

**Grid Resilience Formula Grant Program – IJA 40101(d)****Responses to Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ's)**

Updated: May 23, 2025

- 1) Is the \$2 million minimum requirement apply to the Alaska Energy Authority (AEA) award only or the total project budget including match?**

The \$2 million minimum applies to the total subaward amount, inclusive of cost match (AEA award + match).

- 2) May an eligible entity submit more than one project under this request for applications (RFA)?**

Yes, an eligible entity may submit more than one project under this request for applications.

- 3) Could a Federal United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Electric Program loan be an allowable cost match for a project proposal that meets both program requirements?**

In a determination made by the United States Department of Energy (DOE), under the assumption that the eligible purposes of the USDA Rural Utilities Service (RUS) loan and the proposed activities for the respective applicant's 40101(d) program overlap, funds from a USDA RUS loan may be used to satisfy the non-federal cost match requirement for the 40101(d) program. Unless explicitly allowed per the U.S. DOE, applicant cost match must be provided via non-federal sources.

- 4) What is the total dollar amount that will be awarded (without the matching funds)? The grant Request for Application (RFA) indicates approximately \$17.6 million for the first two years of the program. Is this \$17.6 million per year or total? Will there be another RFA round of applications for additional funds?**

This round of funding encompasses the third year of formula funding awarded to Alaska for a total of \$17,627,018. Additional federal funding for the program, and correspondingly those accompanying future rounds of request for applications, is not known at this time.

- 5) Are private fuel providers eligible for funding and would purchase of a low-draft barge for fuel delivery in communities with significant riverine sediment buildup qualify as an eligible resilience project?**

A private fuel supplier would be eligible to submit an application under the current 40101(d) RFA as a "fuel supplier" eligible entity type. The proposed project may be allowable under the 40101(d) program, although the project would not fall within the bounds of a Grid Deployment Office (GDO) priority area. Additionally, there would be some more caveats to the issuance of any sub-award, should the project be selected for sub-award by AEA. Primarily, there would have to be provided in the application, robust grid-resilience arguments provided in support of the project, beyond simply the concern of continued sediment buildup. Such grid-resilience arguments could include clarifying the threats/hazards that cause power disruptions to the community(s) more generally, outage frequency and duration for the community(s), the degree of reliance on imported fuel that the villages face, etc.

- 6) Will the 40101(d) grid resilience grant conflict at all with any of the GRIP grant applications applying for overlapping project scopes?**

Both sources of funds, being 40101(d) and GRIP (i.e., 40101(c)), cannot be used for / applied to the same project. An eligible entity is not allowed to submit the same application for a grant under IJA Section 40101(c) and Section 40101(d) in the same application cycle. DOE considers a "grant" to

have a specific scope (i.e., a unique project). Accordingly, an eligible entity may not submit a grant application with the same scope under both Sections 40101(c) and 40101(d) in the same application cycle. Eligible entities can submit proposals to both Sections 40101(c) and 40101(d) in the same application cycle as long as they are separate scopes of work that address different resilience measures. AEA recommends applying for both and if the utility receives one award they can always withdraw/decline the other.

**7) Is AEA administering the 40101(d) Tribal allocation funds?**

The DOE has released 40101(d) formula grant allocations to U.S. States, Territories, and Federally Recognized Tribes. AEA has applied for and received \$17.6 million for Alaska's allocation of year 3 funds. This funding does not include Tribal allocations as AEA is not eligible to apply for Tribal formula funds on behalf of Tribal organizations. Tribes must apply separately to the DOE to receive Tribal allocations. Additionally, Tribes may be considered eligible entities under AEA's RFA and would be allowed to apply for a subaward under the program.

**8) When completing the attached Budget Justification Notebook included with the DOE 40101(d) Formula Grant Application, is the application applying to AEA for a project award considered a 'sub-recipient' and AEA is the 'preparer'?**

For purposes of submission, please fill out the budget justification notebook as the preparer and include as much detail as possible for resilience project cost, broken out by the categories found in tabs a-j. AEA will submit a program budget to the DOE at a later date that summarizes all awards as line items in tab f, where AEA is the preparer. As a reminder, the provided budget justification notebook is not a requirement, but provided as a template. Applicants can choose to submit resilience project budgets in other forms if so desired.

**9) As an applicant to AEA for project funds, so we enter our internal costs into tabs a-e in the budget justification notebook, or enter them in tab f. under sub-recipient?**

Please enter internal costs related to the proposed resilience project in tabs a-j. AEA will submit our own project budget to the DOE for the program that includes all awards. In AEA's budget, each sub recipient will be included as a line item in tab f.

**10) What is the SOPO Task number and where do we find this?**

SOPO Task number cells can be left blank.

**11) Does the definition of sub-recipient used with the budget form apply to the other forms associated with this grant application? For instance, on other forms it seems that AEA is the grant recipient and the entity applying to AEA for an award of project funds is a sub-recipient.**

Yes. For most forms AEA is the grant recipient and the eligible entity applying for an AEA award of project funds is the sub-recipient. For purposes of providing a resilience project budget, please fill out the form as the preparer including as much detail as necessary using tabs a-j. As a reminder, this budget justification form is not a requirement but provided as a recommended template. Other forms of budget justification are acceptable. Should your application be selected by AEA and forwarded onto DOE for its review and approval, the applicant's submission of a budget justification workbook may be required as part of DOE's review and approval process.

**12) Where can I find answers to additional questions I may have?**

NETL has provided a more exhaustive list of responses to FAQs on the 40101(d) program on its program [website](#), under "application resources" drop-down.