consider, including whether the project is eligible or may be eligible for cost recovery, if the applicant is a regulated entity*
- Project could otherwise be recovered in rates, at higher cost to customers (including via borrowed funds)
- 4. Description of how the project meets the goals of Maine Won't Wait, including achieving 80% of electricity generated by 2030 per the state's Renewable Portfolio*

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER NAME: EMEC

DATE: 4/5/2024

EVALUATOR NAME: Nat Haslett

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: EMT

Standard, with a goal of 100% by 2040; indication of how project will not increase reliance on non-renewable sources;

- General resiliency to support electrification, build climate-ready infrastructure
- Climate ready infrastructure
- 5. *A description of how the project will fulfil at a minimum one of the core program objectives, while also at a minimum not undermining the other core program objectives;*
- Clear description of how project will reduce outages at a poorly performing circuit, consistent with Table 1 Row 1 (Objectives 1&2)
- 6. *Efficient use of program funds, for example through leveraging, matching, securitization;*
- Min matching requirement for a small utility proposed
- Applicant proposes in-kind match of equipment for project
- 7. *Indication whether the proposed project location(s) is within a floodplain, including how the floodplain is defined;*
- Yes- Applicant states project is not located in a floodplain
- 8. *Demonstrated ability to comply with all applicable federal requirements, including Buy America and Davis-Bacon Act requirements*
- Commitment provided
- Budget Justification Form Included- Yes*

V. Partnerships and Letters of Support

1. Indication of quality partnerships based on letters from City of Calais Town of Charlotte Town of Robbinston Calais Community Hospital Washington County Community College Town of Princeton

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER NAME: Eastern Maine Electric Cooperative

DATE: 4/3/2024

EVALUATOR NAME: Allie Rand

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Governor's Energy Office

Instructions: *The purpose of this form is to record proposal review notes written by **individual** evaluators for this Request for Proposals (RFA) process. It is **required** that each individual evaluator make notes for each proposal that he or she reviews. No numerical scoring should take place on these notes, as that is performed only during team consensus evaluation meetings. A separate form is available for team consensus evaluation notes and scoring. Once complete, please submit a copy of this document to your Department's RFP Coordinator or Lead Evaluator for this RFA.*

Individual Evaluator Comments:

I. General Information, Eligibility, Completeness and Cost Match – Compliance Review

1. All components provided:

- *Application Form? - Included*
- *Environmental Questionnaire (NEPA)? Included*
- *Budget Justification Workbook? – Included*
- *Appendix A: Performance Metrics Checklist? - Included*

2. Eligibility

- *Applicant is eligible as a distribution provider, a “not for profit electric distribution cooperative based in Maine serving portions of 3 counties in the state”*
- *Uses are eligible*

3. Cost match

- *Indication of Large or Small Utility cost match applicability – yes, small utility*
- *Cash and in kind contributions as match source*

4. Federal policy acknowledgements

- *Yes, all acknowledged*
- *Note on BABA that applicant has been inquiring of potential vendors about BABA compliance and bidding docs will include BABA requirement language*
- *NEPA form attached*

5. Project Performance metrics complete and attached

II. Project Summary and Alignment with Program Narrative Objectives

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER NAME: Eastern Maine Electric Cooperative

DATE: 4/3/2024

EVALUATOR NAME: Allie Rand

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Governor's Energy Office

For each applicable objective as listed in Section G, an indication of how the proposed project meets stated objective, while also at a minimum not undermining the other core program objectives. Applicant should include a description of how success will be tracked through a description of how the applicant will provide reporting on metrics, drawing upon applicable metrics from the example metrics listed in the [U.S. DOE Grid Deployment Office's Guidance for Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Grid Resilience Formula Grant Metrics](#)

1. Objective #1 - Increased Grid Resilience
 - Yes, aligned
2. Objective #2 – Increased Community Resilience
 - Notes critical facilities such as schools, EMS, sewer/water facilities and a hospital will be positively impacted
3. Objective #3 – Workforce and Quality Jobs
 - No plans to allocate funds to workforce initiatives explicitly
4. Objective #4 – Grid Modernization and Policy Alignment
 - Notes enhancing system for adoption of DERs “with the potential for clean energy workforce opportunities”

III. Grid & Community Benefits

1. Project plan to provide grid and community benefits. Does the applicant address questions in Section 3.1 of the application?
 - Metrics
 1. Miles of:
 - a. Dist. lines recondored
 - b. Dist. poles replaced
 2. Number of:
 - a. Dist poles replaced
 - b. Dist poles with other upgrades
 - c. SAIDI, SAIFI, and CAIDI
 - d. Residential, commercial and industrial customers benefiting from project
 3. Zip code
 4. Number of ME businesses and contractors engaged in project activities
 5. Location of businesses
 6. Total outages, not by type
2. Describes benefits to grid, customer and community

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER NAME: Eastern Maine Electric Cooperative

DATE: 4/3/2024

EVALUATOR NAME: Allie Rand

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Governor's Energy Office

- *Notes impacts of storms on energy infrastructure and proposed project of hardening and adding additional back feeding would result in more local and regional resiliency*
 - *3000 meters would have greater access to back feed ability*
 - *Critical facilities noted include Calais Community Hospital, Calais Middle and High school, WCCC, fire dept, water and sewer and two cell phone towers*
3. *Describes how project can contribute to reduced energy burden generally through increased resilience and reliability and mitigating financial impact to customers by having to further increase rates*
 4. *Notes letters of support from several towns and organizations (included in application), commits to address projects at annual meeting attended by 350-600 customers, posting info on the website and a bill insert, and commitment following grant approval to develop and implement an engagement strategy along with community partners*
 5. *Majority of project to employ use of skilled contractors, including union labor and regional. Local contractors to clear vegetation.*
 6. *Applicant notes 14 DACs per CEJST, including a tribal area*
- IV. *Technical Merit and Feasibility*
1. *Project description addresses questions in Section 4.1 of the application:*
 - *Current stage of planning is addressed – “project has been evaluated by EMECs engineering dept, operations dept and CEO”*
 - *Engineering consultant along with EMEC staff to conduct labor bid process; procurement dept will requires bids for materials and EMEC operations will oversee and monitor the work performed by the contractor*
 - *Proposed project cost is included - \$3M*
 - *As a coop, applicant has access to Rural Utilities Service to borrow funds; this program would result in a lower annual cost to be recovered*
 - *Addresses MWW specific goals and strategies, emphasis on resilience benefits of backup power in a rural location and the critical facilities named earlier in application*
 - *Does not address efficient use of program funds such as through leverage, match, securitization*
 - *Confirms project is not in a floodplain*

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER NAME: Eastern Maine Electric Cooperative

DATE: 4/3/2024

EVALUATOR NAME: Allie Rand

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Governor's Energy Office

- *Confirmed RFPs for all work involved will include language specifying DOE requirements on materials and labor*

2. Budget Justification Form Included

V. Partnerships and Letters of Support

- 1. City of Calais*
- 2. Town of Charlotte*
- 3. Town of Robbinston*
- 4. Calais Community Hospital*
- 5. WCCC*
- 6. Town of Princeton*

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER NAME: EMCC

DATE: 4/5/2024

EVALUATOR NAME: Robert Snook

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Governor's Energy Office

Instructions: *The purpose of this form is to record proposal review notes written by **individual** evaluators for this Request for Proposals (RFA) process. It is **required** that each individual evaluator make notes for each proposal that he or she reviews. No numerical scoring should take place on these notes, as that is performed only during team consensus evaluation meetings. A separate form is available for team consensus evaluation notes and scoring. Once complete, please submit a copy of this document to your Department's RFP Coordinator or Lead Evaluator for this RFA.*

Individual Evaluator Comments:

I. General Information, Eligibility, Completeness and Cost Match – Compliance Review

- 1. All components provided:*
 - *Application Form? Yes*
 - *Environmental Questionnaire (NEPA)? Yes*
 - *Budget Justification Workbook? Yes*
 - *Appendix A: Performance Metrics Checklist? Yes*
- 2. Eligibility*
 - *Eligible small utility*
- 3. Cost match*
 - *Application states Small Utility cost match applicability.*
 - *Applicant seeks \$1,000,000 with matching \$1,036,478.*
 - *Application does not break down costs beyond “warehoused materials” at \$921,013, personnel at \$14,865 and “cash for contractual cost” at \$100,600.*
 - *”*
- 4. Federal policy acknowledgements Yes*
- 5. Project Performance metrics complete and attached. Yes*

II. Project Summary and Alignment with Program Narrative Objectives Are Included

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER NAME: EMCC

DATE: 4/5/2024

EVALUATOR NAME: Robert Snook

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Governor's Energy Office

For each applicable objective as listed in Section G, an indication of how the proposed project meets stated objective, while also at a minimum not undermining the other core program objectives. Applicant should include a description of how success will be tracked through a description of how the applicant will provide reporting on metrics, drawing upon applicable metrics from the example metrics listed in the [U.S. DOE Grid Deployment Office's Guidance for Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Grid Resilience Formula Grant Metrics](#)

1. Objective #1 - Increased Grid Resilience

- Project will upgrade 10.6 miles of distribution line and add a new 1.3-mile three phase circuit that will improve local system reliability and permit new renewables.
- Applicant states that this project will improve reliability for schools, EMS, a local hospital, and community college used as a shelter.

2. Objective #2 – Increased Community Resilience

- Same as above

3. Objective #3 – Workforce and Quality Jobs

- Applicant states that EMEC will mostly hire contractors and there is no reference to additional new workers.

4. Objective #4 – Grid Modernization and Policy Alignment

- Will improve circuit reliability which aligns with policy.

III. Grid & Community Benefits

- 1. The extent to which the proposed project provides benefits to the electric grid, customer, and community. Where possible, data should consider current conditions and forecasted load increase from beneficial electrification and increased frequency of storms, and indicate methods and data used. See the Guidance for Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Grid Resilience Formula Grant Metrics for examples of metrics to track benefits associated with the electric grid, customer, and communities.**

Application states that this area is vulnerable to storms and that there is limited access to other substations. The project will upgrade antiquated equipment and permit back feed. No specifics are given. No data load forecast.

- 2. The extent to which the proposed project demonstrates reduced energy burden within the community or communities.**

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER NAME: EMCC

DATE: 4/5/2024

EVALUATOR NAME: Robert Snook

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Governor's Energy Office

Application suggests that the project would reduce energy burden by reducing the number and length of outages by upgrading equipment and by permitting back feed from other substations.

3. *A description of how the project will incorporate customer and community participation and feedback mechanisms, including but not limited to customer and community benefits, and community engagement in identifying critical facilities; description should include description of consultation and engagement with communities to date and identify areas where community input was sought on the project. Refer to "Equity and community benefit metrics".*

Application states only the EMEC has a dedicated history of community outreach and that 100s attend its annual meeting.

4. *A description of how the project will lead to the creation of high-quality jobs in Maine; metrics of interest include but are not limited to number of new clean energy jobs in the state in the years following the resilience project; number of Maine businesses and contractors engaged in resilience project activities; number of Maine high school and secondary career and technical education (CTEs) engaged in resilience project activities; location of businesses and subcontractors receiving funds from the project. Refer to "Equity and community benefit metrics" in DOE's metrics guidance document for additional information.*

Application states that there will be no additional jobs training and would mostly use contractors at good wages.

5. *The extent to which the proposed project contributes to or goes beyond the Justice40 objective of 40% of the benefits of climate and clean energy investments flowing to disadvantaged communities.*

Application notes that there are 14 DACs including a tribal area and that the project will assist that area, lower energy burden, increase energy democracy and job training. Unclear as to job training.

IV. Technical Merit and Feasibility

1. *A description of the current stage of project planning; Please provide a detailed explanation of your proposed project expenses organized by task*

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER NAME: EMCC

DATE: 4/5/2024

EVALUATOR NAME: Robert Snook

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Governor's Energy Office

using the provided SF-424 Budget Justification Form. Application provides no breakdown of costs other than personnel and equipment and "contractual cash".

2. *Financial need to the applicant and demonstration of how the funds will aid in the successful completion of the project within one to five years.*

Project only states that DOE funding would permit project.

3. *Description of other federal or state funding sources the applicant has or could consider, including whether the project is eligible or may be eligible for cost recovery, if the applicant is a regulated entity. No other funding except that DOE funding would obviate the need for RUS funding.*
4. *Description of how the project meets the goals of Maine Won't Wait, including achieving 80% of electricity generated by 2030 per the state's Renewable Portfolio Standard, with a goal of 100% by 2040; indication of how project will not increase reliance on non-renewable sources.*

Project states this area is already compliant with MWW and has 80% renewables. The project will improve reliability and the ability to move power through 3 substations in case of outages.

5. *A description of how the project will fulfil at a minimum one of the core program objectives, while also at a minimum not undermining the other core program objectives.*
Project would improve grid reliability.
6. *Efficient use of program funds, for example through leveraging, matching, securitization. Project will make use of it funds and DOE's.*
7. *Indication whether the proposed project location(s) is within a floodplain, including how the floodplain is defined.*

Not in a floodplain.

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER NAME: EMCC

DATE: 4/5/2024

EVALUATOR NAME: Robert Snook

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Governor's Energy Office

8. *Demonstrated ability to comply with all applicable federal requirements, including Buy America and Davis-Bacon Act requirements.*

Application states that it is compliant with referenced federal laws.

V. *Partnerships and Letters of Support*

1. *Indication of quality partnerships.* Calais, Charlotte, Robinson, hospital, community college and Princeton.

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER NAME: Eastern Maine Electric Cooperative

DATE: 4/3/24

EVALUATOR NAME: Claire Swingle

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Maine Governor's Energy Office

Individual Evaluator Comments:

I. General Information, Eligibility, Completeness and Cost Match – Compliance Review

1. All components provided:
 - Application Form? Yes, complete
 - Environmental Questionnaire (NEPA)? Yes, complete
 - Budget Justification Workbook? Yes, complete
 - Appendix A: Performance Metrics Checklist? Yes, complete
2. Eligibility
 - Distribution Provider
3. Cost match
 - Small Utility cost match
 - \$1,036,478 (51.8% cost match), 34% of total project cost
 - Says it can contribute more if it misunderstood cost share requirements
4. Federal policy acknowledgements
 - Yes, Davis Bacon and BABA, NEPA
5. Project Performance metrics complete and attached
 - Yes, complete

II. Project Summary and Alignment with Program Narrative Objectives

For each applicable objective as listed in Section G, an indication of how the proposed project meets stated objective, while also at a minimum not undermining the other core program objectives. Applicant should include a description of how success will be tracked through a description of how the applicant will provide reporting on metrics, drawing upon applicable metrics from the example metrics listed in the U.S. DOE Grid Deployment Office's Guidance for Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Grid Resilience Formula Grant Metrics

1. Project Summary
 - \$2M requested

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER NAME: Eastern Maine Electric Cooperative

DATE: 4/3/24

EVALUATOR NAME: Claire Swingle

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Maine Governor's Energy Office

- Hardening Power lines by reconductoring, pole replacement, and increasing the voltage. Allows for increased back feeding of circuits between different substations.
 - This project will provide enhanced resiliency by increasing the distance of 25 kV on the distribution system by replacing 10.6 miles of small, aged wire (includes ACSR and copper) with 3/0 AAAC three phase wire, adding stepdown transformers
 - Upgrading individual distribution transformers to 25 kV, along with replacing some poles and crossarms.
2. Objective #1 - Increased Grid Resilience
- Reduce line loss
 - Eliminate existing undersized and aged distribution line
 - Increase back feeding from multiple substations
 - This project will also provide the ability to increase and enhance the back feed capability in areas from three different substations, and allow for faster outage recovery. The extended 25 kV will reduce line losses, facilitate renewable adoption, mitigate risk by eliminating existing antiquated distribution lines with numerous splices, and replace older poles.
3. Objective #2 – Increased Community Resilience
- Identify critical facilities such as schools, EMS, sewer/water facilities, and a hospital will be positively affected by the improvements.
 - 14 DACs, including a tribal area
1. Objective #3 – Workforce and Quality Jobs
- Preference for hiring locally for EMEC and for construction, many union labor and regional
 - EMEC will ensure that jobs funded by this project meet the definition of quality jobs
 - Applicant states that hardening and back feeding capability will enable economic and business growth.
2. Objective #4 – Grid Modernization and Policy Alignment
- Identifies specific Maine Won't Wait goals (improving climate readiness, increasing capacity for electrification)

III. Grid & Community Benefits

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER NAME: Eastern Maine Electric Cooperative

DATE: 4/3/24

EVALUATOR NAME: Claire Swingle

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Maine Governor's Energy Office

1. Project plan to provide grid and community benefits. Does the applicant address questions in Section 3.1 of the application?
 - 3000 meters would have greater access to back feed ability.
 - Comprehensive community engagement
 - entire EMEC service territory is classified by the CEJST tool as a Disadvantaged Community, including the Passamaquoddy Tribe Reservation. Specifically, DACs that the upgraded electric facilities are located in: Meddybemps, Charlotte, Cooper, Robbinston.
 - DACs that will benefit from the upgraded electric facilities: Charlotte, Pembroke, Perry, Robbinston, Calais, Meddybemps, Baring, Baileyville, Cooper, Alexander, Princeton, Townships 26/30/Day Block, Wesley, Crawford.

IV. Technical Merit and Feasibility

1. Project description addresses questions in Section 4.1 of the application
 - Evaluations completed by EMEC's engineering department, operation department, and CEO. The preliminary number of poles and crossarms to be replaced, additional poles and crossarms to be added, and location of adding step down transformers and dual voltage line transformers have been determined.
 - Timeline of the project is unclear
 - Without funding, the improvements are unlikely to occur in the near future because they would need to be recovered through electric utility rates at a time when customers are already struggling due to high inflation.
 - Identifies other funding source (rural Utilities Service), but states that not borrowing from RUS will result in lower cost to be recovered by ratepayers.
 - Does not identify the specific grid needs (amount of line loss, why the infrastructure is underserved, SAIDI/CAIDI/SAIFI) that this project is needed to address
2. Budget Justification Form Included
 - EMEC has received preliminary material pricing for the job from vendors. EMEC has contacted a line construction contractor that has previously done work for EMEC regarding their desire and

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER NAME: Eastern Maine Electric Cooperative

DATE: 4/3/24

EVALUATOR NAME: Claire Swingle

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Maine Governor's Energy Office

ability to do the job as well as providing a budgetary cost for the job.

V. Partnerships and Letters of Support

1. Indication of quality partnerships

- EMEC has letters of support for the project from organizations such as the City of Calais, the Town of Charlotte, the Town of Robbinston, Calais Community Hospital, Washington County Community College, and the Town of Princeton
- Plan to discuss projects during Annual Meeting, which generally draws in 350-600 consumers. The meeting is publicly advertised in advance and open to the public in an accessible locations. They will post information on their website and include a bill insert.
- Following grant approval, the Manager of Communication and Member Services will develop an engagement strategy

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Program

BIDDER NAME: Eastern Maine Electric Cooperative

DATE: April 5, 2024

EVALUATOR NAME: Ethan Tremblay

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Governor's Energy Office

Individual Evaluator Comments:

*I. General Information, Eligibility, Completeness and Cost Match – **Compliance Review***

1. All components provided:

- *Application Form: Provided*
- *Environmental Questionnaire (NEPA)? Provided*
- *Budget Justification Workbook: Provided*
- *Appendix A: Performance Metrics Checklist? Provided*

2. Eligibility

- Organization is a distribution provider
- “Eastern Maine Electric Cooperative is a not-for-profit electric distribution cooperative based in Maine serving portions of 3 counties in the state.”
- Eligible activities proposed:
 1. Utility pole management
 2. Relocation of power lines or the reconductoring of power lines with low-sag, advanced conductors
 3. Hardening of power lines, facilities, substations, or other systems
 4. Replacement of old overhead conductors and underground cables

3. Cost match

- Small Utility cost match category
- Cost match of 51.8% proposed

4. Federal policy acknowledgements

- All acknowledgements provided

5. Project Performance metrics complete and attached

- Proposes three Build metrics, three Impact metrics, one Additional metric, two Workforce metrics, six Outage metrics

II. Project Summary and Alignment with Program Narrative Objectives

For each applicable objective as listed in Section G, an indication of how the proposed project meets stated objective, while also at a minimum not undermining the other core program objectives. Applicant should include a

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Program

BIDDER NAME: Eastern Maine Electric Cooperative

DATE: April 5, 2024

EVALUATOR NAME: Ethan Tremblay

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Governor's Energy Office

description of how success will be tracked through a description of how the applicant will provide reporting on metrics, drawing upon applicable metrics from the example metrics listed in the U.S. DOE Grid Deployment Office's Guidance for Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Grid Resilience Formula Grant Metrics

1. Objective #1 - Increased Grid Resilience

- This project will increase the distance of 25 kV on EMEC's distribution system by replacing 10.6 miles of small, aged wire (includes ACSR and copper) with 3/0 AAAC three phase wire, adding stepdown transformers, replacing individual distribution transformers that are upgraded to 25 kV, along with replacing some poles and crossarms.
- This project will provide the ability to increase and enhance the back feed capability in areas from three different substations, and allow for faster outage recovery. The extended 25 kV will reduce line losses, facilitate renewable adoption, mitigate risk by eliminating existing antiquated distribution lines with numerous splices, and replace older poles.

