



# **Florida Division of Emergency Management**

Introducing the Preventing Outages and Enhancing the  
Resilience of the Electric Grid Grant

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# Introductions

## Florida Division of Emergency Management (FDEM)

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# Agenda

1. Introduction
2. Preventing Outages and Enhancing the Resilience of the Electric Grid Grant Application
3. DEMES Introduction
4. DEMO
  - DEMES Registration
  - Application Intake
5. Q&A
6. Resources & Next Steps





# Overview

- As part of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, the Department of Energy has been appropriated more than \$62 Billion to invest in the upgrading and modernization of the Nation's infrastructure supporting the goals of:
  - Demonstrate measurable improvements in energy resilience in the Nation
  - Investing in the modernization of Nation's grid
  - Creating additional jobs within the Nation
- States, Territories and Federally Recognized Tribes across the United States were allocated funding based on a five-part formula that included elements focused on population, geographical area, probability of disruptive events, severity of disruptive events, and expenditure on mitigation efforts.
  - Approximately \$459 million allocated nationally per year for Fiscal Year (FY) 2022- 2026 (around \$2.3 billion total)
  - The State of Florida has been allocated \$15,208,690 for FY 2022 and \$15,166,393 for FY 2023
- The Florida Division of Emergency Management (FDEM or Division) has applied on behalf of the state and will administer the funds to eligible applicants. You can find more information on the funding that was awarded to the state [here](#).



# Program Narrative – Objectives

**Florida Division of Emergency Management:** As a historically disaster-prone area, and the nation’s third most populous state, Florida must continually implement processes and solutions that harden the state against disruptive events. Recognizing this critical need, the organizational vision Division is to “lead the profession in building prepared and resilient communities.”

More recently, the Division’s response to the effects of Hurricanes Ian whose intense winds, heavy rainfall, and catastrophic storm surges resulted in more than 2.7 million customers in the impacted areas losing power. The Division found success implementing new processes, leveraging technology, and more closely coordinating resources with the private sector, completing restoration to all that could safely receive power 64% faster during its response to Hurricane Ian.

**Objectives:** To continue achieving the vision of coordinating, collaborating, and communicating with our community stakeholders to strengthen local jurisdictions, which in turn strengthens the state to become more resilient against disruptive events, the Division will use the following objectives as guidance for the grant funding:

- Maintain and enhance the reliability and resilience of the electric grid.
- Strengthen labor standards and protections for the workforce that is responsible for implementing grid reliability and resilience projects.
- Reduce energy burden and cost experienced by customers within disadvantaged communities due to inadequate electric grid infrastructure.



# Program Narrative – Application Process

**Methods:** Beginning January 26th, 2024, the Division will accept applications from eligible entities via its grant management system facilitating communication throughout the process.

**Eligible Entities:** As detailed by the grant, the following groups and individuals are eligible to apply for the funding once the application period begins:

- Electric Grid and Storage Operators
- Electricity Generator
- Transmission Owners or Operators
- Distribution Provider
- Fuel Suppliers

Note: The grant does allow for the Division to add additional entities for eligibility with approval from the U.S Department of Energy.



# Program Narrative – Criteria

The Division's goal is to maximize the funding opportunity to benefit across Florida, to include those in fiscally constrained counties, disadvantaged communities, and others across the state by reviewing all submitted applicants, selecting and awarding potential projects that will generate the greatest benefit to the state. As such, the Division will use the following criteria to prioritize applicants for awarding potential projects:

- Applications that strengthen the electrical grid and facilities (substations, transmission lines, etc.) within Florida in its resiliency against all natural and man-made disasters.
- Applications that benefit densely populated communities and focus on disadvantaged communities (as identified by the U.S Department of Energy's [Disadvantaged Communities Reporter Tool](#)).
- Applications that further advance the economic vitality of eligible entities within Florida through sustainment or creation of additional full-time equivalent jobs within the State.

Note: A percentage of the funds will be set aside and made available to applicants that sell no more than 4,000,000 megawatt hours of electricity per year.