2. Objective #2 – Increased Community Resilience

- The project will directly benefit a hospital, EMS service, fire department, water and sewer facilities, schools, and emergency shelters
- Fourteen CJEST-designated disadvantaged communities benefit directly

3. Objective #3 – Workforce and Quality Jobs

- Workforce metrics proposed
- No specific workforce measures included

4. Objective #4 – Grid Modernization and Policy Alignment

- Discusses increased DER capacity and improved reliability outcomes
- Technical scope includes advanced conductors

III. Grid & Community Benefits

- 1. Project plan to provide grid and community benefits. Does the applicant address questions in Section 3.1 of the application? Yes*

IV. Technical Merit and Feasibility

- 1. Project description addresses questions in Section 4.1 of the application. Yes*

- 2. Budget Justification Form Included. Yes*

V. Partnerships and Letters of Support

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Program

BIDDER NAME: Eastern Maine Electric Cooperative

DATE: April 5, 2024

EVALUATOR NAME: Ethan Tremblay

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Governor's Energy Office

1. *Indication of quality partnerships*

• *Letters of Support provided by:*

1. City of Calais
2. Town of Charlotte
3. Town of Robbinston
4. Calais Community Hospital
5. Washington County Community College
6. Town of Princeton

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239
RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program
BIDDER NAME: Fox Islands
DATE: April 5, 2024
EVALUATOR NAME: Nat Haslett
EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: EMT

Instructions: *The purpose of this form is to record proposal review notes written by individual evaluators for this Request for Proposals (RFA) process. It is required that each individual evaluator make notes for each proposal that he or she reviews. No numerical scoring should take place on these notes, as that is performed only during team consensus evaluation meetings. A separate form is available for team consensus evaluation notes and scoring. Once complete, please submit a copy of this document to your Department's RFP Coordinator or Lead Evaluator for this RFA.*

Individual Evaluator Comments:

- I. General Information, Eligibility, Completeness and Cost Match
 - 1. All components provided: Yes, all required components provided
 - 2. Eligibility – Yes, qualifies as small utility
 - 3. Cost match - Cost match meets requirements – 37%
 - 4. Federal policy acknowledgements – Yes, Enviro assessment included
 - 5. Project Performance metrics complete and attached - Yes

II. *Project Summary and Alignment with Program Narrative Objectives*

For each applicable objective as listed in Section G, an indication of how the proposed project meets stated objective, while also at a minimum not undermining the other core program objectives. Applicant should include a description of how success will be tracked through a description of how the applicant will provide reporting on metrics, drawing upon applicable metrics from the example metrics listed in the U.S. DOE Grid Deployment Office's Guidance for Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Grid Resilience Formula Grant Metrics

- 1. *Objective #1 - Increased Grid Resilience*
 - P: FIEC's Submarine Distribution Cable Project (the "Project") will upgrade the submarine cable from 12.47 kV to 15 kV 4/0 with a redundant feed for backup and relocate the cable to Brown's Cove, North Haven, where it will be accessible and protected from extreme weather.
 - P: upgraded line could reduce line losses (currently estimated at 1% of annual losses)
 - P: Current location of delivery point is impacted by high tides and weather
- 2. *Objective #2 – Increased Community Resilience*
 - P: Increased capacity to serve electrification in North Haven, other load growth

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER NAME: Fox Islands

DATE: April 5, 2024

EVALUATOR NAME: Nat Haslett

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: EMT

- P: Expect reduced outages with upgraded line, but unclear what outages to date have involved the cable- project expected to reduce future impacts/downtime
- Critical community infrastructure is reliant upon the line
- 3. *Objective #3 – Workforce and Quality Jobs*
 - P: Confirms can comply with DBA
 - P: indicates intent to contract with Maine companies, limited detail provided
- 4. *Objective #4 – Grid Modernization and Policy Alignment*
 - P: Links increased use of renewable wind to decreased line losses

III. Grid & Community Benefits

1. *Project plan to provide grid and community benefits. Does the applicant address questions in Section 3.1 of the application?*
 - a. *The extent to which the proposed project provides benefits to the electric grid, customer, and community. Where possible, data should consider current conditions and forecasted load increase from beneficial electrification and increased frequency of storms as a result of climate change, and indicate methods and data used. See the Guidance for Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Grid Resilience Formula Grant Metrics for examples of metrics to track benefits associated with the electric grid, customer, and communities;*
 - Reduced downtime expected in restoring any power after outages caused to the line by upgrade
 - 417 meters on North Haven
 - Applicant states cable replacement is “primary and most critical” goal from community engagement on resilience needs
 - Expect additional efficiencies, greater resilience to damage in future storms in a manner that supports grid resilience
 - Current cable 31 yrs old
 - Reference made to potential load growth associated with electrification, unclear what current needs are
 - b. *The extent to which the proposed project demonstrates reduced energy burden within the community or communities;*
 - reduced risk of outages reduces risk associated with future weather events
 - Grant would offset costs otherwise likely to be borne in already-high electric rates (2023 average cost of \$0.35/kWh)
 - c. *A description of how the project will incorporate customer and community participation and feedback mechanisms, including but not limited to customer and community benefits, and community engagement in identifying critical facilities; description should include description of consultation and engagement with communities to date and identify areas*

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER NAME: Fox Islands

DATE: April 5, 2024

EVALUATOR NAME: Nat Haslett

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: EMT

where community input was sought on the project. Refer to “Equity and community benefit metrics” in DOE’s metrics guidance document.

- P: Letters of support provided from affected communities
- P: Plan discusses intended continued community engagement

d. A description of how the project will lead to the creation of high-quality jobs in Maine; metrics of interest include but are not limited to number of new clean energy jobs in the state in the years following the resilience project; number of Maine businesses and contractors engaged in resilience project activities; number of Maine high school and secondary career and technical education (CTEs) engaged in resilience project activities; location of businesses and subcontractors receiving funds from the project. Refer to “Equity and community benefit metrics” in DOE’s metrics guidance document for additional information.

- N: limited discussion, brief note of plan to track in metrics

e. Throughout the qualitative and quantitative components of the project proposals, the extent to which the proposed project contributes to or goes beyond the Justice40 objective of 40% of the benefits of climate and clean energy investments flowing to disadvantaged communities.

- Q/N: North Haven is not a DAC as defined in CEJST

IV. Technical Merit and Feasibility

1. A description of the current stage of project planning; Please provide a detailed explanation of your proposed project expenses organized by task using the provided SF-424 Budget Justification Form (see #6 below).

- Q: Still in process of securing easements, has not yet completed environmental review
- April-May 2026 tentative timeline for project

2. Financial need to the applicant and demonstration of how the funds will aid in the successful completion of the project within one to five years;

- Costs would otherwise need to be recovered from rates

3. Description of other federal or state funding sources the applicant has or could consider, including whether the project is eligible or may be eligible for cost recovery, if the applicant is a regulated entity

- Ratepayer revenue pursuant to existing rates approved by the Maine Public Utilities Commission and a loan secured by the existing Restated Mortgage and Security Agreement granted to FIEC from the USDA Rural Utilities Service and National Rural Electric Cooperative Finance Corporation.

Description of how the project meets the goals of Maine Won’t Wait, including achieving 80% of electricity generated by 2030 per the state’s Renewable Portfolio Standard, with a goal of 100% by 2040; indication of how project will not increase reliance on non-renewable sources;

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER NAME: Fox Islands

DATE: April 5, 2024

EVALUATOR NAME: Nat Haslett

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: EMT

- Improve line losses, general grid resilience

5. A description of how the project will fulfil at a minimum one of the core program objectives, while also at a minimum not undermining the other core program objectives;

- Grid hardening to support grid resilience, community resilience (#1 & #2)

6. Efficient use of program funds, for example through leveraging, matching, securitization;

- Applicant references \$100,000 in ratepayer funds and \$300,000 loan note from an existing mortgage to support funding of project

Indication whether the proposed project location(s) is within a floodplain, including how the floodplain is defined;

- Yes, project is located within a floodplain – potential issue for negotiation w DOE

8. Demonstrated ability to comply with all applicable federal requirements, including Buy America and Davis-Bacon Act requirements

- Commitment to comply with both provided

Budget *Justification* Form Included- Yes

V. Partnerships and Letters of Support

Indication of quality partnerships

- Yes, application includes letters from Towns of North Haven and Vinalhaven, R1CC, discusses community engagement process surrounding resilience need

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER NAME: Fox Islands Cooperative

DATE: 4/3/2024

EVALUATOR NAME: Allie Rand

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Governor's Energy Office

Instructions: *The purpose of this form is to record proposal review notes written by **individual** evaluators for this Request for Proposals (RFA) process. It is **required** that each individual evaluator make notes for each proposal that he or she reviews. No numerical scoring should take place on these notes, as that is performed only during team consensus evaluation meetings. A separate form is available for team consensus evaluation notes and scoring. Once complete, please submit a copy of this document to your Department's RFP Coordinator or Lead Evaluator for this RFA.*

Individual Evaluator Comments:

I. General Information, Eligibility, Completeness and Cost Match – Compliance Review

1. All components provided:

- *Application Form? - Included*
- *Environmental Questionnaire (NEPA)? Included*
- *Budget Justification Workbook? – Included*
- *Appendix A: Performance Metrics Checklist? - Included*

2. Eligibility

- *Applicant is eligible as a transmission owner and operator and distribution provider*
- *Uses are eligible and include:*
 1. *Hardening of power lines, facilities, substations and systems*

3. Cost match

- *Indication of Large or Small Utility cost match applicability – FIEC is a small utility, attached Maine Competitive Energy Providers report from 2023 as documentation*
- *Ratepayer revenue and loan secured by Restated Mortgage and Security Agreement from USDA RUS and National Rural Electric Cooperative Finance Corporation*

4. Federal policy acknowledgements

- *Yes, all acknowledged*
- *Note on BABA that applicant has been inquiring of potential vendors about BABA compliance and bidding documents will include BABA requirement language*
- *NEPA form attached*

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER NAME: Fox Islands Cooperative

DATE: 4/3/2024

EVALUATOR NAME: Allie Rand

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Governor's Energy Office

5. *Project Performance metrics complete and attached*

II. *Project Summary and Alignment with Program Narrative Objectives*

For each applicable objective as listed in Section G, an indication of how the proposed project meets stated objective, while also at a minimum not undermining the other core program objectives. Applicant should include a description of how success will be tracked through a description of how the applicant will provide reporting on metrics, drawing upon applicable metrics from the example metrics listed in the [U.S. DOE Grid Deployment Office's Guidance for Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Grid Resilience Formula Grant Metrics](#)

1. *Objective #1 - Increased Grid Resilience*

- *Installation of approximately 6000 linear feet of new distribution and replacement of one distribution pole to decrease outages caused by the existing 12.47 kV line*
- *Currently inaccessible riser pole, duration of distribution service repair would be reduced*

2. *Objective #2 – Increased Community Resilience*

- *Existing 12.47 kV submarine cable delivers energy to North Haven and is “critical asset – without the cable, North Haven’s residents, government offices, the school, emergency services, businesses or communications infrastructure will not have electric service”*

3. *Objective #3 – Workforce and Quality Jobs*

- *No plans to allocate funds to workforce initiatives explicitly.*
- *Notes tracking of metrics associated with contracting with Maine companies*

4. *Objective #4 – Grid Modernization and Policy Alignment*

- *Benefits to an island community and critical services to the community while reducing line losses*
- *Improving efficiency of delivery of Fox Island Wind generation*

III. *Grid & Community Benefits*

1. *Project plan to provide grid and community benefits.*

• *Metrics*

1. *Miles of:*

- a. *new distribution lines*

2. *Number of:*

- a. *Dist poles replaced*

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER NAME: Fox Islands Cooperative

DATE: 4/3/2024

EVALUATOR NAME: Allie Rand

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Governor's Energy Office

- *Low density of 12 customers / mile of cable*

4. *How the project will incorporate customer and community participation and feedback ?*

- *Project will “continue” to seek community engagement and input through meetings scheduled for June 25 and August 20 2024 to “gain community consent for siting of the project”*
- *Notes online and printed materials for oth year round and seasonal residents*
- *Meetings to encourage participation from groups most impacted by climate change, details not provided on methods for engagement*

IV. Technical Merit and Feasibility (30 points)

1. *Project description addresses questions in Section 4.1 of the application:*

- *Current stage of planning*
 1. *Task 1 – complete: evaluation of cable relocation sites. FIEC engineer performed initial feasibility review for possible relocation sites. Applicant notes FIEC and Town of North Haven agree that Browns Cove is the preferred relocation site. This task was funded by ratepayer funds*
 2. *Task 2 – Secure Easement Rights – in progress: FIEC working on securing easement rights from landowner*
 3. *Task 3 – Environmental Review and Permitting*
 4. *Task 4 – Engineering Design through contractor RLC Engineering*
 5. *Task 5 and 6– Cable and Material and Construction Procurement: FIEC to facilitate procurement activities for competitive bid for submarine cable and ancillary materials*
 - a. *Construction planned April – May 2026*
 6. *Task 7: Conduct Community Engagement*
 - a. *Notes cable relocation project has been a key issue since 2020 when FIEC began its community responsiveness strategic planning efforts*
 - b. *Project has been discussed at past 3 annual meetings*
- *Proposed project cost is included - \$1,480,626*
 1. *Includes a quote for cable materials cost, including certification letter that products are BABA compliant*

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER NAME: Fox Islands Cooperative

DATE: 4/3/2024

EVALUATOR NAME: Allie Rand

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Governor's Energy Office

- *Financial need is mentioned by high cost of energy, low density of customers per mile of cable, and isolated rural island location*
- *To date, notes lack of success in securing funds to move the cable.*
- *Addresses MWW specific goals and strategies:*
 1. *Reduction of line losses would increase the amount of customer load to be served by wind generation from Gox Islands Wind, decreased load FIEC purchases from energy market (60%+ fossil fuel generation)*
 2. *Notes FIEC and Fox Islands Wind are engaged in a multi year community engagement plan to “meet and discuss grid modernization and generation development options”*
 3. *Invest in climate ready infrastructure – “the severity of outages caused by a cable failure are complicated by the inaccessibility of the site (ie the location becomes an island during high tides, and even if it is not flooded, the direct road through a field is often too muddy for utility vehicles to access the location”)*
- *Notes that proposed project does not undermine any core program objectives*
- *Two year project timeline, funding used to augment FIEC's ratepayer funds. FIEC intends to fund \$100,000 of the project with ratepayer funds and secure loan funds for \$300,000 to finance over thirty years for the balance of the project*
- *Project is within a floodplain, utilizing the Army Corp's definition. Relocation site is still in a floodplain “as is most of North Haven's coastal areas”; notes that relocation site is “protected from the most severe wind and elevated from significant flooding conditions”*
- *Confirmed actions FIEC will take for BABA and Davis Bacon compliance*

2. *Budget Justification Form Included*

V. *Partnerships and Letters of Support*

1. *Town of North Haven*
2. *Town of Vinalhaven*
3. *Maine CRP Region 1 Coordinator Collaborative*

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER NAME: Fox Island

DATE: 4/5/2024

EVALUATOR NAME: Robert Snook

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Governor's Energy Office

Instructions: *The purpose of this form is to record proposal review notes written by **individual** evaluators for this Request for Proposals (RFA) process. It is **required** that each individual evaluator make notes for each proposal that he or she reviews. No numerical scoring should take place on these notes, as that is performed only during team consensus evaluation meetings. A separate form is available for team consensus evaluation notes and scoring. Once complete, please submit a copy of this document to your Department's RFP Coordinator or Lead Evaluator for this RFA.*

Individual Evaluator Comments:

Directions: *Follow the sections of your RFA and the corresponding Application Form to develop a bulleted outline for notes.*

I. General Information, Eligibility, Completeness and Cost Match – Compliance Review

1. All components provided:

- *Application Form? Yes*
- *Environmental Questionnaire (NEPA)? Yes*
- *Budget Justification Workbook? Yes*
- *Appendix A: Performance Metrics Checklist? Yes*

2. Eligibility

- *Eligible distribution/transmission provider*

3. Cost match

- *Application states Small Utility cost match applicability.*
- *Applicant seeks \$1,080,626.*
- *Applicant will match \$400,000 from a loan and rates.*

4. Federal policy acknowledgements Yes

5. Project Performance metrics complete and attached. Yes

II. Project Summary and Alignment with Program Narrative Objectives Are Included

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER NAME: Fox Island

DATE: 4/5/2024

EVALUATOR NAME: Robert Snook

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Governor's Energy Office

For each applicable objective as listed in Section G, an indication of how the proposed project meets stated objective, while also at a minimum not undermining the other core program objectives. Applicant should include a description of how success will be tracked through a description of how the applicant will provide reporting on metrics, drawing upon applicable metrics from the example metrics listed in the [U.S. DOE Grid Deployment Office's Guidance for Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Grid Resilience Formula Grant Metrics](#)

1. Objective #1 - Increased Grid Resilience

- Project will provide increase reliability and resiliency by upgrading and relocating 6000 feet of submarine cable from a vulnerable location to a better protected location and provide redundant feeder capacity and reduce line losses. Project will reduce outages and permit faster recovery.

2. Objective #2 – Increased Community Resilience

- Same as above

3. Objective #3 – Workforce and Quality Jobs

- No reference to additional new workers.

4. Objective #4 – Grid Modernization and Policy Alignment

- Will improve circuit reliability which aligns with policy.

III. Grid & Community Benefits

- 1. The extent to which the proposed project provides benefits to the electric grid, customer, and community. Where possible, data should consider current conditions and forecasted load increase from beneficial electrification and increased frequency of storms, and indicate methods and data used. See the Guidance for Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Grid Resilience Formula Grant Metrics for examples of metrics to track benefits associated with the electric grid, customer, and communities.*

Application states that this area is vulnerable to storms and that there is limited access to other substations. The project will upgrade antiquated equipment and permit back feed. No specifics are given. No data load forecast.

- 2. The extent to which the proposed project demonstrates reduced energy burden within the community or communities.*

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INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER NAME: Fox Island

DATE: 4/5/2024

EVALUATOR NAME: Robert Snook

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Governor's Energy Office

Application suggests that the project would reduce energy burden by reducing the number and length of outages by upgrading and relocating the vulnerable submarine cable.

3. *A description of how the project will incorporate customer and community participation and feedback mechanisms, including but not limited to customer and community benefits, and community engagement in identifying critical facilities; description should include description of consultation and engagement with communities to date and identify areas where community input was sought on the project. Refer to "Equity and community benefit metrics".*

Application states only that FEIC is a community-based cooperative with extensive history of outreach. That this project has been discussed at FIEC meetings and they will continue to hold monthly meetings.

4. *A description of how the project will lead to the creation of high-quality jobs in Maine; metrics of interest include but are not limited to number of new clean energy jobs in the state in the years following the resilience project; number of Maine businesses and contractors engaged in resilience project activities; number of Maine high school and secondary career and technical education (CTEs) engaged in resilience project activities; location of businesses and subcontractors receiving funds from the project. Refer to "Equity and community benefit metrics" in DOE's metrics guidance document for additional information.*

No reference additional jobs and would mostly use contractors at good wages.

5. *The extent to which the proposed project contributes to or goes beyond the Justice40 objective of 40% of the benefits of climate and clean energy investments flowing to disadvantaged communities.*

I found no references to Justice40. There is a reference to Fox Island having low social vulnerability.

IV. Technical Merit and Feasibility

1. *A description of the current stage of project planning; Please provide a detailed explanation of your proposed project expenses organized by task*

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER NAME: Fox Island

DATE: 4/5/2024

EVALUATOR NAME: Robert Snook

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Governor's Energy Office

using the provided SF-424 Budget Justification Form. Appears to be early in the planning process. They have worked with an engineer to select a site but that seems to be it. Their submarine cable estimate is taken from a prior project.

2. *Financial need to the applicant and demonstration of how the funds will aid in the successful completion of the project within one to five years.*

Without DOE funding, they will have to raise rates above .35 kwh.

3. *Description of other federal or state funding sources the applicant has or could consider, including whether the project is eligible or may be eligible for cost recovery, if the applicant is a regulated entity.*

No other funding than DOE and RUS loan which will be paid for by its customers.

4. *Description of how the project meets the goals of Maine Won't Wait, including achieving 80% of electricity generated by 2030 per the state's Renewable Portfolio Standard, with a goal of 100% by 2040; indication of how project will not increase reliance on non-renewable sources.*

Project states this it will meet MWW goals by reducing line losses which will permit more of the Fox Island Wind power to be used and will remove a power pole from a scenic location.

5. *A description of how the project will fulfil at a minimum one of the core program objectives, while also at a minimum not undermining the other core program objectives.*

Project would improve grid reliability for 417 island residents.

6. *Efficient use of program funds, for example through leveraging, matching, securitization. Project will make use of it funds and DOE's and that Fox Island will pay for this project with its rates over 30 years.*

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER NAME: Fox Island

DATE: 4/5/2024

EVALUATOR NAME: Robert Snook

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Governor's Energy Office

7. *Indication whether the proposed project location(s) is within a floodplain, including how the floodplain is defined.*

The existing cable is in an area subject to flooding and there was significant damage in January, 2024. The area is not safe to work in. The new cable route is also in a floodplain but better protected.

8. *Demonstrated ability to comply with all applicable federal requirements, including Buy America and Davis-Bacon Act requirements.*

Application states that it will prepare a checklist to ensure compliance before bidding with referenced federal laws.

V. *Partnerships and Letters of Support*

1. *Indication of quality partnerships.* North Haven, Vinalhaven, Maine Community Resilience Partnership.

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER NAME: Fox Island Electric Co-Op

DATE: 4/4/24

EVALUATOR NAME: Claire Swingle

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Maine Governor's Energy Office

Individual Evaluator Comments:

I. General Information, Eligibility, Completeness and Cost Match – Compliance Review

1. All components provided:
 - Application Form? Yes
 - Environmental Questionnaire (NEPA)? Yes
 - Budget Justification Workbook? Yes
 - Appendix A: Performance Metrics Checklist? Yes
2. Eligibility
 - Transmission owner or operator and a distribution provider
3. Cost match
 - Small Utility
 - \$400,000 cost match (37%)
 - Ratepayer revenue pursuant to existing rates and a loan secured by the existing Restated Mortgage and Security Agreement granted to FIEC from the USDA Rural Utilities Service and National Rural Electric Cooperative Finance Corporation.
4. Federal policy acknowledgements
 - Yes, Davis Bacon, BABA
 - NEPA EQ
 - Indicated that there are foreign nationals
5. Project Performance metrics complete and attached
 - Yes
 - Narrative describes how metrics will be tracked, including installation data, funds spent with Maine vendors, and community engagement event feedback and attendance

II. Project Summary and Alignment with Program Narrative Objectives

For each applicable objective as listed in Section G, an indication of how the proposed project meets stated objective, while also at a minimum not undermining the other core program objectives. Applicant should include a description of how success will be tracked through a description of how the

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER NAME: Fox Island Electric Co-Op

DATE: 4/4/24

EVALUATOR NAME: Claire Swingle

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Maine Governor's Energy Office

applicant will provide reporting on metrics, drawing upon applicable metrics from the example metrics listed in the [U.S. DOE Grid Deployment Office's Guidance for Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Grid Resilience Formula Grant Metrics](#)

1. Project Summary

\$1,080,626

- Install approximately 6000 linear feet of new submarine distribution cable from 12.47kV to 15kV 4/0 with redundant feed for backup; relocate cable to go from Calf Point, Vinalhaven to Brown's cove, North Haven (accessibility and protected from extreme weather) and 2 new poles with ancillary infrastructure

2. Objective #1 - Increased Grid Resilience

- Existing cable emerges from the Thoroughfare to a riser pole on Telegraph Point, which becomes an island during high tides; also an inaccessible marsh between the nearest road
- Decreased outages; riser pole location will be next to existing paved road providing easy access
- Redundant feed will allow for feeder switching and quick service restoration
- Proposed project expected to limit outage durations to two hours per incident
- New cable is insulated and armored
- The proposed cable relocation site is still in a floodplain, as is most of North Haven's coastal areas. However, the proposed site is in Brown's Cove, protected from the most severe wind and elevated from significant flooding conditions.
- More information on outages caused by current line would have been helpful

3. Objective #2 – Increased Community Resilience

- Critical infrastructure to an island community and all of its critical infrastructure, where outage caused by the existing cable could disconnect power to all North Haven customers (417 meters) for over 24 hours
- Noted that the community is a low social vulnerability

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER NAME: Fox Island Electric Co-Op

DATE: 4/4/24

EVALUATOR NAME: Claire Swingle

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Maine Governor's Energy Office

4. Objective #3 – Workforce and Quality Jobs
 - No specific funding allocated but some metrics tracking

 5. Objective #4 – Grid Modernization and Policy Alignment
 - Reducing line loss will reduce fossil fuel generated energy purchased from the energy market and increase the amount of load that can be served with wind generation from Fox Islands Wind, in line with goals to reduce GHG emissions
 - FIEC calculates that up to 1% (125MWh) of system line losses are due to existing cable, a more modern submarine cable with more insulation could reduce line loss and increase energy efficiency, and ensuring measurable and consistent delivery
 - Application states that proposed project “will eliminate restrictions on energy delivery to North Haven for heat pumps, EVs...”
 - Climate ready infrastructure
- III. Grid & Community Benefits
1. Project plan to provide grid and community benefits. Does the applicant address questions in Section 3.1 of the application?
 - Mentions North Haven’s Community Vision Process leading to FIEC collaborative relationships
 - Has series of meetings planned to seek community engagement and input on the project, including consent for siting
 - Project has been discussed at last 3 annual meetings and has widespread support
 - Critical infrastructure
 - Low social vulnerability
 - High electricity rate (0.35/kWh)
- IV. Technical Merit and Feasibility
1. Project description addresses questions in Section 4.1 of the application
 - FIEC has completed evaluation of proposed site with initial feasibility review; agreement from Town of North Haven about Brown’s Cove being the preferred site.
 - FIEC is in process of securing easement rights

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER NAME: Fox Island Electric Co-Op

DATE: 4/4/24

EVALUATOR NAME: Claire Swingle

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Maine Governor's Energy Office

- Has contracted engineering firm for project design and will competitively procure cable and ancillary materials and construction activities
- Material costs are from a quote from Okonite Company
- FIEC has some of highest electric rates in the nation and low density of only 12 customers per mile of cable; without grant assistance, FIEC will need to increase rates to borrow funds
- FIEC has been unsuccessful to date at securing other funding sources
- Whether this is “right-sized” is not specified, load forecast not provided
- Self-performance of a portion of the work
- two-year timeline (April 2026 expected completion date).

V. Partnerships and Letters of Support

1. Indication of quality partnerships

- Town of North Haven
- Town of Vinalhaven
- Maine Community Resilience Partnership Region 1 Coordinator Collaborative

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Program

BIDDER NAME: Fox Islands Electric Cooperative, Inc.

DATE: April 9, 2024

EVALUATOR NAME: Ethan Tremblay

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Governor's Energy Office

Individual Evaluator Comments:

I. General Information, Eligibility, Completeness and Cost Match – Compliance Review

1. All components provided:

- *Application Form: Provided*
- *Environmental Questionnaire (NEPA): Provided, appears complete*
- *Budget Justification Workbook: Provided*
- *Appendix A: Performance Metrics Checklist: Provided*

2. Eligibility

- *Applicant is eligible as a Small Utility and a distribution provider*
- *Project would consist of Hardening of power lines, facilities, substations, of other systems*

3. Cost match

- *Small Utility cost match applicability*
- *Proposed cost match of 37%*

4. Federal policy acknowledgements

- *Provided*

5. Project Performance metrics complete and attached

- *Provided*

II. Project Summary and Alignment with Program Narrative Objectives

For each applicable objective as listed in Section G, an indication of how the proposed project meets stated objective, while also at a minimum not undermining the other core program objectives. Applicant should include a description of how success will be tracked through a description of how the applicant will provide reporting on metrics, drawing upon applicable metrics from the example metrics listed in the U.S. DOE Grid Deployment Office's Guidance for Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Grid Resilience Formula Grant Metrics

1. Objective #1 - Increased Grid Resilience

- *Installation of approximately 6000 linear feet of new distribution and replacement of one distribution pole to decrease outages caused by the existing 12.47 kV line to harden against risk of future outages*

2. Objective #2 – Increased Community Resilience

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Program

BIDDER NAME: Fox Islands Electric Cooperative, Inc.

DATE: April 9, 2024

EVALUATOR NAME: Ethan Tremblay

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Governor's Energy Office

- Community of North Haven depends on this cable for all electric service
- Notes low social vulnerability index score for community
- 3. *Objective #3 – Workforce and Quality Jobs*
 - Adheres to established requirements
 - No additional workforce scope, notes potential for Maine-based contractors
- 4. *Objective #4 – Grid Modernization and Policy Alignment*
 - Enhancing delivery of Fox Island wind generation
 - Notes electrification load growth
- III. *Grid & Community Benefits*
 1. *Project plan to provide grid and community benefits. Does the applicant address questions in Section 3.1 of the application? Yes*
- IV. *Technical Merit and Feasibility*
 1. *Project description addresses questions in Section 4.1 of the application. Yes*
 2. *Budget Justification Form Included. Yes*
- V. *Partnerships and Letters of Support*
 1. *Indication of quality partnerships*
 - Letters of support provided:
 1. Region 1 Coordinator Collaborative – Community Resilience Partnership Regional Coordinators
 2. Town of Vinalhaven
 3. Town of North Haven

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239
RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program
BIDDER NAME: Madison Electric Works
DATE: April 5, 2024
EVALUATOR NAME: Nat Haslett
EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: EMT

Instructions: *The purpose of this form is to record proposal review notes written by **individual** evaluators for this Request for Proposals (RFA) process. It is **required** that each individual evaluator make notes for each proposal that he or she reviews. No numerical scoring should take place on these notes, as that is performed only during team consensus evaluation meetings. A separate form is available for team consensus evaluation notes and scoring. Once complete, please submit a copy of this document to your Department's RFP Coordinator or Lead Evaluator for this RFA.*

Individual Evaluator Comments:

- I. General Information, Eligibility, Completeness and Cost Match
1. All components provided: Full budget justification missing; otherwise all materials included
 2. Eligibility – Yes, qualifies as small utility
 3. Cost match - Cost match meets requirements – 34.27%
 4. Federal policy acknowledgements – Yes, Enviro assessment included
 5. Project Performance metrics complete and attached - Yes

II. *Project Summary and Alignment with Program Narrative Objectives*

For each applicable objective as listed in Section G, an indication of how the proposed project meets stated objective, while also at a minimum not undermining the other core program objectives. Applicant should include a description of how success will be tracked through a description of how the applicant will provide reporting on metrics, drawing upon applicable metrics from the example metrics listed in the U.S. DOE Grid Deployment Office's Guidance for Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Grid Resilience Formula Grant Metrics

1. *Objective #1 - Increased Grid Resilience*
 - Applicant states project will harden critical power lines, conduct additional vegetation management, and add advanced monitoring to a substation.
 - Focused on mitigating impacts of flooding
2. *Objective #2 – Increased Community Resilience*
 - P: Maintaining service during extreme weather events
3. *Objective #3 – Workforce and Quality Jobs*
 - Q: Points to existing DER as a support for existing role
4. *Objective #4 – Grid Modernization and Policy Alignment*

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER NAME: Madison Electric Works

DATE: April 5, 2024

EVALUATOR NAME: Nat Haslett

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: EMT

- P: Supports electrification and utilization of existing solar project
- P: serving DACs

III. Grid & Community Benefits

1. Project plan to provide grid and community benefits. Does the applicant address questions in Section 3.1 of the application?

a. The extent to which the proposed project provides benefits to the electric grid, customer, and community. Where possible, data should consider current conditions and forecasted load increase from beneficial electrification and increased frequency of storms as a result of climate change, and indicate methods and data used. See the Guidance for Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Grid Resilience Formula Grant Metrics for examples of metrics to track benefits associated with the electric grid, customer, and communities;

- Commitment to public process
- P/Q: Priority is to reduce outages due to flooding, applicant estimates reduction in annual outage minutes of 86%, though not fully explained
- P: Applicant references support to critical facilities and DACs
- Applicant states project to include reconstruction of lines, including at river crossings; new monitoring systems at Anson substation

b. The extent to which the proposed project demonstrates reduced energy burden within the community or communities;

- General support for keeping costs down, estimates additional solar output from local facility as additional benefit. Applicant estimates “12%” reduction in rates

c. A description of how the project will incorporate customer and community participation and feedback mechanisms, including but not limited to customer and community benefits, and community engagement in identifying critical facilities; description should include description of consultation and engagement with communities to date and identify areas where community input was sought on the project. Refer to “Equity and community benefit metrics” in DOE’s metrics guidance document.

- P: Has LOS
- P: Project serving CEJST DACs

d. A description of how the project will lead to the creation of high-quality jobs in Maine; metrics of interest include but are not limited to number of new clean energy jobs in the state in the years following the resilience project; number of Maine businesses and contractors engaged in resilience project activities; number of Maine high school and secondary career and technical education (CTEs) engaged in resilience project activities; location of businesses and subcontractors receiving funds from the project. Refer to “Equity and community benefit metrics” in DOE’s metrics guidance document for additional information.

- Q: Applicant references project will support existing electric contractor job via reduced solar downtime?

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER NAME: Madison Electric Works

DATE: April 5, 2024

EVALUATOR NAME: Nat Haslett

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: EMT

e. Throughout the qualitative and quantitative components of the project proposals, the extent to which the proposed project contributes to or goes beyond the Justice40 objective of 40% of the benefits of climate and clean energy investments flowing to disadvantaged communities.

- P: Again, estimated that most of project will benefit CEJST DACs

IV. Technical Merit and Feasibility

1. A description of the current stage of project planning; Please provide a detailed explanation of your proposed project expenses organized by task using the provided SF-424 Budget Justification Form (see #6 below).

- Applicant states project is in “final planning stages”; notes additional community consultation to be included in permitting stage

2. Financial need to the applicant and demonstration of how the funds will aid in the successful completion of the project within one to five years;

- Applicant cites limited available budget for resilience upgrades of this type, notes funding would allow project to be accelerated

3. Description of other federal or state funding sources the applicant has or could consider, including whether the project is eligible or may be eligible for cost recovery, if the applicant is a regulated entity

- Applicant has not identified other matching sources of funds for the project, states intent to seek out

Description of how the project meets the goals of Maine Won't Wait, including achieving 80% of electricity generated by 2030 per the state's Renewable Portfolio Standard, with a goal of 100% by 2040; indication of how project will not increase reliance on non-renewable sources;

- Project projected to reduce downtime for local solar installation
- Applicant cites “Advance Equity through Maine's Climate Response” as additional goal targeted
- Applicant states project will improve reliability

5. A description of how the project will fulfil at a minimum one of the core program objectives, while also at a minimum not undermining the other core program objectives;

- Grid hardening to support grid & community resilience (#1, #2)

6. Efficient use of program funds, for example through leveraging, matching, securitization;

- Applicant has not identified other funding sources at this time, cites constraints in resources to identify

Indication whether the proposed project location(s) is within a floodplain, including how the floodplain is defined;

- Some components of projects located within a floodplain – may add process to DOE review

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER NAME: Madison Electric Works

DATE: April 5, 2024

EVALUATOR NAME: Nat Haslett

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: EMT

8. Demonstrated ability to comply with all applicable federal requirements, including Buy America and Davis-Bacon Act requirements

- Commitment to comply with both provided

Budget *Justification* Form Included- Yes

V. Partnerships and Letters of Support

1. Letters included from Town of Madison, Anson-Madison Sanitary District

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER NAME: Madison Electric Works

DATE: 4/10/2024

EVALUATOR NAME: Allie Rand

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Governor's Energy Office

Instructions: *The purpose of this form is to record proposal review notes written by **individual** evaluators for this Request for Proposals (RFA) process. It is **required** that each individual evaluator make notes for each proposal that he or she reviews. No numerical scoring should take place on these notes, as that is performed only during team consensus evaluation meetings. A separate form is available for team consensus evaluation notes and scoring. Once complete, please submit a copy of this document to your Department's RFP Coordinator or Lead Evaluator for this RFA.*

Individual Evaluator Comments:

I. General Information, Eligibility, Completeness and Cost Match – Compliance Review

1. All components provided:

- Application Form? - Included*
- Environmental Questionnaire (NEPA)? Included*
- Budget Justification Workbook? – Included*
- Appendix A: Performance Metrics Checklist? - Included*

2. Eligibility

- Applicant is eligible as a distribution provider*
- Uses are eligible*

3. Cost match

- Indication of Large or Small Utility cost match applicability – small utility*
- Source is cash*

4. Federal policy acknowledgements

- Yes, all acknowledged*
- Note on BABA that applicant has been inquiring of potential vendors about BABA compliance and bidding documents will include BABA requirement language*
- NEPA form attached*

5. Project Performance metrics complete and attached

II. Project Summary and Alignment with Program Narrative Objectives

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER NAME: Madison Electric Works

DATE: 4/10/2024

EVALUATOR NAME: Allie Rand

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Governor's Energy Office

For each applicable objective as listed in Section G, an indication of how the proposed project meets stated objective, while also at a minimum not undermining the other core program objectives. Applicant should include a description of how success will be tracked through a description of how the applicant will provide reporting on metrics, drawing upon applicable metrics from the example metrics listed in the U.S. DOE Grid Deployment Office's Guidance for Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Grid Resilience Formula Grant Metrics

1. Objective #1 - Increased Grid Resilience

- *Project enhances grid resilience through infrastructure relocation and upgrades, mitigating flood related risks and ensuring a reliable power supply to critical facilities and disadvantaged communities*
- *Increased reliability would virtually [eliminate] the risk from up to 1.5 days a year of long-duration outages"*

2. Objective #2 – Increased Community Resilience

- *Project will support community resilience by maintaining essential services during extreme weather, addressing the needs of the community, which is disadvantaged per CEJST*

3. Objective #3 – Workforce and Quality Jobs

- *Project will increase utilization of 4.3MW solar project, this will "positively impact program objective #3"*

4. Objective #4 – Grid Modernization and Policy Alignment

- *Project will increase utilization of 4.3 MW solar project*
- *"Alignment with the state's modernization and policy goals will be evaluated through reliability-based enabling of renewable energy sources and end use electrification for residents of our community. We have a few EVs in our towns and customers are starting to adopt heat pumps"*

III. Grid & Community Benefits

1. Project plan to provide grid and community benefits. Does the applicant address questions in Section 3.1 of the application?

• **Metrics**

Miles of distribution lines of vegetation clearing

Miles of distribution lines reconducted

Number of distribution poles inspected

Number of distribution poles replaced

Number of distribution poles with other upgrades

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER NAME: Madison Electric Works

DATE: 4/10/2024

EVALUATOR NAME: Allie Rand

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Governor's Energy Office

- Number of substations with added sensors/monitors*
 - Number of communications assets purchased to assist with power restoration*
 - Largest outage cause*
 - Number of outages*
 - Hours to repair outages*
 - Number of residential customers benefitted by project*
 - Number of commercial customers benefitted by project*
 - Number of industrial customers benefitted by project*
 - Number of customers that provide communication services benefitted by project*
 - Number of customers that provide water services benefitted by project*
 - Number of customers that provide food services benefitted by project*
 - Number and duration of outages to critical facilities providing essential community services during disruptive or emergency events*
 - Size (MWh) and/or number of clean energy resources the project supports*
 - Zip code(s) where funds are deployed*
 - Number of Maine businesses and contractors engaged in resilience project activities*
 - Location (zip codes) of businesses and subcontractors receiving funds from the project*
- Outage by types: vegetation, hurricane, flooding, ice/snow*

2. *Describes benefits to grid, customer and community*

- *“Benefits revolve around improvements in grid stability and outage reduction”*
- *“project is estimated to eliminate the risks from the most prevalent form of major event [flooding] reducing annual outage minutes by 86%”, does not note source of data*

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER NAME: Madison Electric Works

DATE: 4/10/2024

EVALUATOR NAME: Allie Rand

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Governor's Energy Office

- *Notes projected load increase of 20% over next decade, project will support reliability*
 - *Notes increased precipitation during storms of 20-30% per NECIA*
 - *Reference to "Maine Climate Office climate models" projection of increase in annual precipitation across ME this century*
3. *Reduced energy burden?*
- *Project will support integration of solar to the grid and keep costs low for the community*
 - *"Our project will enable more solar to flow making the rates 12% lower cost for the solar energy consumed, reducing energy burden. We estimate the environmental benefit at 4.3MW * 10 hours of additional solar for 35,234.2 lbs. CO2 avoided annually from this project."*
4. *How the project will incorporate customer and community participation and feedback ?*
- *Describes plan to conduct "town hall meetings and focus groups to gather input on the project's design and impact"*
 - *Notes community input has helped to shape the project*
5. *Creation of high quality jobs?*
- *Applicant anticipates supporting 1 existing clean energy job (electric contractor) associated with 4.3MW solar project operation*
 - *Applicant anticipates involving 4 Maine businesses and contractors*
 - *Commitment to track number of businesses and subcontractors benefitting from the project*
6. *Justice40?*
- *Project will serve more than 70% of disadvantaged communities per CJEST, including Tracts:*
 1. *23025966900, 23025966500, 23025966400, 23025967000, and 23025966700.*
 2. *CEJST map included*
- IV. *Technical Merit and Feasibility*
1. *Project description addresses questions in Section 4.1 of the application:*
- *Current stage of planning*
 - a. *Project is currently in final planning stage; "the most impactful resilience projects have already been identified and are proposed herein as the basis for*

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER NAME: Madison Electric Works

DATE: 4/10/2024

EVALUATOR NAME: Allie Rand

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Governor's Energy Office

this project (listed below under Task 2 - Construction) due to their relevance in mitigating extreme flood outage impacts” – does not address consideration of alternative options

- b. Task 1: Permitting, procurement and site prep, including community consultation*
- c. Task 2: Construction
 - i. 5 distinct sub tasks:
 - 1. Reconstruction of lines to enhance flood resilience*
 - 2. Lower river crossing*
 - 3. Bridge river crossing*
 - 4. 34.5kV river crossing**
 - d. Includes roles and responsibilities for three distinct roles: project manager, construction manager, community liaison**

- Proposed project cost is included - \$510,633*
- Financial need is mentioned by limited budget that can be spent on upgrades and “proceeding immediately would ensure the next time there is a major flood event we are ready”*
- Addresses MWW specific goals and strategies:
 - 1. Reduction of ME’s GHG emissions*
 - 2. Advancing equity through ME’s climate response**
- Notes that proposed project primarily addresses program objective #1, supports #2 and #3 and aligns with objective 4.*
- Efficient funding: addresses commitment to this, “We are not able to secure other matching fund sources at this time”*
- Project takes place on or near a flood prone area*
- Confirms BABA and DBA acknowledgements*

V. Partnerships and Letters of Support

- 1. Town of Madison*
- 2. Anson-Madison Sanitary District*

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER NAME: Madison

DATE: 4/5/2024

EVALUATOR NAME: Robert Snook

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Governor's Energy Office

Instructions: *The purpose of this form is to record proposal review notes written by **individual** evaluators for this Request for Proposals (RFA) process. It is **required** that each individual evaluator make notes for each proposal that he or she reviews. No numerical scoring should take place on these notes, as that is performed only during team consensus evaluation meetings. A separate form is available for team consensus evaluation notes and scoring. Once complete, please submit a copy of this document to your Department's RFP Coordinator or Lead Evaluator for this RFA.*

Individual Evaluator Comments:

Directions: *Follow the sections of your RFA and the corresponding Application Form to develop a bulleted outline for notes.*

I. General Information, Eligibility, Completeness and Cost Match – Compliance Review

1. All components provided:

- Application Form? Yes
- Environmental Questionnaire (NEPA)? Yes
- Budget Justification Workbook? Yes
- Appendix A: Performance Metrics Checklist? Yes

2. Eligibility

- Eligible distribution provider

3. Cost match

- Application states Small Utility cost match applicability.
- Applicant seeks \$510,000 with matching \$188,600.
- Application does not break down costs beyond \$70,000 for tree cutting and \$105,000 for personnel and equipment and apparently an unspecified vendor for PV modules at \$13,600.