The Division is required to request approval from the Department of Energy prior to awarding any projects to eligible entities. Once the Division has determined the eligible applications, the Division will provide notification and documentation to Department of Energy. However, the review of the documentation and required written concurrence may take considerable time and will be impacted by factors such as National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), Build America, Buy America (BABA), Davis-Bacon Act, Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, and other considerations.





# Program Narrative – Potential Projects

Potential projects that could be submitted by eligible entities in the application process include, but are not limited to:

- Weatherization of grid technologies and equipment to include the installation of fire-resistant and fire prevention tools;
- Installation of underground electrical technologies and equipment;
- Utility pole management and vegetation/fuel-load management;
- Relocation of powerlines or the reconducting of powerlines with low-sag, advanced conductors;
- Construction of Distributed Energy Resources (DERs) for enhancing system adaptive capacity during disruptive events (i.e., microgrids, battery storage subcomponents, adaptive protective technologies, facility hardening, replacement of overhead conductors/underground cables, etc.);

Funding may also be used for the training, recruitment, retention, and reskilling of skilled and properly credentialed workers in order to perform the work required for the particular resilience measures listed above.

**Ineligible Projects:** Below are a list of ineligible projects, as detailed by the grant opportunity:

- Construction of a new electric generating facilities.
- Large-scale battery storage facility not used for enhancing system adaptive capacity during disruptive events.
- Cybersecurity and related enhancements to the electric generating facilities and grids.





# Program Narrative – Funding Award & Support

**Notification:** Once the Division receives notification to move forward with the project, a Notice of Award will be sent to the applicant and Division's standard grant procedures (i.e., quarterly reporting, etc.) will take place in the agency's grant management system.

**Non-Federal Match Requirements:** To those sent a Notice of Award, there is a cost match of the federal allocation, as required by the funding opportunity. Eligible entities are required to match 100% of their award. However, if an eligible entity sells not more than 4,000,000 megawatt hours of electricity per year, the required match will be one-third of the amount. Additionally, the awarded eligible entity will be required to cover the State's 15% cost match. This 15% cost match will be calculated based upon the applicant's awarded percentage of the state's allocation.

**Performance Period:** Projects awarded by the Division must be completed within five (5) years of funding award, with the Division having the sole discretion to extend if sufficient documentation is provided.

**Technical Assistance:** The Division will have a grant manager assigned to assist the awarded applicants with levels of project management with varying levels of support. The grant manager, at a minimum, will assist with clarification of grant requirements, review the project progress reports, review and accept deliverables submitted for the grant project, and processing billing reimbursements.

# Questions



# DEMES Overview



## DEMES

*(formally known as Salesforce)*  
is a solution that **modernizes and digitizes** FDEM's forms and processes so we can **move faster, leverage grant funding** more efficiently, and provide an **easier navigation** experience for our agencies, partners, and internal staff.

**Preventing Outages and Enhancing the Resilience of the Electric Grid Grant Application will be administered via DEMES.**

**Agencies will need to have an account in DEMES to apply to for the grant.**



### BENEFITS OF DEMES

- ✓ Growing FDEM's **digital first mindset**
- ✓ Easier navigation via **automation**
- ✓ Time savings via **standardization and streamlining** of processes
- ✓ Efficiencies via **automated workflows and approvals**
- ✓ **Improved accuracy** based on integrated quality assurance measures
- ✓ **Visibility** to where items are in a workflow
- ✓ **Access to centralized data** to drive informed decisions

# Live DEMO:

Demo 1: DEMES Registration

Demo 2: Preventing Outages and Enhancing the Resilience of the Electric Grid Grant Application

# Questions



# Resources & Reminders

## Grid Resilience Grant

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## Resources Available

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- Grant Overview
- Webinar Recording
- Job Aid

[www.floridadiaster.org/DEMES](http://www.floridadiaster.org/DEMES)

DEMES



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## Key Dates

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- Application Opens: January 26, 2024
- Application Closes: April 25, 2024



# Thank You



## For Additional Questions:

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