4. Federal policy acknowledgements Yes

5. Project Performance metrics complete and attached. Yes

II. Project Summary and Alignment with Program Narrative Objectives Are Included

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER NAME: Madison

DATE: 4/5/2024

EVALUATOR NAME: Robert Snook

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Governor's Energy Office

For each applicable objective as listed in Section G, an indication of how the proposed project meets stated objective, while also at a minimum not undermining the other core program objectives. Applicant should include a description of how success will be tracked through a description of how the applicant will provide reporting on metrics, drawing upon applicable metrics from the example metrics listed in the [U.S. DOE Grid Deployment Office's Guidance for Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Grid Resilience Formula Grant Metrics](#)

1. Objective #1 - Increased Grid Resilience

- Project will upgrade distribution lines in a floodplain and a river crossing and upgrade a community solar project. Project is expected to reduce outages by 86% from 1.5 days/year to hours and lower solar cost by 12%.

2. Objective #2 – Increased Community Resilience

- Same as above but notes DAC per CEJST.

3. Objective #3 – Workforce and Quality Jobs

- Applicant states that it will create 1 skilled job and help local businesses keep jobs.

4. Objective #4 – Grid Modernization and Policy Alignment

- Will improve circuit reliability which aligns with policy.

III. Grid & Community Benefits

- 1. The extent to which the proposed project provides benefits to the electric grid, customer, and community. Where possible, data should consider current conditions and forecasted load increase from beneficial electrification and increased frequency of storms, and indicate methods and data used. See the Guidance for Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Grid Resilience Formula Grant Metrics for examples of metrics to track benefits associated with the electric grid, customer, and communities.**

Application states that this area is vulnerable to storms and particularly flooding and notes that this project will help local DAC during storm outages when it needs this help the most.

- 2. The extent to which the proposed project demonstrates reduced energy burden within the community or communities.**

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER NAME: Madison

DATE: 4/5/2024

EVALUATOR NAME: Robert Snook

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Governor's Energy Office

Application suggests that the project would reduce energy burden by reducing the number and length of outages by upgrading equipment and by providing lower cost solar.

3. *A description of how the project will incorporate customer and community participation and feedback mechanisms, including but not limited to customer and community benefits, and community engagement in identifying critical facilities; description should include description of consultation and engagement with communities to date and identify areas where community input was sought on the project. Refer to "Equity and community benefit metrics".*

Application states that as a community utility has a dedicated history of community outreach and will have a direct participatory approach.

4. *A description of how the project will lead to the creation of high-quality jobs in Maine; metrics of interest include but are not limited to number of new clean energy jobs in the state in the years following the resilience project; number of Maine businesses and contractors engaged in resilience project activities; number of Maine high school and secondary career and technical education (CTEs) engaged in resilience project activities; location of businesses and subcontractors receiving funds from the project. Refer to "Equity and community benefit metrics" in DOE's metrics guidance document for additional information.*

Application states that there will be 1 additional skilled job and would help local business keep jobs.

5. *The extent to which the proposed project contributes to or goes beyond the Justice40 objective of 40% of the benefits of climate and clean energy investments flowing to disadvantaged communities.*

Application notes that it impacts a DAC with 70% of Somerset county.

IV. Technical Merit and Feasibility

1. *A description of the current stage of project planning; Please provide a detailed explanation of your proposed project expenses organized by task using the provided SF-424 Budget Justification Form.*

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER NAME: Madison

DATE: 4/5/2024

EVALUATOR NAME: Robert Snook

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Governor's Energy Office

Application states that in final planning stage but provides no breakdown of costs other than tree cutting, personnel and equipment and for upgrading stream crossing to avoid flooding. No specific details provided. Subsequent submission gave hourly employee costs for personnel.

2. *Financial need to the applicant and demonstration of how the funds will aid in the successful completion of the project within one to five years.*

\$510,6433. Project only states that DOE funding would permit the project to proceed now and that they are a small community utility without extensive budget.

3. *Description of other federal or state funding sources the applicant has or could consider, including whether the project is eligible or may be eligible for cost recovery, if the applicant is a regulated entity.*

No other funding except DOE and ME's own cash.

4. *Description of how the project meets the goals of Maine Won't Wait, including achieving 80% of electricity generated by 2030 per the state's Renewable Portfolio Standard, with a goal of 100% by 2040; indication of how project will not increase reliance on non-renewable sources.*

Project states that it is aligned with MWW in that it expands use of renewables (PV) and in providing clean energy assistance to DAC community.

5. *A description of how the project will fulfil at a minimum one of the core program objectives, while also at a minimum not undermining the other core program objectives.*

Project would improve grid reliability from flooding.

6. *Efficient use of program funds, for example through leveraging, matching, securitization.* Project will make use of DOE and ME's funding but they may seek additional funding s they proceed.

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER NAME: Madison

DATE: 4/5/2024

EVALUATOR NAME: Robert Snook

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Governor's Energy Office

7. *Indication whether the proposed project location(s) is within a floodplain, including how the floodplain is defined.*

Is in a floodplain.

8. *Demonstrated ability to comply with all applicable federal requirements, including Buy America and Davis-Bacon Act requirements.*

Application states that it is compliant with referenced federal laws.

V. *Partnerships and Letters of Support*

1. *Indication of quality partnerships.* Madison and Sanitary District.

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Program

BIDDER NAME: Madison Electric Works

DATE: April 10, 2024

EVALUATOR NAME: Ethan Tremblay

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Governor's Energy Office

Individual Evaluator Comments:

I. General Information, Eligibility, Completeness and Cost Match – Compliance Review

1. All components provided:

- *Application Form: Provided*
- *Environmental Questionnaire (NEPA): Provided, appears complete*
- *Budget Justification Workbook: Provided*
- *Appendix A: Performance Metrics Checklist: Provided*

2. Eligibility

- *Madison Electric Works (MEW) is a municipally-owned electric utility serving nearly 2,630 customers in Madison, Anson, Starks and Norridgewock.*
- *Proposed activities include*
 - 1. Weatherization technologies and equipment*
 - 2. Monitoring and control technologies*
 - 3. Utility pole management*
 - 4. Vegetation and fuel-load management*
 - 5. Hardening of power lines, facilities, substations, or other systems*

3. Cost match

- *Applicant is a distribution provider*
- *Small Utility cost match applicability*
- *Proposed cost match is 37%*
- *Cost match source is cash*

4. Federal policy acknowledgements

- *All provided*

5. Project Performance metrics complete and attached

- *Complete*

II. Project Summary and Alignment with Program Narrative Objectives

For each applicable objective as listed in Section G, an indication of how the proposed project meets stated objective, while also at a minimum not undermining the other core program objectives. Applicant should include a description of how success will be tracked through a description of how the

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Program

BIDDER NAME: Madison Electric Works

DATE: April 10, 2024

EVALUATOR NAME: Ethan Tremblay

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Governor's Energy Office

applicant will provide reporting on metrics, drawing upon applicable metrics from the example metrics listed in the U.S. DOE Grid Deployment Office's Guidance for Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Grid Resilience Formula Grant Metrics

1. Objective #1 - Increased Grid Resilience

- Enhancing electric grid resilience through infrastructure relocation and upgrades, mitigating flood-related risks, and ensuring a reliable power supply to critical facilities and disadvantaged communities.

2. Objective #2 – Increased Community Resilience

- Maintaining essential services during extreme weather
- Identifies area as federally-designated disadvantaged community

3. Objective #3 – Workforce and Quality Jobs

- Mentions increasing utilization of 4.3 megawatt solar plant

4. Objective #4 – Grid Modernization and Policy Alignment

- Mentions solar utilization and improved reliability supporting electrification

III. Grid & Community Benefits

- 1. Project plan to provide grid and community benefits. Does the applicant address questions in Section 3.1 of the application? Yes*

IV. Technical Merit and Feasibility

- 1. Project description addresses questions in Section 4.1 of the application. Yes*

- 2. Budget Justification Form Included Yes*

V. Partnerships and Letters of Support

- 1. Indication of quality partnerships*

- Letters of support provided:
 1. Town of Madison
 2. Anson-Madison Sanitary District

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER NAME: Madison Electric Works

DATE: 4/10/24

EVALUATOR NAME: Claire Swingle

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Maine Governor's Energy Office

Individual Evaluator Comments:

I. General Information, Eligibility, Completeness and Cost Match – Compliance Review

1. All components provided:
 - Application Form? Yes
 - Environmental Questionnaire (NEPA)? Yes
 - Budget Justification Workbook? No. Full budget is not provided, only cost share.
 - Appendix A: Performance Metrics Checklist? Yes
2. Eligibility
 - Distribution Provider
3. Cost match
 - Small Utility
 - \$175,000 (34.27%)
4. Federal policy acknowledgements
 - Yes, Davis Bacon, BABA, NEPA EQ
5. Project Performance metrics complete and attached
 - Yes

II. Project Summary and Alignment with Program Narrative Objectives

For each applicable objective as listed in Section G, an indication of how the proposed project meets stated objective, while also at a minimum not undermining the other core program objectives. Applicant should include a description of how success will be tracked through a description of how the applicant will provide reporting on metrics, drawing upon applicable metrics from the example metrics listed in the [U.S. DOE Grid Deployment Office's Guidance for Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Grid Resilience Formula Grant Metrics](#)

1. Project Summary
 - Hardening critical power lines
 - Engineering and reconstruction of lines in the Starks area to enhance flood resilience

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER NAME: Madison Electric Works

DATE: 4/10/24

EVALUATOR NAME: Claire Swingle

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Maine Governor's Energy Office

- 34.5kV river crossing will be rebuilt, potentially elevated lines and reinforcement structures
 - Implementation of monitoring systems at Anson substation to enable early detection of outages – not clear what monitoring systems will be included for the budgeted \$3500
 - Vegetation management
 - 2. Objective #1 - Increased Grid Resilience
 - Resilience against extreme flooding events
 - Project estimated to reduce outages by up to 1.5days during extreme flooding events, 86% reduction in annual outage minutes from 36 hours to 5 hours
 - 3. Objective #2 – Increased Community Resilience
 - More robust response/recovery capabilities during disruptive events
 - Largely identified as a DAC by CEJST
 - 4. Objective #3 – Workforce and Quality Jobs
 - Increased uptime for solar plant will contribute to workforce opportunities by requiring skilled labor for implementation and maintenance, anticipates supporting 1 existing clean energy job and involving 4 Maine businesses and contractors.
 - Checks box for including component for training, recruitment, retention, and reskilling of workers
 - 5. Objective #4 – Grid Modernization and Policy Alignment
 - Upgrades will enable 4.3MW solar power plan to stay online up to 10 operational hours more each year, reducing GHG emissions
 - Enable beneficial electrification
 - Mitigate energy burdens by keeping rates low in a disadvantaged community
- III. Grid & Community Benefits
1. Project plan to provide grid and community benefits. Does the applicant address questions in Section 3.1 of the application?
 - More solar will be able to flow, reducing rates by 12% and reducing energy burden
 - Estimates avoided CO2 at 35,234.2 lbs/year
 - Will implement a “comprehensive participatory approach” including town hall meetings, focus groups, identification of critical facilities and community priorities

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER NAME: Madison Electric Works

DATE: 4/10/24

EVALUATOR NAME: Claire Swingle

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Maine Governor's Energy Office

- Identifies 70% of the area to be served as a DAC (CJEST)
- Number of customers that provide communication services, water services, and food services benefitted by project will be tracked

IV. Technical Merit and Feasibility

1. Project description addresses questions in Section 4.1 of the application

- Applicant indicates that project is in final planning stage and that permitting, procurement, site prep, construction, and commissioning are next.
- Roles and responsibilities are identified
- Small utility with limited budget and resources are not available to support this budget at this time
- Tree trimming and bridge crossing construction are provided in budget, though quantity of vegetation management/poles/wires are not specified
- \$510,633

V. Partnerships and Letters of Support

1. Indication of quality partnerships

- Town of Madison
- Anson-Madison Sanitary District

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239
RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program
BIDDER NAME: Portland International Jetport
DATE: April 5, 2024
EVALUATOR NAME: Nat Haslett
EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: EMT

Instructions: *The purpose of this form is to record proposal review notes written by individual evaluators for this Request for Proposals (RFA) process. It is required that each individual evaluator make notes for each proposal that he or she reviews. No numerical scoring should take place on these notes, as that is performed only during team consensus evaluation meetings. A separate form is available for team consensus evaluation notes and scoring. Once complete, please submit a copy of this document to your Department's RFP Coordinator or Lead Evaluator for this RFA.*

Individual Evaluator Comments:

- I. General Information, Eligibility, Completeness and Cost Match
 - 1. All components provided: Yes, all required components provided
 - 2. Eligibility – Yes, qualifies as small utility
 - 3. Cost match - Cost match meets requirements – Yes, exceeds 200%
 - 4. Federal policy acknowledgements – Yes, notes BABA waiver may be needed for BESS components
 - 5. Project Performance metrics complete and attached - Yes

II. *Project Summary and Alignment with Program Narrative Objectives*

For each applicable objective as listed in Section G, an indication of how the proposed project meets stated objective, while also at a minimum not undermining the other core program objectives. Applicant should include a description of how success will be tracked through a description of how the applicant will provide reporting on metrics, drawing upon applicable metrics from the example metrics listed in the U.S. DOE Grid Deployment Office's Guidance for Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Grid Resilience Formula Grant Metrics

- 1. *Objective #1 - Increased Grid Resilience*
 - BESS would serve to reduce impact of outages on PWM operations by avoiding need to curtail operations in response to CMP outages
- 2. *Objective #2 – Increased Community Resilience*
 - BESS to provide backup power to support critical operations during outages, backup power currently not able to meet full facility need
 - PWM highlighted as a critical component of ME's transportation system, local to Portland area and beyond
- 3. *Objective #3 – Workforce and Quality Jobs*
 - P: Applicant notes that project will include apprenticeship component, notes intent to meet prevailing wage requirements

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER NAME: Portland International Jetport

DATE: April 5, 2024

EVALUATOR NAME: Nat Haslett

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: EMT

4. *Objective #4 – Grid Modernization and Policy Alignment*

- BESS operations proposed to help reduce peak demand, support integration of RE by charging during periods of large RE output/low demand, enhancing overall resilience in response to climate impacts
- Supports energy storage goals with first-of-its kind system, potential for use as demonstration

III. *Grid & Community Benefits*

1. *Project plan to provide grid and community benefits. Does the applicant address questions in Section 3.1 of the application?*

a. *The extent to which the proposed project provides benefits to the electric grid, customer, and community. Where possible, data should consider current conditions and forecasted load increase from beneficial electrification and increased frequency of storms as a result of climate change, and indicate methods and data used. See the Guidance for Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Grid Resilience Formula Grant Metrics for examples of metrics to track benefits associated with the electric grid, customer, and communities;*

- Applicant describes importance of PWM as “primary aviation hub” to region, references cost of downtime events caused by power outages
- Description of indirect benefits to disadvantaged communities located within Portland, as part of general benefits for grid in the Portland area
- Applicant highlights that Portland Area is an especially constrained grid region with municipal decarbonization policies

b. *The extent to which the proposed project demonstrates reduced energy burden within the community or communities;*

- Applicant describes indirect benefit to DACs within Portland
- Highlights the high cost of CMP’s planned transmission upgrades for the area; applicant draws connection to project by highlighting that the BESS could “potentially defer” investments resulting from BE-driven load growth

c. *A description of how the project will incorporate customer and community participation and feedback mechanisms, including but not limited to customer and community benefits, and community engagement in identifying critical facilities; description should include description of consultation and engagement with communities to date and identify areas where community input was sought on the project. Refer to “Equity and community benefit metrics” in DOE’s metrics guidance document.*

- Applicant describes commitment to stakeholder engagement through project permitting process
- Highlights importance of project as a pioneer, relevance for creating a template for future projects – including in addressing fire-related issues with the Portland FD

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER NAME: Portland International Jetport

DATE: April 5, 2024

EVALUATOR NAME: Nat Haslett

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: EMT

d. A description of how the project will lead to the creation of high-quality jobs in Maine; metrics of interest include but are not limited to number of new clean energy jobs in the state in the years following the resilience project; number of Maine businesses and contractors engaged in resilience project activities; number of Maine high school and secondary career and technical education (CTEs) engaged in resilience project activities; location of businesses and subcontractors receiving funds from the project. Refer to "Equity and community benefit metrics" in DOE's metrics guidance document for additional information.

- 3 Maine-based teams highlighted in the application (Ameresco Portland office team, CES, Newtility)
- Applicant states project is estimated to support 15 jobs for construction, will include apprentices

e. Throughout the qualitative and quantitative components of the project proposals, the extent to which the proposed project contributes to or goes beyond the Justice40 objective of 40% of the benefits of climate and clean energy investments flowing to disadvantaged communities.

- Indirect benefit to DACs in the City of Portland

IV. Technical Merit and Feasibility

1. A description of the current stage of project planning; Please provide a detailed explanation of your proposed project expenses organized by task using the provided SF-424 Budget Justification Form (see #6 below).

- Contract awarded to Ameresco for EPC lead after competitive bidding process; PWM and Ameresco have executed letter of intent (9/2023)
- CMP approved L3 interconnection request (1/2024)
- Applicant notes that ISO-level review may require transmission-level study and I.3.9 approval, as battery is over 1 MW.
- Despite risk of delay from ISO-level review, applicant states expectation BESS could achieve COD by end of 2025

2. Financial need to the applicant and demonstration of how the funds will aid in the successful completion of the project within one to five years;

- Applicant states "requested funding is critical to enabling the BESS project", based on competing needs for limited available funding

3. Description of other federal or state funding sources the applicant has or could consider, including whether the project is eligible or may be eligible for cost recovery, if the applicant is a regulated entity

- Applicant is pursuing ITC and plans to participate in EMT pay-for-performance initiative to support BESS projects, BESS to leverage other revenue streams, including from reducing demand during peak periods (e.g, under B-CPT rate)

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER NAME: Portland International Jetport

DATE: April 5, 2024

EVALUATOR NAME: Nat Haslett

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: EMT

- No other federal state/grant funding identified, not a regulated utility

Description of how the project meets the goals of Maine Won't Wait, including achieving 80% of electricity generated by 2030 per the state's Renewable Portfolio Standard, with a goal of 100% by 2040; indication of how project will not increase reliance on non-renewable sources;

- Strong policy alignment with grid modernization objectives, including RE integration. BESS would support achievement of Maine's storage goals. Applicant describes opportunity to use project as a model for future development

5. A description of how the project will fulfil at a minimum one of the core program objectives, while also at a minimum not undermining the other core program objectives;

- Applicant highlights project's potential to support all 4 objectives
- Particular alignment with enhancing customer resilience (2), grid modernization (4)

6. Efficient use of program funds, for example through leveraging, matching, securitization;

- Applicant requests funding for only 32% of total project cost, efficient use of grant \$

Indication whether the proposed project location(s) is within a floodplain, including how the floodplain is defined;

- Applicant states project not located in FEMA floodplain

8. Demonstrated ability to comply with all applicable federal requirements, including Buy America and Davis-Bacon Act requirements

- Applicant notes that Buy America waiver will likely be required for the battery components of the project; applicant expects other equipment to be sourced domestically

Budget Justification Form Included- Yes, provides thorough discussion of project budgets

V. Partnerships and Letters of Support

1. Strong indication of community engagement in narrative and LOS – Letters from City of Portland, City of South Portland, Airlines, GPCOG, MaineDOT

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER NAME: Portland International Jetport

DATE: 4/10/2024

EVALUATOR NAME: Allie Rand

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Governor's Energy Office

Instructions: *The purpose of this form is to record proposal review notes written by **individual** evaluators for this Request for Proposals (RFA) process. It is **required** that each individual evaluator make notes for each proposal that he or she reviews. No numerical scoring should take place on these notes, as that is performed only during team consensus evaluation meetings. A separate form is available for team consensus evaluation notes and scoring. Once complete, please submit a copy of this document to your Department's RFP Coordinator or Lead Evaluator for this RFA.*

Individual Evaluator Comments:

I. General Information, Eligibility, Completeness and Cost Match – Compliance Review

1. All components provided:

- *Application Form? - Included*
- *Environmental Questionnaire (NEPA)? Included*
- *Budget Justification Workbook? – Included*
- *Appendix A: Performance Metrics Checklist? - Included*

2. Eligibility

- *Applicant indicates it is eligible as an electric storage operator*
- *Uses are eligible*

3. Cost match

- *Indication of Large or Small Utility cost match applicability – 68% of total project cost (\$2,879,202 match to be provided by applicant)*
- *Source is cash*

4. Federal policy acknowledgements

- *Yes, all acknowledged*
- *Draft BABA waiver is included. Seeking a non availability waiver or unreasonable cost waiver*
- *NEPA form attached*

5. Project Performance metrics complete and attached

II. Project Summary and Alignment with Program Narrative Objectives

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER NAME: Portland International Jetport

DATE: 4/10/2024

EVALUATOR NAME: Allie Rand

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Governor's Energy Office

For each applicable objective as listed in Section G, an indication of how the proposed project meets stated objective, while also at a minimum not undermining the other core program objectives. Applicant should include a description of how success will be tracked through a description of how the applicant will provide reporting on metrics, drawing upon applicable metrics from the example metrics listed in the [U.S. DOE Grid Deployment Office's Guidance for Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Grid Resilience Formula Grant Metrics](#)

1. Objective #1 - Increased Grid Resilience

- *Project increases resilience of Portland area grid and ME's largest transportation hub*
- *PWM currently does not have backup power to meet facility's full electric load during a grid outage, resulting in recent "disruptive and costly downtime events"*

2. Objective #2 – Increased Community Resilience

- *Notes PWM as a critical component of Maine's transportation system, serving 2.2 million passengers*
- *Continuing PWM operations during short duration outages "helps improve resiliency of the communities throughout southern, central and western ME"*

3. Objective #3 – Workforce and Quality Jobs

- *Installation, maintenance and repair to be completed at prevailing wages, including % of work hours completed by apprentices*

4. Objective #4 – Grid Modernization and Policy Alignment

- *Project will "showcase how large end users can utilize battery storage" to minimize large user impact on the grid as demand grows due to beneficial electrification as well as helping to integrate intermittent renewables on the grid*

III. Grid & Community Benefits

1. Project plan to provide grid and community benefits

- **Metrics:**
 1. *Power Rating of battery system installed (MW)*
 2. *Energy rating of battery installed (MWh)*

Other metrics to be tracked and reported by PWM:

3. *Local grid outage event count and duration*
4. *Avoided outage hours from battery microgrid operation*
5. *Battery power and energy discharge levels during local grid outage event(s)*

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

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EVALUATOR NAME: Allie Rand

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Governor's Energy Office

6. *Total monthly operations cycles*
 7. *Round-trip efficiency performance*
 8. *Average grid demand reduction during discharges*
 9. *Grid demand reduction during CMP's monthly peak load hour*
 10. *Grid demand reduction during ISO New England's annual peak load hour*
 11. *Estimated marginal grid emissions avoided by load shifting*
 12. *Number of new clean energy jobs in the state in years following the resilience project*
 13. *Number of Maine businesses and contractors engaged in resilience project activities*
 14. *Number of Maine high school and secondary career and technical education (CTEs) engaged in resilience project activities*
 15. *Location (zip codes) of businesses and subcontractors receiving funds from the project*
- *BESS to provide backup supply during outages, and would reduce peak load on the grid*
2. *Describes benefits to grid, customer and community*
 - *Benefits to Portland Area's power grid; notes 2022 storage market assessment findings that customer sited storage provides grid benefits through load shifting. Notes Portland area is the largest and most constrained electric load pocket*
 - *Proximity to US DOE identified DACs within the City of Portland, which owns and operates PWM, including: (23005002300, 23005000600, and 23005000300)*
 - *Applicant notes that "PWM's footprint in South Portland falls within census tract 23005003000. The boundary of this tract ends just across the street (International Parkway) from where the BESS will be installed and is considered by DOE to be a Disadvantaged Community"*
 - *Does not draw clear distinction between communities benefitting from the project vs communities identified as DACs that are located close the project*

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

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EVALUATOR NAME: Allie Rand

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Governor's Energy Office

- *Community benefits identified include the development of “an effective template for developing similar customer-sited BESS projects in other cities throughout Maine”*

3. *Reduced energy burden?*

- *Applicant notes ratepayer impacts of transmission upgrades CMP has recommended for Portland area*

4. *How the project will incorporate customer and community participation and feedback?*

- *Describes intention to engage with public and key City of Portland stakeholders to incorporate community participation and feedback*
- *Portland Fire Dept engagement is highlighted*

5. *Creation of high quality jobs?*

- *Project implementation by three local teams: Ameresco, CES (both in Portland), and Newtility in Brunswick*
- *Support of an estimated 15 high quality jobs during construction*
- *Construction will include electrician and laborer/mechanic apprentices*

6. *Justice40?*

- *See above – notes proximity to DAC CEJST tracts located within the city of Portland*

IV. *Technical Merit and Feasibility*

1. *Project description addresses questions in Section 4.1 of the application:*

- *Current stage of planning*
 - a. *Notes track record of previous successful energy projects at the airport, including 2011 completion of Maine’s largest geothermal heating and cooling system and 2017 installation of solar PV canopy on upper level of parking garage*
 - b. *Preliminary BESS feasibility analysis completed in December 2022*
 - c. *Site selection has occurred, key factors note that this location is 1) highly visible to the public 2) provides direct access to tie into CMP’s main feed to the terminal and enable microgrid and 3) produces minimal disturbance*

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

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BIDDER NAME: Portland International Jetport

DATE: 4/10/2024

EVALUATOR NAME: Allie Rand

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Governor's Energy Office

- d. Describes factors behind proposed sizing and system design; 1.9MW/5MWh system design is based on analysis of interval grid demand, load growth and value streams for BTM non exporting BESS operations in Maine*
- e. Project team has been assembled, following PWM's RFP which was issued in accordance with the City of Portland's public procurement requirements.*
- f. Level 3 IX application determined by CMP that the BESS can interconnect and operate without adverse effects, PWM not required to make distribution system upgrades. ISO NE may require a transmission level study.*
- *Total project cost is \$4.26 million. PWM requesting \$1.382M representing 32% of project cost.*
- *Financial need is noted. PWM notes competing capital investment needs over next five years related to core operations.*
- *Addresses MWW specific goals and strategies:*
 - 1. Helps state storage goals*
 - 2. Describes grid impacts of beneficial electrification and increase on intermittent renewable resources and the key role of storage; "energy storage can be strategically deployed and operated to try to defer these investments while early load growth will help soften the rate impacts for all ratepayers"*
- *Notes that proposed project primarily addresses program objective #1, supports #2 and #3 and aligns with objective 4.*
- *Efficient funding: funding requested is 32% of project cost, remaining will be matched by PWM "using its unrestricted fund balance" which is generated from annual operating surplus.*
- *Did not address floodplain question*
- *Confirms BABA and DBA acknowledgements. Applicant anticipates BABA waiver will be needed for battery components. All four bidders during PWM's RFP process confirmed it is not possible to meet BABA in this context based on current battery supply chains.*

V. Partnerships and Letters of Support

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER NAME: Portland International Jetport

DATE: 4/10/2024

EVALUATOR NAME: Allie Rand

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Governor's Energy Office

1. *City of Portland*
2. *City of South Portland*
3. *American Airlines, Delta Airlines, Southwest Airlines and United*
4. *GPCOG*
5. *MDOT*

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER NAME: PWM

DATE: 4/7/2024

EVALUATOR NAME: Robert Snook

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Governor's Energy Office

Instructions: *The purpose of this form is to record proposal review notes written by **individual** evaluators for this Request for Proposals (RFA) process. It is **required** that each individual evaluator make notes for each proposal that he or she reviews. No numerical scoring should take place on these notes, as that is performed only during team consensus evaluation meetings. A separate form is available for team consensus evaluation notes and scoring. Once complete, please submit a copy of this document to your Department's RFP Coordinator or Lead Evaluator for this RFA.*

Individual Evaluator Comments:

Directions: *Follow the sections of your RFA and the corresponding Application Form to develop a bulleted outline for notes.*

I. General Information, Eligibility, Completeness and Cost Match – Compliance Review

1. All components provided:

- Application Form? Yes
- Environmental Questionnaire (NEPA)? Yes
- Budget Justification Workbook? Yes
- Appendix A: Performance Metrics Checklist? Yes

2. Eligibility

- Eligible Storage operator.

3. Cost match

- Applicant seeks \$2,879,202 with matching \$1,382,000 (68% of project).
- Budget clear. An unidentified vendor for \$100,000 for "robotics lens" work. Site prep \$194,797. Site engineering \$18,541. Electrical installation \$474,529. Technical integration \$46,332. Engineering and construction \$234, 179. Total \$1,168,378.

4. Federal policy acknowledgements Yes. PWM will seek a BABA waiver.

5. Project Performance metrics complete and attached. Yes

II. Project Summary and Alignment with Program Narrative Objectives

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER NAME: PWM

DATE: 4/7/2024

EVALUATOR NAME: Robert Snook

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Governor's Energy Office

Are Included

For each applicable objective as listed in Section G, an indication of how the proposed project meets stated objective, while also at a minimum not undermining the other core program objectives. Applicant should include a description of how success will be tracked through a description of how the applicant will provide reporting on metrics, drawing upon applicable metrics from the example metrics listed in the [U.S. DOE Grid Deployment Office's Guidance for Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Grid Resilience Formula Grant Metrics](#)

1. Objective #1 - Increased Grid Resilience

- Project will install a 1.9MW BTM BESS (non-exporting) system at the airport that will provide power for on-site operations for 6 hours in case of an outage and can be used to discharge during peak hours reducing load and the local CMP system.
- Project will provide resiliency benefits to Portland grid during peak hours and provide outage protection for Maine's largest transportation hub.
- Project will foster next generation of clean energy workforce and reduce impacts to the grid and permit more renewable integration.

2. Objective #2 – Increased Community Resilience

- Same as above but adds that there are three DACs in the vicinity that will benefit and that this will be the first large scale lithium BESS in Maine and they will work with the fire department to ensure that this will foster future BESS projects.

3. Objective #3 – Workforce and Quality Jobs

- Applicant estimates 15 new jobs and notes that the project will pay prevailing wage rates and will foster apprentices.

4. Objective #4 – Grid Modernization and Policy Alignment

- Project aligned with grid mod and policy and notes GEO's 2020 BESS Assessment that BESS reduces demand and assists beneficial electrification.

III. Grid & Community Benefits

1. *The extent to which the proposed project provides benefits to the electric grid, customer, and community. Where possible, data should consider current conditions and forecasted load increase from beneficial electrification and increased frequency of storms, and indicate methods and data used. See the Guidance for Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Grid*

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

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BIDDER NAME: PWM

DATE: 4/7/2024

EVALUATOR NAME: Robert Snook

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Governor's Energy Office

Resilience Formula Grant Metrics for examples of metrics to track benefits associated with the electric grid, customer, and communities.

Same as above but I could not find anything on tracking metrics.

2. *The extent to which the proposed project demonstrates reduced energy burden within the community or communities.*

Application suggests that the project would reduce energy burden on the CMP grid including three local DACs by discharging during peak hours and by supporting major transportation hub during outages.

3. *A description of how the project will incorporate customer and community participation and feedback mechanisms, including but not limited to customer and community benefits, and community engagement in identifying critical facilities; description should include description of consultation and engagement with communities to date and identify areas where community input was sought on the project. Refer to "Equity and community benefit metrics".*

Application states that PWM issued an RFP which was compliant with the City of Portland's public requirements. This could mean that there was public outreach/noticed meetings.

4. *A description of how the project will lead to the creation of high-quality jobs in Maine; metrics of interest include but are not limited to number of new clean energy jobs in the state in the years following the resilience project; number of Maine businesses and contractors engaged in resilience project activities; number of Maine high school and secondary career and technical education (CTEs) engaged in resilience project activities; location of businesses and subcontractors receiving funds from the project. Refer to "Equity and community benefit metrics" in DOE's metrics guidance document for additional information.*

Application states they expect 15 new job, and that skilled labor will be supported thru prevailing wage rates and apprenticeships.

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER NAME: PWM

DATE: 4/7/2024

EVALUATOR NAME: Robert Snook

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Governor's Energy Office

5. *The extent to which the proposed project contributes to or goes beyond the Justice40 objective of 40% of the benefits of climate and clean energy investments flowing to disadvantaged communities.*

Application notes that the project will affect 3 DACs as defined by CEJST tool in area.

IV. Technical Merit and Feasibility

1. *A description of the current stage of project planning; Please provide a detailed explanation of your proposed project expenses organized by task using the provided SF-424 Budget Justification Form.* Application provides limited and unclear breakdown of costs.

Project has been in planning for 15 months with clear indications of advanced site planning and design. Project is non-exporting which suggests that it will support grid during peak by reducing the airport's load, not by injecting power into the grid. PWM has run an RFP and selected Ameresco as project main lead. PWM has filed an interconnection request with CMP, but this seems related to charging, not discharging. PWM may need and I.3.9 with the ISO, but that is not clear.

As noted above, the budget is clear.

2. *Financial need to the applicant and demonstration of how the funds will aid in the successful completion of the project within one to five years.*

Project states that DOE funding is necessary to proceed and that PWM is not seeking other funding.

3. *Description of other federal or state funding sources the applicant has or could consider, including whether the project is eligible or may be eligible for cost recovery, if the applicant is a regulated entity.* No other funding has been identified.

4. *Description of how the project meets the goals of Maine Won't Wait, including achieving 80% of electricity generated by 2030 per the state's Renewable Portfolio Standard, with a goal of 100% by 2040; indication of how project will not increase reliance on non-renewable sources.*

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER NAME: PWM

DATE: 4/7/2024

EVALUATOR NAME: Robert Snook

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Governor's Energy Office

The project will meet the goals of MWW including goals of 300MW of BESS, grid modernization, beneficial electrification, and encouraging renewable generation.

5. *A description of how the project will fulfil at a minimum one of the core program objectives, while also at a minimum not undermining the other core program objectives.*

Project would improve grid reliability during peak hours and reduce the Impacts of outages.

6. *Efficient use of program funds, for example through leveraging, matching, securitization.* Project will make use of its funds and DOE's.

7. *Indication whether the proposed project location(s) is within a floodplain, including how the floodplain is defined.*

Could not find anything of floodplains.

8. *Demonstrated ability to comply with all applicable federal requirements, including Buy America and Davis-Bacon Act requirements.*

Application states that it is compliant with Davis-Bacon but will seek a BABA waiver. Is willing to discuss this with GEO but some modules are not made in the US.

V. *Partnerships and Letters of Support*

1. *Indication of quality partnerships.* Portland, South Portland, Airlines, COG, and Maine DOT.

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER NAME: Portland International Jetport

DATE: 4/10/24

EVALUATOR NAME: Claire Swingle

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Maine Governor's Energy Office

Individual Evaluator Comments:

I. General Information, Eligibility, Completeness and Cost Match – Compliance Review

1. All components provided:
 - Application Form? Yes
 - Environmental Questionnaire (NEPA)? Yes
 - Budget Justification Workbook? Yes
 - Appendix A: Performance Metrics Checklist? Yes
2. Eligibility
 - Electric storage operator
3. Cost match
 - 208%
4. Federal policy acknowledgements
 - Yes, Davis Bacon, NEPA EQ
 - Seeking BABA waiver
5. Project Performance metrics complete and attached
 - Yes, includes additional ones to track battery performance

II. Project Summary and Alignment with Program Narrative Objectives

For each applicable objective as listed in Section G, an indication of how the proposed project meets stated objective, while also at a minimum not undermining the other core program objectives. Applicant should include a description of how success will be tracked through a description of how the applicant will provide reporting on metrics, drawing upon applicable metrics from the example metrics listed in the [U.S. DOE Grid Deployment Office's Guidance for Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Grid Resilience Formula Grant Metrics](#)

1. Project Summary
 - Develop microgrid: install new 1.9MW/5MWh BTM, non-exporting lithium-ion battery that can meet PWM's full electric requirements during a grid outage under 6 hours
2. Objective #1 - Increased Grid Resilience

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER NAME: Portland International Jetport

DATE: 4/10/24

EVALUATOR NAME: Claire Swingle

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Maine Governor's Energy Office

- Reduce peak demand in Portland, Maine's largest and most constrained electric load pocket
 - Does not discuss outages currently
3. Objective #2 – Increased Community Resilience
 - Maine's largest and busiest transportation hub, transporting 2.2 million passengers and 24 million pounds of cargo
 4. Objective #3 – Workforce and Quality Jobs
 - Installation, maintenance, and repair work accompanied by apprentices for a percentage of work hours
 - Support 15 jobs during construction, ongoing technicians for system maintenance
 5. Objective #4 – Grid Modernization and Policy Alignment
 - Charge from the grid during hours of high renewable generation
 - Energy storage deployment, peak load shaving
- III. Grid & Community Benefits
1. Project plan to provide grid and community benefits. Does the applicant address questions in Section 3.1 of the application?
 - Lessons learned from local permitting process, especially the Portland Fire Department, will be helpful for future projects
 - Transmission deferral/avoidance has high economic value
- IV. Technical Merit and Feasibility
1. Project description addresses questions in Section 4.1 of the application
 - 3 local teams selected through competitive process: Ameresco (for engineering, procurement, and construction), Competitive Energy Solutions (BESS operation), Newtility (system design and integration) with Letter of Intent
 - PWM track record of executing projects (geothermal, solar)
 - Has conducted due diligence on BESS design and operations, including preliminary feasibility analysis for system siting/sizing
 - identified location that will be visible and easy to tie into CMP's main feed, with minimal site impact during construction.
 - Submitted Level 3 Interconnection application and has approval to operate; however, ISO-NE may require an additional study (awaiting final decision)

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER NAME: Portland International Jetport

DATE: 4/10/24

EVALUATOR NAME: Claire Swingle

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Maine Governor's Energy Office

- BESS expected to be online by end of 2025
- For BESS sizing, PWM's proposed 1.9MW/5MWh system design is based on analysis of the airport's interval grid demand, upcoming electric load growth at the west terminal from PWM's electrification plans, and the various value streams available for behind-the-meter, non-exporting BESS operations in Maine.
- Has looked at other sources of fund, and intends to pursue the direct pay option of the investment tax credit; however, PWM has not found other grant opportunities.
- Budget justification form complete, specifies equipment and cost breakdown

V. Partnerships and Letters of Support

1. Indication of quality partnerships

- City of Portland
- City of South Portland
- Airlines (American, Delta, Southwest, United)
- Greater Portland Council of Governments
- Maine Department of Transportation

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Program

BIDDER NAME: Portland International Jetport (PWM)

DATE: April 10, 2024

EVALUATOR NAME: Ethan Tremblay

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Governor's Energy Office

Individual Evaluator Comments:

I. General Information, Eligibility, Completeness and Cost Match – Compliance Review

1. All components provided:

- *Application Form: Provided*
- *Environmental Questionnaire (NEPA): Provided, appears complete*
- *Budget Justification Workbook: Provided*
- *Appendix A: Performance Metrics Checklist: Provided*

2. Eligibility

- Applicant is an electricity storage operator
- PWM will own and operate the BESS that will be installed on the airport property, therefore meeting the definition of an electricity storage operator. PWM is an end user and distribution-level electric customer of Central Maine Power Company ("CMP").

3. Cost match

- Applicant indicates 0 MWh per year sold, indicating Small Utility cost match applicability
- Applicant proposes 208% cost match, where cost match = matching funds / grant funds. Applicant proposes 32% of total project funded by grant.

4. Federal policy acknowledgements

- All provided, including proposed BABA waiver

5. Project Performance metrics complete and attached

- Included

II. Project Summary and Alignment with Program Narrative Objectives

For each applicable objective as listed in Section G, an indication of how the proposed project meets stated objective, while also at a minimum not undermining the other core program objectives. Applicant should include a description of how success will be tracked through a description of how the applicant will provide reporting on metrics, drawing upon applicable metrics from the example metrics listed in the U.S. DOE Grid Deployment Office's Guidance for Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Grid Resilience Formula Grant Metrics

1. Objective #1 - Increased Grid Resilience

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Program

BIDDER NAME: Portland International Jetport (PWM)

DATE: April 10, 2024

EVALUATOR NAME: Ethan Tremblay

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Governor's Energy Office

- Will install a new 1.9-megawatt (“MW”) behind-the-meter, non-exporting battery energy storage system (“BESS”) that can meet PWM’s full electric requirements during a short-duration grid outage (i.e., less than six hours) without onsite fossil fuel combustion.
 - BESS will help reduce peak grid demand in the Portland Area.
2. *Objective #2 – Increased Community Resilience*
 - During a grid outage event, the BESS will be operated by PWM to provide backup power to the airport to maintain critical operations.
 - Enabling PWM to continue operating during short-duration grid outages helps improve the resiliency of the communities throughout southern, central, and western Maine that rely on PWM.
 3. *Objective #3 – Workforce and Quality Jobs*
 - Installation, maintenance, and repair work will be completed by electricians and labors/mechanics at prevailing wage rates.
 - These activities will also include a percentage of work hours completed by apprentices.
 4. *Objective #4 – Grid Modernization and Policy Alignment*
 - Demonstrate BESS adoption by large energy end users.
 - BESS will charge from the grid during hours of high renewable generation across Maine.
- III. *Grid & Community Benefits*
1. *Project plan to provide grid and community benefits. Does the applicant address questions in Section 3.1 of the application? Yes*
- IV. *Technical Merit and Feasibility*
1. *Project description addresses questions in Section 4.1 of the application. Yes*
 2. *Budget Justification Form Included. Yes*
- V. *Partnerships and Letters of Support*
1. *Indication of quality partnerships*
 - *Letters of support provided*
 1. City of South Portland
 2. City of Portland
 3. Greater Portland Council of Governments
 4. Maine Department of Transportation
 5. American Airlines, Delta Air Lines, Southwest Airlines, United Airlines

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239
RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program
BIDDER NAME: Sunnova
DATE: April 5, 2024
EVALUATOR NAME: Nat Haslett
EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: EMT

Instructions: *The purpose of this form is to record proposal review notes written by **individual** evaluators for this Request for Proposals (RFA) process. It is **required** that each individual evaluator make notes for each proposal that he or she reviews. No numerical scoring should take place on these notes, as that is performed only during team consensus evaluation meetings. A separate form is available for team consensus evaluation notes and scoring. Once complete, please submit a copy of this document to your Department's RFP Coordinator or Lead Evaluator for this RFA.*

Individual Evaluator Comments:

- I. General Information, Eligibility, Completeness and Cost Match
 - 1. All components provided: Yes, all required components provided
 - 2. Eligibility – Yes, battery operator
 - 3. Cost match - Cost match meets requirements – 106.6%
 - 4. Federal policy acknowledgements – Yes, Enviro assessment included
 - 5. Project Performance metrics complete and attached - Yes

- II. *Project Summary and Alignment with Program Narrative Objectives*

For each applicable objective as listed in Section G, an indication of how the proposed project meets stated objective, while also at a minimum not undermining the other core program objectives. Applicant should include a description of how success will be tracked through a description of how the applicant will provide reporting on metrics, drawing upon applicable metrics from the example metrics listed in the U.S. DOE Grid Deployment Office's Guidance for Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Grid Resilience Formula Grant Metrics

- 1. *Objective #1 - Increased Grid Resilience*
 - Project proposed to help decrease frequency of outages in island community experiencing 5 days of outages in winter '23
- 2. *Objective #2 – Increased Community Resilience*
 - Project proposed to support construction of community microgrid serving a health center and commerce center
 - Project would serve Penobscot Nation community
- 3. *Objective #3 – Workforce and Quality Jobs*
 - Budget includes plan for training local labor
- 4. *Objective #4 – Grid Modernization and Policy Alignment*
 - P: Project to support integration of a collocated solar project, grid modernization

III. *Grid & Community Benefits*

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER NAME: Sunnova

DATE: April 5, 2024

EVALUATOR NAME: Nat Haslett

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: EMT

1. *Project plan to provide grid and community benefits. Does the applicant address questions in Section 3.1 of the application?*
 - a. *The extent to which the proposed project provides benefits to the electric grid, customer, and community. Where possible, data should consider current conditions and forecasted load increase from beneficial electrification and increased frequency of storms as a result of climate change, and indicate methods and data used. See the Guidance for Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Grid Resilience Formula Grant Metrics for examples of metrics to track benefits associated with the electric grid, customer, and communities;*
 - Project intended to enhance resilience of island community that experienced 5 days of outage in winter '23
 - Project specifically supporting healthcare and commerce center
 - b. *The extent to which the proposed project demonstrates reduced energy burden within the community or communities;*
 - N: Unclear what model Sunnova will use to provide services on ongoing basis, associated costs?
 - Project proposed to reduce demand charges for two meters, reduce grid consumption
 - c. *A description of how the project will incorporate customer and community participation and feedback mechanisms, including but not limited to customer and community benefits, and community engagement in identifying critical facilities; description should include description of consultation and engagement with communities to date and identify areas where community input was sought on the project. Refer to "Equity and community benefit metrics" in DOE's metrics guidance document.*
 - Application provides brief description of community engagement to date, notes Penobscot Nation engaged w applicant to support design of a resiliency solution
 - References contact in community relevant to applicant's support for local workforce
 - Budget included for community engagement program
 - d. *A description of how the project will lead to the creation of high-quality jobs in Maine; metrics of interest include but are not limited to number of new clean energy jobs in the state in the years following the resilience project; number of Maine businesses and contractors engaged in resilience project activities; number of Maine high school and secondary career and technical education (CTEs) engaged in resilience project activities; location of businesses and subcontractors receiving funds from the project. Refer to "Equity and community benefit metrics" in DOE's metrics guidance document for additional information.*
 - Budget includes \$43k for training and subcontracting qualified local labor
 - e. *Throughout the qualitative and quantitative components of the project proposals, the extent to which the proposed project contributes to or goes beyond the Justice40 objective of 40% of the benefits of climate and clean energy investments flowing to disadvantaged communities.*
 - Federally recognized tribes included in CEJST definition of DACs

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER NAME: Sunnova

DATE: April 5, 2024

EVALUATOR NAME: Nat Haslett

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: EMT

IV. Technical Merit and Feasibility (30 points)

1. A description of the current stage of project planning; Please provide a detailed explanation of your proposed project expenses organized by task using the provided SF-424 Budget Justification Form (see #6 below).

- Applicant has conducted preliminary financial analysis and site visit, describes limited engagement with community to date. Applicant describes plan for further engagement and planning work, proposed Oct 2026 COD
- Unclear what financial model will be used for project in the long term, including to cover the costs of grid services proposed to be provided by applicant
- Utility not listed as a partner, unclear whether applicant would be able to deliver the full range of services proposed in application without support of the utility

2. Financial need to the applicant and demonstration of how the funds will aid in the successful completion of the project within one to five years;

- Utility not listed as a partner, unclear whether applicant would be able to deliver the full range of services proposed in application without support of the utility

3. Description of other federal or state funding sources the applicant has or could consider, including whether the project is eligible or may be eligible for cost recovery, if the applicant is a regulated entity

- Project references investment tax incentives; applicant is not a regulated entity
Description of how the project meets the goals of Maine Won't Wait, including achieving 80% of electricity generated by 2030 per the state's Renewable Portfolio Standard, with a goal of 100% by 2040; indication of how project will not increase reliance on non-renewable sources;
- Project proposed to support use of collocated solar project, support state energy storage goal, enhance community resilience

5. A description of how the project will fulfil at a minimum one of the core program objectives, while also at a minimum not undermining the other core program objectives;

- Project would support grid mod, community resilience, workforce development as described
- 6. Efficient use of program funds, for example through leveraging, matching, securitization;* Applicant cites a still TBD "financing solution", applicant references intent to leverage ITC Again, unclear how costs of long-term operations would be covered

Indication whether the proposed project location(s) is within a floodplain, including how the floodplain is defined;

Questionnaire indicates project is not located in a floodplain

8. Demonstrated ability to comply with all applicable federal requirements, including Buy America and Davis-Bacon Act requirements – Applicant indicates yes. Does not raise issues surrounding potential waiver needed for Buy America for BESS?

Budget Justification Form Included- Yes

V. Partnerships and Letters of Support

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER NAME: Sunnova

DATE: April 5, 2024

EVALUATOR NAME: Nat Haslett

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: EMT

1. Letter provided from Penobscot Nation Housing Department

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER NAME: Sunnova

DATE: 4/10/2024

EVALUATOR NAME: Allie Rand

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Governor's Energy Office

Instructions: *The purpose of this form is to record proposal review notes written by **individual** evaluators for this Request for Proposals (RFA) process. It is **required** that each individual evaluator make notes for each proposal that he or she reviews. No numerical scoring should take place on these notes, as that is performed only during team consensus evaluation meetings. A separate form is available for team consensus evaluation notes and scoring. Once complete, please submit a copy of this document to your Department's RFP Coordinator or Lead Evaluator for this RFA.*

Individual Evaluator Comments:

Directions: *Follow the sections of your RFA and the corresponding Application Form to develop a bulleted outline for notes. Delete the sample below and these directions and replace with your own outline based on your RFP.*

I. General Information, Eligibility, Completeness and Cost Match – Compliance Review

1. All components provided:
 - Application Form? - Included
 - Environmental Questionnaire (NEPA)? Included
 - Budget Justification Workbook? – Included
 - Appendix A: Performance Metrics Checklist? – Not included, reporting workbook attached
2. Eligibility
 - Applicant indicates it is eligible as an electricity storage operator
 1. Applicant has 1,090 MWh of energy storage under management as of 12/31
 - Uses are eligible and include all categories with the exception of hardening of power lines and the replacement of old overhead conductors
3. Cost match
 - Indication of Large or Small Utility cost match applicability – 1,418,712 MWh of electricity sold by applicant per EIA 861
 - Source is cash
4. Federal policy acknowledgements
 - Yes, all acknowledged
 - NEPA form attached

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER NAME: Sunnova

DATE: 4/10/2024

EVALUATOR NAME: Allie Rand

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Governor's Energy Office

5. *Effort includes component for training and recruitment*

II. *Project Summary and Alignment with Program Narrative Objectives*

For each applicable objective as listed in Section G, an indication of how the proposed project meets stated objective, while also at a minimum not undermining the other core program objectives. Applicant should include a description of how success will be tracked through a description of how the applicant will provide reporting on metrics, drawing upon applicable metrics from the example metrics listed in the U.S. DOE Grid Deployment Office's Guidance for Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Grid Resilience Formula Grant Metrics

1. **Objective #1 - Increased Grid Resilience (5 points)**

- *Deployment of 500kW storage alongside 477kW existing solar PV*

2. **Objective #2 – Increased Community Resilience (10 points)**

- *Project focus on improving resilience in marginalized communities*
- *Proposed project would mitigate risk of prolonged outages at community center*

3. **Objective #3 – Workforce and Quality Jobs (5 points)**

- *Not explicitly noted in summary, though in prior section applicant indicates project will include workforce initiatives*

4. **Objective #4 – Grid Modernization and Policy Alignment (5 points)**

- *Project addresses state priorities such as modernization of buildings and reduction of emissions through clean energy innovations toward the goal of 80% renewable electricity generation in Maine's grid*

III. **Grid & Community Benefits (30 points)**

1. *Project plan to provide grid and community benefits.*

- *Metrics, indicated in reporting workbook submitted;*
 1. *SAIDI (full utility territory?)*
 2. *Average hours to restore 100% of customers*
 - a. *2023 value: 96 minutes*
 3. *Average hours to restore 100% of customers – full service territory*
 4. *Average hours to restore 100% of customers at Indian Island*
 - a. *2023 value: 120 minutes*

2. *Describes benefits to grid, customer and community*

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER NAME: Sunnova

DATE: 4/10/2024

EVALUATOR NAME: Allie Rand

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Governor's Energy Office

- *Sunnova manages over 53,000 systems through a platform that allows for central management to mitigate marginal emissions and improve resiliency*
- *Information on building load, local PV generation and battery charge state is provided to Sunnova for planning; Sunnova can provide visibility to Penobscot Nation as well as Versant on community assets and DERs that can participate in restoration of power*

3. *Reduced energy burden?*

- *Not described in detail in this part of application, applicant notes in Section II Tribal communities often bear a disproportionate energy burden and stand to benefit significantly*

4. *How the project will incorporate customer and community participation and feedback?*

- *Applicant notes plan to build on Sunnova's experience serving tribal communities, includes link to Navajo Hard Rock solar + storage project*
- *In budget worksheet, \$15,000 allocated to developing a community engagement program (as cost share)*

5. *Creation of high quality jobs?*

- *References budget allocations and project plan for training of "Penobscot members and preferred partners to work alongside Sunnova to learn to develop future microgrids and service them"*
- *Per budget worksheet, \$43,300 allocated to train and subcontract qualified Penobscot members and preferred partners (as cost share)*

6. *Justice40?*

1. *Not noted explicitly in this section of application*
2. *Federally recognized tribes are considered disadvantaged communities in CEJST mapping tool*

IV. **Technical Merit and Feasibility (30 points)**

1. *Project description addresses questions in Section 4.1 of the application:*

- *Current stage of planning*
 1. *DOE awarded funds to support development of 1.3MW solar project in 2023*

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER NAME: Sunnova

DATE: 4/10/2024

EVALUATOR NAME: Allie Rand

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Governor's Energy Office

2. *Applicant notes community engagement to date*
 3. *Sunnova completed preliminary analysis finding economic savings reduction of \$16,466.*
 4. *With Penobscot Nation's input and participation, Sunnova will engage with engineering team to:
 - a. *Validate distribution load model*
 - b. *Update cost estimate for EPC*
 - c. *Penobscot Nation and Sunnova will then establish implementation plan for Community Microgrid and its phased development by 4/1/26**
 5. *Estimates 18-30 month to complete*
 6. *Vendor quotes attached for BESS (Fortress 500kW), 4 segments of distribution, microgrid controller and systems integration to Sunnova platform, and monitoring system (Wattch Monitoring system)*
- *Total project cost is \$1,424,974 before application of grant and ITC. "Sunnova has modeled the grant to maximize the contribution to Penobscot Nation and will develop a third party financing solution to fund the remainder of the project"*
 - *Financial need is not explicitly addressed, notes that modeled grant contributions do not include investment tax credit at this stage*
 - *Not explicitly noted in this section, though aligns with MWW goals*
 - *Notes that proposed project primarily addresses program objective #1, supports #2 and #3 and aligns with objective 4.*
 - *Efficient funding: see note above on financial need*
 - *Confirms DBA acknowledgements, BABA not noted explicitly here but acknowledgement checked in first section of application.*
- V. **Partnerships and Letters of Support (15 points)**
1. *Penobscot Nation*

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER NAME: Sunnova

DATE: 4/5/2024

EVALUATOR NAME: Robert Snook

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Governor's Energy Office

Instructions: *The purpose of this form is to record proposal review notes written by **individual** evaluators for this Request for Proposals (RFA) process. It is **required** that each individual evaluator make notes for each proposal that he or she reviews. No numerical scoring should take place on these notes, as that is performed only during team consensus evaluation meetings. A separate form is available for team consensus evaluation notes and scoring. Once complete, please submit a copy of this document to your Department's RFP Coordinator or Lead Evaluator for this RFA.*

Individual Evaluator Comments:

Directions: *Follow the sections of your RFA and the corresponding Application Form to develop a bulleted outline for notes.*

I. General Information, Eligibility, Completeness and Cost Match – Compliance Review

1. All components provided:

- Application Form? Yes
- Environmental Questionnaire (NEPA)? Yes
- Budget Justification Workbook? Yes
- Appendix A: Performance Metrics Checklist? Yes

2. Eligibility

- Eligible storage operator

3. Cost match

- Application states Large Utility cost match applicability.
- Applicant seeks \$689,737 with matching \$735,237. 106%.
- Application provides break down by unit elements and work phase.

4. Federal policy acknowledgements Yes

5. Project Performance metrics complete and attached. Yes

II. Project Summary and Alignment with Program Narrative Objectives Are Included

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER NAME: Sunnova

DATE: 4/5/2024

EVALUATOR NAME: Robert Snook

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Governor's Energy Office

For each applicable objective as listed in Section G, an indication of how the proposed project meets stated objective, while also at a minimum not undermining the other core program objectives. Applicant should include a description of how success will be tracked through a description of how the applicant will provide reporting on metrics, drawing upon applicable metrics from the example metrics listed in the [U.S. DOE Grid Deployment Office's Guidance for Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Grid Resilience Formula Grant Metrics](#)

1. Objective #1 - Increased Grid Resilience

- Project During the 2023 winter, Indian Island, Maine experienced more than 5 days of outages which presented safety risk and disrupted the community. Sunnova in partnership with Penobscot Nation will develop a 1,960 kWh battery energy storage system (BESS) microgrid with controls and approximately 500 ft of distribution connecting solar production from a carport PV system that provides renewable energy during off-peak periods and resiliency for Penobscot Health Care and Commerce facilities.

2. Objective #2 – Increased Community Resilience

- Same as above but notes tribal community as DAC per CEJST tool and energy security.

3. Objective #3 – Workforce and Quality Jobs

- Sunnova has integrated into its budget and project plan the training of Penobscot members and preferred partners to work alongside Sunnova to learn to develop future microgrids and service them.

4. Objective #4 – Grid Modernization and Policy Alignment

- Will improve energy security for tribal entities, microgrid development, and renewable energy development which align with policy.

III. Grid & Community Benefits

1. *The extent to which the proposed project provides benefits to the electric grid, customer, and community. Where possible, data should consider current conditions and forecasted load increase from beneficial electrification and increased frequency of storms, and indicate methods and data used. See the Guidance for Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Grid Resilience Formula Grant Metrics for examples of metrics to track benefits associated with the electric grid, customer, and communities.*

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER NAME: Sunnova

DATE: 4/5/2024

EVALUATOR NAME: Robert Snook

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Governor's Energy Office

Application states that Indian Island is subject to long outages and that this project will help tribal healthcare facility during storm outages when it needs this help the most.

2. *The extent to which the proposed project demonstrates reduced energy burden within the community or communities.*

Application suggests that the project would reduce energy burden by reducing the number and length of outages by providing 4 hour battery microgrid with advanced monitoring and control features.

3. *A description of how the project will incorporate customer and community participation and feedback mechanisms, including but not limited to customer and community benefits, and community engagement in identifying critical facilities; description should include description of consultation and engagement with communities to date and identify areas where community input was sought on the project. Refer to "Equity and community benefit metrics".*

Applicant states that its community engagement plan builds on its experience with the Navajo Nation which won an award.

4. *A description of how the project will lead to the creation of high-quality jobs in Maine; metrics of interest include but are not limited to number of new clean energy jobs in the state in the years following the resilience project; number of Maine businesses and contractors engaged in resilience project activities; number of Maine high school and secondary career and technical education (CTEs) engaged in resilience project activities; location of businesses and subcontractors receiving funds from the project. Refer to "Equity and community benefit metrics" in DOE's metrics guidance document for additional information.*

Application states that they will work to develop clean energy workforce with Tribal members.

5. *The extent to which the proposed project contributes to or goes beyond the Justice40 objective of 40% of the benefits of climate and clean energy investments flowing to disadvantaged communities.*

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER NAME: Sunnova

DATE: 4/5/2024

EVALUATOR NAME: Robert Snook

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Governor's Energy Office

Application notes that the project is within a Tribal DAC and wholly on tribal land. "The project also results in an estimated 0% of the PV consumption to be consumed at Indian Island versus exporting to the distribution system which provides Environmental Justice to the Penobscot Nation seeking to strengthen its own independence and sustainability Program."

IV. Technical Merit and Feasibility

1. *A description of the current stage of project planning; Please provide a detailed explanation of your proposed project expenses organized by task using the provided SF-424 Budget Justification Form. Application provides substantial break down of units costs.*
2. *Financial need to the applicant and demonstration of how the funds will aid in the successful completion of the project within one to five years.*

Project does not really explain why DOE funds are needed.

3. *Description of other federal or state funding sources the applicant has or could consider, including whether the project is eligible or may be eligible for cost recovery, if the applicant is a regulated entity. No reference in the document.*
4. *Description of how the project meets the goals of Maine Won't Wait, including achieving 80% of electricity generated by 2030 per the state's Renewable Portfolio Standard, with a goal of 100% by 2040; indication of how project will not increase reliance on non-renewable sources.*

No reference to MWW but it expands use of renewables (PV) and in providing clean energy assistance to DAC community.

5. *A description of how the project will fulfil at a minimum one of the core program objectives, while also at a minimum not undermining the other core program objectives.*

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER NAME: Sunnova

DATE: 4/5/2024

EVALUATOR NAME: Robert Snook

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Governor's Energy Office

Project would improve energy reliability.

6. *Efficient use of program funds, for example through leveraging, matching, securitization.* No reference in the application.

7. *Indication whether the proposed project location(s) is within a floodplain, including how the floodplain is defined.*

Did not see a reference but it is an island.

8. *Demonstrated ability to comply with all applicable federal requirements, including Buy America and Davis-Bacon Act requirements.*
Did not find this in the Application.

V. *Partnerships and Letters of Support*

1. *Indication of quality partnerships.* Penobscot Nation(attached).

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER NAME: Sunnova

DATE: 4/10/24

EVALUATOR NAME: Claire Swingle

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Maine Governor's Energy Office

Individual Evaluator Comments:

I. General Information, Eligibility, Completeness and Cost Match – Compliance Review

1. All components provided:
 - Application Form? Yes
 - Environmental Questionnaire (NEPA)? Yes
 - Budget Justification Workbook? Yes
 - Appendix A: Performance Metrics Checklist? Yes (included reporting workbook)
2. Eligibility
 - Electricity storage operator
3. Cost match
 - 106.6%, \$735,237
 - Checked box for large utility
4. Federal policy acknowledgements
 - Yes, Davis Bacon, BABA
 - NEPA EQ
 - Indicated that there are foreign nationals
5. Project Performance metrics complete and attached

II. Project Summary and Alignment with Program Narrative Objectives

For each applicable objective as listed in Section G, an indication of how the proposed project meets stated objective, while also at a minimum not undermining the other core program objectives. Applicant should include a description of how success will be tracked through a description of how the applicant will provide reporting on metrics, drawing upon applicable metrics from the example metrics listed in the [U.S. DOE Grid Deployment Office's Guidance for Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Grid Resilience Formula Grant Metrics](#)

1. Project Summary

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER NAME: Sunnova

DATE: 4/10/24

EVALUATOR NAME: Claire Swingle

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Maine Governor's Energy Office

- 500kW battery energy storage system, controls, 500ft distribution connecting solar production from carport PV systems to create community microgrid
 - Total cost \$1.4M
2. Objective #1 - Increased Grid Resilience
 - Operate in island mode during emergency operations, using Sunnova Sentient proprietary software
 - Trenched distribution, controls to interconnect multiple meters to carport PV system to weatherize the microgrid
 - Experienced 5 days of outages
 - Potential black start capabilities
 3. Objective #2 – Increased Community Resilience
 - Located on tribal lands served by Versant Power, DAC per CEJST
 - Microgrid will serve Indian Health Center and Commerce Center
 4. Objective #3 – Workforce and Quality Jobs
 - Tribal members will be included in the workforce plan, including Peter Lamb, master electrician and owner of PK Enterprises
 -
 5. Objective #4 – Grid Modernization and Policy Alignment
 - Maximize PV consumption during normal operations, manage load/generation to reduce peak demand
 - System visibility microgrid, could enable VPP

III. Grid & Community Benefits

1. Project plan to provide grid and community benefits. Does the applicant address questions in Section 3.1 of the application?
 - Tribal energy security with microgrid, including two critical community facilities
 - Project plan for training Penobscot members alongside Sunnova
 - Economic savings through demand charge reduction equivalent to \$16,466
 - Has marketing and community engagement position in budget, and cost match for engagement activities
 - Not a lot in narrative about engagement approach
 - \$43,300 to train and subcontract qualified Penobscot Nation people

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER NAME: Sunnova

DATE: 4/10/24

EVALUATOR NAME: Claire Swingle

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Maine Governor's Energy Office

IV. Technical Merit and Feasibility

1. Project description addresses questions in Section 4.1 of the application

- Sunnova has deep project experience
- Sunnova worked with Penobscot Nation on installing the PV
- Sunnova has conducted a preliminary site visit to provide specific construction estimates
- Engineering team will then validate distribution electrical load model and create the project estimate and schedule.
- Expected completion date of 4/1/26, COD October 2026, no supply chain challenges noted
- Budget form adequately disaggregated
- The third party financial product mentioned could benefit from additional clarity
- PPA structures could benefit from additional clarity
- Need for grant monies was not discussed explicitly (i.e. what would happen to the project if grant funds were not received?)
- Do not yet have interconnection agreement

V. Partnerships and Letters of Support

1. Indication of quality partnerships

- Penobscot Nation

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Program

BIDDER NAME: Sunnova

DATE: April 11, 2024

EVALUATOR NAME: Ethan Tremblay

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Governor's Energy Office

Individual Evaluator Comments:

I. General Information, Eligibility, Completeness and Cost Match – Compliance Review

1. All components provided:

- *Application Form? Provided*
- *Environmental Questionnaire (NEPA)? Provided, appears complete*
- *Budget Justification Workbook? Provided*
- *Appendix A: Performance Metrics Checklist? Provided*

2. Eligibility

- *Applicant is an energy storage operator*

3. Cost match

- *Applicant indicates Large Utility category*
- *Cost match provided – 106.6%*

4. Federal policy acknowledgements

- *Provided*

5. Project Performance metrics complete and attached

- *Provided*

II. Project Summary and Alignment with Program Narrative Objectives

For each applicable objective as listed in Section G, an indication of how the proposed project meets stated objective, while also at a minimum not undermining the other core program objectives. Applicant should include a description of how success will be tracked through a description of how the applicant will provide reporting on metrics, drawing upon applicable metrics from the example metrics listed in the U.S. DOE Grid Deployment Office's Guidance for Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Grid Resilience Formula Grant Metrics

1. Objective #1 - Increased Grid Resilience

- *Sunnova in partnership with Penobscot Nation will develop a 1,960 kWh battery energy storage system (BESS), controls and approximately 500 ft of distribution connecting solar production from a carport PV system that provides renewable energy during off-peak periods and resiliency for Penobscot Health Care and Commerce facilities.*

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Program

BIDDER NAME: Sunnova

DATE: April 11, 2024

EVALUATOR NAME: Ethan Tremblay

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Governor's Energy Office

2. *Objective #2 – Increased Community Resilience*
 - During the 2023 winter, Indian Island, Maine experienced more than 5 days of outages which presented safety risk and disrupted the community.
 3. *Objective #3 – Workforce and Quality Jobs*
 - Includes training of Penobscot members and preferred partners
 4. *Objective #4 – Grid Modernization and Policy Alignment*
 - The Community Microgrid will maximize consumption of PV generation to reduce the community's carbon footprint
- III. *Grid & Community Benefits*
1. *Project plan to provide grid and community benefits. Does the applicant address questions in Section 3.1 of the application? Yes*
- IV. *Technical Merit and Feasibility*
1. *Project description addresses questions in Section 4.1 of the application. Yes*
 2. *Budget Justification Form Included. Yes*
- V. *Partnerships and Letters of Support*
1. *Indication of quality partnerships*
 - Letters of support
 1. Penobscot Nation Housing Department

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239
RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program
BIDDER NAME: Van Buren Light and Power District
DATE: April 5, 2024
EVALUATOR NAME: Nat Haslett
EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: EMT

Instructions: *The purpose of this form is to record proposal review notes written by individual evaluators for this Request for Proposals (RFA) process. It is required that each individual evaluator make notes for each proposal that he or she reviews. No numerical scoring should take place on these notes, as that is performed only during team consensus evaluation meetings. A separate form is available for team consensus evaluation notes and scoring. Once complete, please submit a copy of this document to your Department's RFP Coordinator or Lead Evaluator for this RFA.*

Individual Evaluator Comments:

- I. General Information, Eligibility, Completeness and Cost Match
 - 1. All components provided: Yes, all required components provided
 - 2. Eligibility – Yes, small utility
 - 3. N: Cost match – Proposed cost match does not meet requirement
 - 4. Federal policy acknowledgements – Yes, Enviro assessment included
 - 5. Project Performance metrics complete and attached – Not provided, applicant states intent is to populate after receiving award
 - Note: indicates application is also submitted under 40101(c) GRIP competitive application

II. *Project Summary and Alignment with Program Narrative Objectives*

For each applicable objective as listed in Section G, an indication of how the proposed project meets stated objective, while also at a minimum not undermining the other core program objectives. Applicant should include a description of how success will be tracked through a description of how the applicant will provide reporting on metrics, drawing upon applicable metrics from the example metrics listed in the U.S. DOE Grid Deployment Office's Guidance for Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Grid Resilience Formula Grant Metrics

- 1. *Objective #1 - Increased Grid Resilience*
 - VBLP will make upgrades to its distribution system, replacing and upgrading poles, wires, substations/switch stations and related equipment, intended to provide more resilient electric grid throughout “most” of its service area
 - Plan proposes 350 new poles and approximately 150,000 feet of wire
- 2. *Objective #2 – Increased Community Resilience*
 - Application cites DOE disadvantaged communities report to id DACs; affected communities also CEJST DACs
 - General reference to asset condition issues affecting “critical zones” e.g., pumping stations

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER NAME: Van Buren Light and Power District

DATE: April 5, 2024

EVALUATOR NAME: Nat Haslett

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: EMT

2. *Objective #3 – Workforce and Quality Jobs*

- Program budget includes funding for workforce training
- Narrative describes focus on training for line worker apprenticeship, employee retention effort

3. *Objective #4 – Grid Modernization and Policy Alignment*

- Project would support resilience to climate-related impacts, including hardening against storm impacts
- “Modernization” of the grid from the perspective of upgrading antiquated physical plant, budget also includes equipment for new SCADA functionality

III. *Grid & Community Benefits*

1. *Project plan to provide grid and community benefits. Does the applicant address questions in Section 3.1 of the application?*

a. The extent to which the proposed project provides benefits to the electric grid, customer, and community. Where possible, data should consider current conditions and forecasted load increase from beneficial electrification and increased frequency of storms as a result of climate change, and indicate methods and data used. See the Guidance for Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Grid Resilience Formula Grant Metrics for examples of metrics to track benefits associated with the electric grid, customer, and communities;

- Plan is installation of 350 new poles and approximately 150,000 feet of wire. Listed activities include:
 - Utility pole management
 - The relocation of power lines or the reconductoring of power lines with low-sag, advanced conductors
 - Vegetation and fuel-load management
 - The replacement of old overhead conductors and underground cables

- Aged existing plant, including substation “well past life expectancy” per applicant

- N: Applicant does not provide information on current outage rates

b. The extent to which the proposed project demonstrates reduced energy burden within the community or communities;

- Grant would offset cost burden otherwise to be borne in rates

c. A description of how the project will incorporate customer and community participation and feedback mechanisms, including but not limited to customer and community benefits, and community engagement in identifying critical facilities; description should include description of consultation and engagement with communities to date and identify areas where community input was sought on the project. Refer to “Equity and community benefit metrics” in DOE’s metrics guidance document.

- P: Various letters of support demonstrate substantive engagement

- P: Describe alignment with community priorities

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER NAME: Van Buren Light and Power District

DATE: April 5, 2024

EVALUATOR NAME: Nat Haslett

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: EMT

d. A description of how the project will lead to the creation of high-quality jobs in Maine; metrics of interest include but are not limited to number of new clean energy jobs in the state in the years following the resilience project; number of Maine businesses and contractors engaged in resilience project activities; number of Maine high school and secondary career and technical education (CTEs) engaged in resilience project activities; location of businesses and subcontractors receiving funds from the project. Refer to "Equity and community benefit metrics" in DOE's metrics guidance document for additional information.

- Applicant describes plan to support training of apprentices, budget includes funding for their training, describes upcoming retirements that could impact workforce, need in the face of competition with other employers

e. Throughout the qualitative and quantitative components of the project proposals, the extent to which the proposed project contributes to or goes beyond the Justice40 objective of 40% of the benefits of climate and clean energy investments flowing to disadvantaged communities.

- Project would serve CEJST DACs (Van Buren, Keegan, portions of Hamlin)

IV. Technical Merit and Feasibility

1. A description of the current stage of project planning; Please provide a detailed explanation of your proposed project expenses organized by task using the provided SF-424 Budget Justification Form (see #6 below).

- 2030 timeline provided in NEPA questionnaire, otherwise applicant describes 2024-2025 timeline

2. Financial need to the applicant and demonstration of how the funds will aid in the successful completion of the project within one to five years;

- Costs would otherwise need to be recovered from rates

3. Description of other federal or state funding sources the applicant has or could consider, including whether the project is eligible or may be eligible for cost recovery, if the applicant is a regulated entity

- Q: Notes applicant DID apply to FOA 2740 GRIP funding. No discussion of differences with competitive funding application described- issue to assess further in any negotiations if moves forward

Description of how the project meets the goals of Maine Won't Wait, including achieving 80% of electricity generated by 2030 per the state's Renewable Portfolio Standard, with a goal of 100% by 2040; indication of how project will not increase reliance on non-renewable sources;

- Aligned with workforce development goals and improved grid, community resilience

5. A description of how the project will fulfil at a minimum one of the core program objectives, while also at a minimum not undermining the other core program objectives;

- Primarily addresses Objective 1 with poles and wires upgrades

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER NAME: Van Buren Light and Power District

DATE: April 5, 2024

EVALUATOR NAME: Nat Haslett

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: EMT

- 6. Efficient use of program funds, for example through leveraging, matching, securitization;*
 - Unclear from budget form what may be included in proposed match?
Indication whether the proposed project location(s) is within a floodplain, including how the floodplain is defined;
 - No impact based on questionnaire
- 8. Demonstrated ability to comply with all applicable federal requirements, including Buy America and Davis-Bacon Act requirements*
 - Applicant states will comply with both
Budget Justification Form Included- Yes, included but incomplete

V. Partnerships and Letters of Support

1. Indication of quality partnerships: Strong indication of community partnership, letters from Sen. Jackson, Town of VB, VB Water District, Grand Prix, LaJoie, Marquis Farms, Sauciers

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER NAME: Van Buren Power and Light

DATE: 4/12/2024

EVALUATOR NAME: Allie Rand

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Governor's Energy Office

Instructions: *The purpose of this form is to record proposal review notes written by **individual** evaluators for this Request for Proposals (RFA) process. It is **required** that each individual evaluator make notes for each proposal that he or she reviews. No numerical scoring should take place on these notes, as that is performed only during team consensus evaluation meetings. A separate form is available for team consensus evaluation notes and scoring. Once complete, please submit a copy of this document to your Department's RFP Coordinator or Lead Evaluator for this RFA.*

Individual Evaluator Comments:

I. General Information, Eligibility, Completeness and Cost Match – Compliance Review

- 1. All components provided:
 - *Application Form? - Included*
 - *Environmental Questionnaire (NEPA)? Included*
 - *Budget Justification Workbook? – Included*
 - *Appendix A: Performance Metrics Checklist? – not included**
- 2. Eligibility
 - *Applicant indicates it is eligible as a distribution provider*
 - *Uses are eligible**
- 3. Applicant marked “yes” for submitting an application under GRIP but did not explain further*
- 4. Cost match
 - *Indication of Large or Small Utility cost match applicability – indicates small utility match applicability*
 - *Source is “In kind contributions would be used for the labor cost required for 5 years to complete the project”**
- 5. Federal policy acknowledgements
 - *Yes, all acknowledged*
 - *NEPA form attached**
- 6. Effort includes component for training and recruitment*

II. Project Summary and Alignment with Program Narrative Objectives

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER NAME: Van Buren Power and Light

DATE: 4/12/2024

EVALUATOR NAME: Allie Rand

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Governor's Energy Office

For each applicable objective as listed in Section G, an indication of how the proposed project meets stated objective, while also at a minimum not undermining the other core program objectives. Applicant should include a description of how success will be tracked through a description of how the applicant will provide reporting on metrics, drawing upon applicable metrics from the example metrics listed in the U.S. DOE Grid Deployment Office's Guidance for Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Grid Resilience Formula Grant Metrics

1. Objective #1 - Increased Grid Resilience (5 points) 4

- Replacement of poles and wires would improve resilience of the grid to severe weather
- Existing infrastructure is aging, "marked by antiquated reclosers and copper wiring, [posing] persistent challenges, particularly in critical zones like pumping stations"
- Does not reference historical outage data

2. Objective #2 – Increased Community Resilience (10 points) 7

- Applicant notes that the communities served by VBPL – Van Buren, Keegan, and Hamlin, struggle with economic opportunities
- Funds that keep rates low may help attract new investment and further economic development to the area

3. Objective #3 – Workforce and Quality Jobs (5 points) 5

- All work in comprehensive plan to install new poles and wires would "be used as training for line worker apprentices"

4. Objective #4 – Grid Modernization and Policy Alignment (5 points) 3

- Project work would allow VBPL to employ SCADA to monitor and respond to events
- Notes funds would support VBPL's ability to proactively invest in modernized technologies to meet demands of electrification

III. Grid & Community Benefits (30 points) 27

1. Project plan to provide grid and community benefits. Does the applicant address questions in Section 3.1 of the application?

• Metrics :

1. Applicant notes that they will work to comply with DOE's metrics guidebook, "we will compile the proper metrics decided upon in the next phase to maximize how we compile the data requested"

2. Describes benefits to grid, customer and community

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER NAME: Van Buren Power and Light

DATE: 4/12/2024

EVALUATOR NAME: Allie Rand

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Governor's Energy Office

- *Notes need for improvements to fencing, switching mechanisms and potentially the integration of SCADA at physical plant and substation – fencing may not be eligible , generator is not eligible*
- *Additional need for backup power “for our workshop” during outages*

3. *Reduced energy burden?*

- *Applicant highlights ratepayer benefit of funds to lower energy burden*

4. *How the project will incorporate customer and community participation and feedback ?*

- *Applicant notes they will prioritize critical infrastructure upgrades and align with community needs*

5. *Creation of high quality jobs?*

- *VBPL currently has 3 Line Worker apprentices, all training to be 1st class line workers – four year apprenticeship is required to become a first-call line worker*
- *Applicant notes competition against larger utility companies in the state with more resources to attract a well-trained workforce*
- *Funds from this grant could support “one or two part time or full time employees dedicated to training”*

6. *Justice40?*

- *Applicant notes Van Buren status as disadvantaged*

IV. Technical Merit and Feasibility (30 points) 25

1. *Project description addresses questions in Section 4.1 of the application:*

- *Current stage of planning*
 1. *Clearly indicates need for work, however does not lay out plan or timeline for planning*
 2. *Budget includes breakdown of total street cost, standby generator, Scada, regulators upgrade, reclosure upgrade and training - \$30,000 of the request for training*

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER NAME: Van Buren Power and Light

DATE: 4/12/2024

EVALUATOR NAME: Allie Rand

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Governor's Energy Office

3. *Notes the procurement landscape for essential supplies as a challenge, does not clearly address how funds would address this challenge*

- *Total request is \$674,750*
- *Financial need is noted by applicant, highlighting "This investment ensures that in five years, when current senior team members are ready to retire, we'll have adequately trained staff to sustain operations seamlessly. However, without projects like these to justify additional hiring, expanding the team may not be feasible"*
- *MWW specific goals and strategies:*
 1. *Workforce and quality jobs*
 2. *Community resilience*
- *Notes that proposed project primarily addresses program objective #1, supports #2 and #3 and aligns with objective 4.*
- *Efficient funding not explicitly addressed, cost match is in compliance without ineligible use costs*
- *Confirms DBA acknowledgements, BABA not noted explicitly here but acknowledgement checked in first section of application.*

V. **Partnerships and Letters of Support (15 points)**

1. *Troy Jackson, President of the Senate*
2. *Van Buren Town Manager*
3. *Van Buren Wastewater Dept*
4. *Chairman of Van Buren Water District*
5. *President – Grand Prix Inc*
6. *LaJoie Growers LLC*
7. *Marquis Farms*
8. *Saucier's Groceries*

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER NAME: VBPL

DATE: 4/5/2024

EVALUATOR NAME: Robert Snook

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Governor's Energy Office

Instructions: *The purpose of this form is to record proposal review notes written by **individual** evaluators for this Request for Proposals (RFA) process. It is **required** that each individual evaluator make notes for each proposal that he or she reviews. No numerical scoring should take place on these notes, as that is performed only during team consensus evaluation meetings. A separate form is available for team consensus evaluation notes and scoring. Once complete, please submit a copy of this document to your Department's RFP Coordinator or Lead Evaluator for this RFA.*

Individual Evaluator Comments:

Directions: *Follow the sections of your RFA and the corresponding Application Form to develop a bulleted outline for notes.*

I. General Information, Eligibility, Completeness and Cost Match – Compliance Review

1. All components provided:

- Application Form? Yes
- Environmental Questionnaire (NEPA)? Y
- Budget Justification Workbook? Y
- Appendix A: Performance Metrics Checklist? ?

2. Eligibility

- Eligible distribution provider

3. Cost match

- Application states Small Utility cost match applicability.
- Applicant seeks \$674,750 with matching \$215,000. 31.86%
- Application has a good and reasonable budget but the matching \$ seems too low.

4. Federal policy acknowledgements Yes

5. Project Performance metrics complete and attached. Says they will compile later.

II. Project Summary and Alignment with Program Narrative Objectives

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER NAME: VBPL

DATE: 4/5/2024

EVALUATOR NAME: Robert Snook

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Governor's Energy Office

Are Included

For each applicable objective as listed in Section G, an indication of how the proposed project meets stated objective, while also at a minimum not undermining the other core program objectives. Applicant should include a description of how success will be tracked through a description of how the applicant will provide reporting on metrics, drawing upon applicable metrics from the example metrics listed in the [U.S. DOE Grid Deployment Office's Guidance for Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Grid Resilience Formula Grant Metrics](#)

1. Objective #1 - Increased Grid Resilience

- Project will upgrade distribution system, replacing and upgrading poles, wires, substations/switch stations.
- The project entails the installation of 350 new poles and approximately 150,000 feet of wire. The existing infrastructure has antiquated reclosers and copper wiring. Plan to use LB cutouts for reliability and operational efficiency. The goal of these infrastructure upgrades is to bolster resilience against adverse weather.
- Grant dollars could also allow VBPL to employ supervisory control and data acquisition ("SCADA") systems.

2. Objective #2 – Increased Community Resilience

- Same as above but apparently these are DACs

3. Objective #3 – Workforce and Quality Jobs

- Applicant has three Line Worker apprentices. They are all in training to be 1st Class Line Workers. A four-year apprenticeship is required to become a First-Class Line Worker. The market for line workers is extremely competitive in the State of Maine and VBPL must try to compete in making job offerings against larger, investor-owned utilities such as Versant Power or Central Maine Power Company, which have much more resources available to them to attract a talented and well-trained work force. Grant monies under the program will help ensure that VBPL can retain its workers participating under the apprenticeship program.
- Training a lineman typically requires a four-year commitment. Grant funding could support the addition of one or two part-time or full-time employees dedicated to training. This investment ensures that in five years, when current staff retire, VBPL will have trained staff to sustain operations.

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER NAME: VBPL

DATE: 4/5/2024

EVALUATOR NAME: Robert Snook

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Governor's Energy Office

4. *Objective #4 – Grid Modernization and Policy Alignment*

- Will improve circuit reliability which aligns with policy and there is a reference to advanced conductors (page 9)

III. *Grid & Community Benefits*

1. *The extent to which the proposed project provides benefits to the electric grid, customer, and community. Where possible, data should consider current conditions and forecasted load increase from beneficial electrification and increased frequency of storms, and indicate methods and data used. See the Guidance for Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Grid Resilience Formula Grant Metrics for examples of metrics to track benefits associated with the electric grid, customer, and communities.*

Application states that this area is economically vulnerable and apparently does not have SCADA. The grid described is 70 years old and may lack LB cutouts. New conductors, SCADA and LB cutouts will improve safety and reliability.

2. *The extent to which the proposed project demonstrates reduced energy burden within the community or communities.*

Application states that the project would reduce energy burden by reducing costs to consumers and suggests that project would reduce energy burden by reducing outages by upgrading equipment.

3. *A description of how the project will incorporate customer and community participation and feedback mechanisms, including but not limited to customer and community benefits, and community engagement in identifying critical facilities; description should include description of consultation and engagement with communities to date and identify areas where community input was sought on the project. Refer to "Equity and community benefit metrics".*

I didn't see a reference except applicant states that they will conduct the project in a manner to meet community needs.

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER NAME: VBPL

DATE: 4/5/2024

EVALUATOR NAME: Robert Snook

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Governor's Energy Office

4. *A description of how the project will lead to the creation of high-quality jobs in Maine; metrics of interest include but are not limited to number of new clean energy jobs in the state in the years following the resilience project; number of Maine businesses and contractors engaged in resilience project activities; number of Maine high school and secondary career and technical education (CTEs) engaged in resilience project activities; location of businesses and subcontractors receiving funds from the project. Refer to "Equity and community benefit metrics" in DOE's metrics guidance document for additional information.*
 - Applicant has three Line Worker apprentices. They are all in training to be 1st Class Line Workers. A four-year apprenticeship is required to become a First-Class Line Worker. The market for line workers is extremely competitive in the State of Maine and VBPL must try to compete in making job offerings against larger, investor-owned utilities such as Versant Power or Central Maine Power Company, which have much more resources available to them to attract a talented and well-trained work force. Grant monies under the program will help ensure that VBPL can retain its workers participating under the apprenticeship program.
 - Training a lineman typically requires a four-year commitment. Grant funding could support the addition of one or two part-time or full-time employees dedicated to training. This investment ensures that in five years, when current staff retire, VBPL will have trained staff to sustain operations.

5. *The extent to which the proposed project contributes to or goes beyond the Justice40 objective of 40% of the benefits of climate and clean energy investments flowing to disadvantaged communities.*

The communities are DACs.

IV. Technical Merit and Feasibility

1. *A description of the current stage of project planning; Please provide a detailed explanation of your proposed project expenses organized by task using the provided SF-424 Budget Justification Form.*

Includes a reasonable budget broken down by items.

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER NAME: VBPL

DATE: 4/5/2024

EVALUATOR NAME: Robert Snook

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Governor's Energy Office

2. *Financial need to the applicant and demonstration of how the funds will aid in the successful completion of the project within one to five years.*

Project only states that DOE funding would materially reduce costs and that they are a small community utility without extensive budget.

3. *Description of other federal or state funding sources the applicant has or could consider, including whether the project is eligible or may be eligible for cost recovery, if the applicant is a regulated entity. No other funding except DOE and VBPL.*

4. *Description of how the project meets the goals of Maine Won't Wait, including achieving 80% of electricity generated by 2030 per the state's Renewable Portfolio Standard, with a goal of 100% by 2040; indication of how project will not increase reliance on non-renewable sources.*

This application has a good reference to workforce development.

5. *A description of how the project will fulfil at a minimum one of the core program objectives, while also at a minimum not undermining the other core program objectives.*

Project would improve grid reliability and resiliency.

6. *Efficient use of program funds, for example through leveraging, matching, securitization. Project will make use of DOE and VBPL's funding.*

7. *Indication whether the proposed project location(s) is within a floodplain, including how the floodplain is defined.*

No reference.

8. *Demonstrated ability to comply with all applicable federal requirements, including Buy America and Davis-Bacon Act requirements.*

Application states that it will be compliant with referenced federal laws.

V. Partnerships and Letters of Support

1. *Indication of quality partnerships. Yes.*

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER NAME: Van Buren Light and Power District

DATE: 4/10/24

EVALUATOR NAME: Claire Swingle

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Maine Governor's Energy Office

Individual Evaluator Comments:

I. General Information, Eligibility, Completeness and Cost Match – Compliance Review

1. All components provided:
 - Application Form? Yes
 - Environmental Questionnaire (NEPA)? Yes
 - Budget Justification Workbook? Yes
 - Appendix A: Performance Metrics Checklist? Yes
2. Eligibility
 - Electric Grid Operator
3. Cost match
 - Small Utility
 - \$215,000 (31.86% is below the minimum), in kind contributions for labor cost over 5 years
4. Federal policy acknowledgements
 - Yes, Davis Bacon, BABA
 - NEPA EQ
5. Project Performance metrics complete and attached
 - Not attached

II. Project Summary and Alignment with Program Narrative Objectives

For each applicable objective as listed in Section G, an indication of how the proposed project meets stated objective, while also at a minimum not undermining the other core program objectives. Applicant should include a description of how success will be tracked through a description of how the applicant will provide reporting on metrics, drawing upon applicable metrics from the example metrics listed in the [U.S. DOE Grid Deployment Office's Guidance for Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Grid Resilience Formula Grant Metrics](#)

1. Project Summary
 - Replacing/upgrading poles (350), wires (150000ft), substations/switch stations; vegetation management

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER NAME: Van Buren Light and Power District

DATE: 4/10/24

EVALUATOR NAME: Claire Swingle

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Maine Governor's Energy Office

2. Objective #1 - Increased Grid Resilience
 - Does not identify how many outages there are currently
 - Upgrades would have significant impact on reliability, upgrading outdated infrastructure
 3. Objective #2 – Increased Community Resilience
 - VBLP's service territory is labeled as disadvantaged in the "DOE Disadvantaged Communities Report"
 4. Objective #3 – Workforce and Quality Jobs
 - All work would be used as training for line worker apprentices
 - Grant funding to ensure that VBLP can retain its workers participating under the apprenticeship program
 - "grant funding could support the addition of one or two part-time or full-time employees dedicated to training." Funding is included in the budget for training.
 - Applicant notes upcoming retirement
 5. Objective #4 – Grid Modernization and Policy Alignment
 - Will modernize grid and improve reliability and resilience, better enabling it to meet the demands of electrification
 - SCADA to monitor grid conditions
- III. Grid & Community Benefits
1. Project plan to provide grid and community benefits. Does the applicant address questions in Section 3.1 of the application?
 - Significant grid needs, including antiquated reclosers and sagging copper wiring in critical zones like pumping stations, as well as exposure to recent storms
 - Substation equipment is all original, well past life expectancy
 - Transitioning to LB cutouts; bolster against adverse weather conditions
 - Staffing challenges and supply chain challenges
 - Avoid rate increases to small customer base
 - Metrics not yet specified
 - Historical outages
 - Workforce development
 - Prioritize critical infrastructure upgrades and align with community needs

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

BIDDER NAME: Van Buren Light and Power District

DATE: 4/10/24

EVALUATOR NAME: Claire Swingle

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Maine Governor's Energy Office

IV. Technical Merit and Feasibility

1. Project description addresses questions in Section 4.1 of the application

- Comprehensive plan identified need for 350 poles and approximately 150,000 feet of wire
- Timeline is not specified, though the cost match mentions in kind labor contributions over 5 years and work is stated to occur from 2024-2025.
- Whether the transformer sizes are right-sized for future growth, or other considerations like that, are not known.
- Identify several upgrades that are ineligible, including generators.
- Potential issue with meeting cost match

V. Partnerships and Letters of Support

1. Indication of quality partnerships

- State Senator
- Van Buren Town Manager
- Van Buren Water District
- Van Buren Wastewater Department
- Grand Prix
- La Joie Growers
- Marquis Farms
- Saucier's Groceries

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Program

BIDDER NAME: Van Buren Power and Light

DATE: April 11, 2024

EVALUATOR NAME: Ethan Tremblay

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Governor's Energy Office

Individual Evaluator Comments:

I. General Information, Eligibility, Completeness and Cost Match – Compliance Review

1. All components provided:

- *Application Form? Provided*
- *Environmental Questionnaire (NEPA)? Provided*
- *Budget Justification Workbook? Provided*
- *Appendix A: Performance Metrics Checklist? Provided, may be incomplete*

2. Eligibility

- *Eligible entity as a distribution provider*
- *VBLP is a Quasi-municipal consumer-owned Electrical Distribution Utility operating under the laws of the State of Maine and chartered under private and special laws.*
- *VBLP is treated similar to Nonprofit/Charitable entities entitled to 501 c 3 status under IRS regulations.*

3. Cost match

- *Indication of Large or Small Utility cost match applicability – provided. Small utility category*
- *Proposed cost match is 31.86%.*
- *When adjusted for eligible expenditures appears sufficient*

4. Federal policy acknowledgements

- *All provided*

5. Project Performance metrics complete and attached

- *Appears incomplete but indicates multiple metrics will be collected*

II. Project Summary and Alignment with Program Narrative Objectives

For each applicable objective as listed in Section G, an indication of how the proposed project meets stated objective, while also at a minimum not undermining the other core program objectives. Applicant should include a description of how success will be tracked through a description of how the applicant will provide reporting on metrics, drawing upon applicable metrics from the example metrics listed in the U.S. DOE Grid Deployment Office's Guidance for Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Grid Resilience Formula Grant Metrics

**STATE OF MAINE
INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION NOTES**

RFP #: 202312239

RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Program

BIDDER NAME: Van Buren Power and Light

DATE: April 11, 2024

EVALUATOR NAME: Ethan Tremblay

EVALUATOR DEPARTMENT: Governor's Energy Office

1. Objective #1 - Increased Grid Resilience

- Proposes to improve resilience through distribution upgrades including replacement and upgrading of 350 aging and vulnerable poles, 150,000 feet of wire, and LB cutouts

2. Objective #2 – Increased Community Resilience

- Discusses and indicates support from employers in service area, highlighting role of resilient utility service in economic wellbeing
- Serves CEJST-defined disadvantaged community area

3. Objective #3 – Workforce and Quality Jobs

- Proposed scope of work includes training line worker apprentices
- Discusses workforce transition needs and training role

4. Objective #4 – Grid Modernization and Policy Alignment

- Deployment of SCADA capabilities, notes anticipated load growth due to electrification

III. Grid & Community Benefits

- 1. Project plan to provide grid and community benefits. Does the applicant address questions in Section 3.1 of the application? Yes*

IV. Technical Merit and Feasibility

- 1. Project description addresses questions in Section 4.1 of the application. Yes*

- 2. Budget Justification Form Included. Yes*

V. Partnerships and Letters of Support

- 1. Indication of quality partnerships*

- Letters of support:
 1. Maine Senate President Troy Jackson
 2. Town of Van Buren
 3. Vanm Buren Wastewater Department
 4. Van Buren Water District
 5. Grand Prix Inc.
 6. LaJoie Growers LLC
 7. Marquis Farms
 8. Saucier's Groceries



STATE OF MAINE
GOVERNOR'S ENERGY OFFICE

Janet T. Mills
Governor

Dan Burgess
Director

AGREEMENT AND DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
RFP #: 202312239
RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

I, Nathaniel Haslett accept the offer to become a member of the Request for Proposals (RFP) Evaluation Team for the State of Maine Governor's Energy Office. I do hereby accept the terms set forth in this agreement AND hereby disclose any affiliation or relationship I may have in connection with a bidder who has submitted a proposal to this RFA.

Neither I nor any member of my immediate family have a personal or financial interest, direct or indirect, in the bidders whose proposals I will be reviewing. "Interest" may include, but is not limited to: current or former ownership in the bidder's company; current or former Board membership; current or former employment with the bidder; current or former personal contractual relationship with the bidder (example: paid consultant); and/or current or former relationship to a bidder's official which could reasonably be construed to constitute a conflict of interest (personal relationships may be perceived by the public as a potential conflict of interest).

I have not advised, consulted with or assisted any bidder in the preparation of any proposal submitted in response to this RFA nor have I submitted a letter of support or similar endorsement.

I understand and agree that the evaluation process is to be conducted in an impartial manner without bias or prejudice. In this regard, I hereby certify that, to the best of my knowledge, there are no circumstances that would reasonably support a good faith charge of bias. I further understand that in the event a good faith charge of bias is made, it will rest with me to decide whether I should be disqualified from participation in the evaluation process.

I agree to hold confidential all information related to the contents of Requests for Proposals presented during the review process until such time as the Department formally releases the award decision notices for public distribution.

Handwritten signature of Nathaniel Haslett in black ink.

Signature

4/1/2024

Date



**STATE OF MAINE
GOVERNOR'S ENERGY OFFICE**

**Janet T. Mills
Governor**

**Dan Burgess
Director**

**AGREEMENT AND DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
RFP #: 202312239
RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program**

I, Allison Rand, accept the offer to become a member of the Request for Proposals (RFP) Evaluation Team for the State of Maine Governor's Energy Office. I do hereby accept the terms set forth in this agreement AND hereby disclose any affiliation or relationship I may have in connection with a bidder who has submitted a proposal to this RFA.

Neither I nor any member of my immediate family have a personal or financial interest, direct or indirect, in the bidders whose proposals I will be reviewing. "Interest" may include, but is not limited to: current or former ownership in the bidder's company; current or former Board membership; current or former employment with the bidder; current or former personal contractual relationship with the bidder (example: paid consultant); and/or current or former relationship to a bidder's official which could reasonably be construed to constitute a conflict of interest (personal relationships may be perceived by the public as a potential conflict of interest).

I have not advised, consulted with or assisted any bidder in the preparation of any proposal submitted in response to this RFA nor have I submitted a letter of support or similar endorsement.

I understand and agree that the evaluation process is to be conducted in an impartial manner without bias or prejudice. In this regard, I hereby certify that, to the best of my knowledge, there are no circumstances that would reasonably support a good faith charge of bias. I further understand that in the event a good faith charge of bias is made, it will rest with me to decide whether I should be disqualified from participation in the evaluation process.

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Allison Rand

4/2/24

Signature

Date



STATE OF MAINE
GOVERNOR'S ENERGY OFFICE

Janet T. Mills
Governor

Dan Burgess
Director

AGREEMENT AND DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
RFP #: 202312239
RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

I, Robert Snook accept the offer to become a member of the Request for Proposals (RFP) Evaluation Team for the State of Maine Governor's Energy Office. I do hereby accept the terms set forth in this agreement AND hereby disclose any affiliation or relationship I may have in connection with a bidder who has submitted a proposal to this RFA.

Neither I nor any member of my immediate family have a personal or financial interest, direct or indirect, in the bidders whose proposals I will be reviewing. "Interest" may include, but is not limited to: current or former ownership in the bidder's company; current or former Board membership; current or former employment with the bidder; current or former personal contractual relationship with the bidder (example: paid consultant); and/or current or former relationship to a bidder's official which could reasonably be construed to constitute a conflict of interest (personal relationships may be perceived by the public as a potential conflict of interest).

I have not advised, consulted with or assisted any bidder in the preparation of any proposal submitted in response to this RFA nor have I submitted a letter of support or similar endorsement.

I understand and agree that the evaluation process is to be conducted in an impartial manner without bias or prejudice. In this regard, I hereby certify that, to the best of my knowledge, there are no circumstances that would reasonably support a good faith charge of bias. I further understand that in the event a good faith charge of bias is made, it will rest with me to decide whether I should be disqualified from participation in the evaluation process.

I agree to hold confidential all information related to the contents of Requests for Proposals presented during the review process until such time as the Department formally releases the award decision notices for public distribution.

/s/ Robert Snook
Signature

April 1, 2024
Date



STATE OF MAINE
GOVERNOR'S ENERGY OFFICE

Janet T. Mills
Governor

Dan Burgess
Director

AGREEMENT AND DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
RFP #: 202312239
RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program

I, _____ Claire Swingle _____ accept the offer to become a member of the Request for Proposals (RFP) Evaluation Team for the State of Maine Governor's Energy Office. I do hereby accept the terms set forth in this agreement AND hereby disclose any affiliation or relationship I may have in connection with a bidder who has submitted a proposal to this RFA.

Neither I nor any member of my immediate family have a personal or financial interest, direct or indirect, in the bidders whose proposals I will be reviewing. "Interest" may include, but is not limited to: current or former ownership in the bidder's company; current or former Board membership; current or former employment with the bidder; current or former personal contractual relationship with the bidder (example: paid consultant); and/or current or former relationship to a bidder's official which could reasonably be construed to constitute a conflict of interest (personal relationships may be perceived by the public as a potential conflict of interest).

I have not advised, consulted with or assisted any bidder in the preparation of any proposal submitted in response to this RFA nor have I submitted a letter of support or similar endorsement.

I understand and agree that the evaluation process is to be conducted in an impartial manner without bias or prejudice. In this regard, I hereby certify that, to the best of my knowledge, there are no circumstances that would reasonably support a good faith charge of bias. I further understand that in the event a good faith charge of bias is made, it will rest with me to decide whether I should be disqualified from participation in the evaluation process.

I agree to hold confidential all information related to the contents of Requests for Proposals presented during the review process until such time as the Department formally releases the award decision notices for public distribution.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Claire Swingle', written over a horizontal line.

Signature

4/2/24

Date



**STATE OF MAINE
GOVERNOR'S ENERGY OFFICE**

Janet T. Mills
Governor

Dan Burgess
Director

**AGREEMENT AND DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
RFP #: 202312239
RFP TITLE: Maine Grid Resilience Grant Program**

I, Ethan Tremblay accept the offer to become a member of the Request for Proposals (RFP) Evaluation Team for the State of Maine Governor's Energy Office. I do hereby accept the terms set forth in this agreement AND hereby disclose any affiliation or relationship I may have in connection with a bidder who has submitted a proposal to this RFA.

Neither I nor any member of my immediate family have a personal or financial interest, direct or indirect, in the bidders whose proposals I will be reviewing. "Interest" may include, but is not limited to: current or former ownership in the bidder's company; current or former Board membership; current or former employment with the bidder; current or former personal contractual relationship with the bidder (example: paid consultant); and/or current or former relationship to a bidder's official which could reasonably be construed to constitute a conflict of interest (personal relationships may be perceived by the public as a potential conflict of interest).

I have not advised, consulted with or assisted any bidder in the preparation of any proposal submitted in response to this RFA nor have I submitted a letter of support or similar endorsement.

I understand and agree that the evaluation process is to be conducted in an impartial manner without bias or prejudice. In this regard, I hereby certify that, to the best of my knowledge, there are no circumstances that would reasonably support a good faith charge of bias. I further understand that in the event a good faith charge of bias is made, it will rest with me to decide whether I should be disqualified from participation in the evaluation process.

I agree to hold confidential all information related to the contents of Requests for Proposals presented during the review process until such time as the Department formally releases the award decision notices for public distribution.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ethan Tremblay".

Signature

April 1, 2024

Date