



Sub-Award Request for Applications – IIJA/BIL Section 40101(D) Formula Grants to States and Indian Tribes for Preventing Outages and Enhancing the Resilience of the Electric Grid

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Request for Grant Applications (RFA) for consideration for subaward under Section 40101(D) Formula Grants to States and Indian Tribes for Preventing Outages and Enhancing the Resilience of the Electric Grid ("Formula Grant Program") of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA), also known as the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL).

Subawards for BIL Sec. 40101(D) Formula Grant Program

RFA ISSUE DATE: June 2nd, 2025

APPLICATION DUE DATE: August 4th, 2025, 4:00PM

Register to Receive Notification: Interested applicants that want to be notified of updates or changes to this RFA must subscribe to the 40101(d) mailing list using the form located at the Alaska Energy Authority's website at: <https://www.akenergyauthority.org/What-We-Do/Energy-Planning-Project-Development/Infrastructure-Investment-and-Jobs-Act/Grid-Resilience-Formula-Grant-Program>

Application: A copy of the application and supporting documents can also be found at the Alaska Energy Authority's (AEA) website at: <https://www.akenergyauthority.org/What-We-Do/Energy-Planning-Project-Development/Infrastructure-Investment-and-Jobs-Act/Grid-Resilience-Formula-Grant-Program>

Public Records Notice to Applicants:

- AEA is subject to the Public Records Act, Alaska Statute (AS) 40.25 and materials submitted to AEA may be subject to disclosure requirements under the act if no statutory exemptions apply.

Contact: Questions about this RFA and the application process should be directed to:

Grants Coordinator
Alaska Energy Authority
Phone: 1 (907) 771-3039
Email: grants@akenergyauthority.org

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Section 1 – Introduction and Instructions: describes program and procedural requirements for preparing and submitting an application.

Section 2 – Grant Requirements: describes specific grant terms and conditions related to this program.

Section 3 – Application Evaluation Process and Criteria: describes the criteria that will be used to evaluate and rank each application.

1. Introduction and Instructions

1.1 Purpose

This Formula Grant Program is designed to provide assistance for strategic electrical grid resilience efforts which seek to reduce the impact of disruptive events, defined as *“an event in which operations of the electric grid are disrupted, preventively shut off, or cannot operate safely due to extreme weather, wildfire, or a natural disaster.”*¹ This program deploys funds across the United States to catalyze investment in modernized, hardened, and reliable grid infrastructure. Such improvements to existing grids provide for consumer access to the conveyance of dependable energy; enhanced resilience against disruptive events; efficient future integration with intermittent generation sources and distributed energy resources; and ensuring grids are prepared for other evolving system needs over the coming decades. Multiple pathways exist for the United States to meet its infrastructure resilience goals, but all require upgrading and expanding the Nation’s transmission and distribution systems; significant investment in cost-effective new generation resources and energy storage; and efficiency, and demand flexibility investments in buildings, industry, and transportation. Resilience improvements may include upgrades of individual hardware components, software components, or both, as well as enhancements in operations or new configurations of the grid.

In this second RFA, Alaska has received \$17,627,018 to improve the resilience of the electric grid against disruptive events. For more details on federal allocations by State, territory, and Indian tribes, please consult the U.S. Department of Energy’s (“DOE”) National Energy Technology Laboratory (“NETL”) - Section 40101(D) Formula Grants to States and Indian Tribes – [Allocation of Grant Funds to States and Indian Tribes](#). Projects that are not selected for funding are encouraged to apply under future RFAs under this Formula Grant Program as may become available.

All Grant awards made under this Program shall comply with applicable law, including regulations contained in [2 CFR Part 200](#) as amended by [2 CFR Part 910](#).

1.2 Introduction

This RFA sets out the purpose, instructions, requirements, evaluative criteria, and other information for submitting an application to AEA for consideration of subaward grants to eligible entities.

1.3 Government Roles and Responsibilities

AEA is a public corporation of the State of Alaska with the mission to reduce the cost of energy in Alaska by carrying out the powers and duties assigned to it under statute. Under the authorizing statutes of Section 40101(D) of the IJIA and as authorized by the Office of Governor

¹ 42 U.S.C. § 18711(a)(1)

Michael Dunleavy of the State of Alaska; AEA has been selected as the sole Eligible Applicant charged with administering subaward grants, through this RFA, for this Formula Grant Program. Under this Formula Grant Program, the DOE has awarded to AEA, as per federal formula allocation, \$17.6 million to be expended over a period of performance of five years to improve the resilience of the electric grid against disruptive events. AEA has elected to select eligible projects via a competitive solicitation process as allowed under section 40101(D) of the IIJA.

Applicants applying to this Formula Grant Program solicitation for applications for subaward should be advised that special terms and conditions apply to projects funded by the IIJA relating to the following:

- Reporting, tracking and segregation of incurred costs;
- Reporting on job creation and preservation;
- Publication of information on the Internet;
- Access to records by Inspectors General and the Government Accountability Office;
- Ensuring that iron, steel, manufactured goods, and construction materials used in infrastructure projects are produced in the United States (i.e., Build America, Buy America);
- Ensuring wage rates are comparable to those prevailing on projects of a similar character (Davis Bacon Act);
- Protecting whistleblowers and requiring prompt referral of evidence of a false claim to an appropriate inspector general; and
- Certification and Registration.

Recipients of funding appropriated by the IIJA must comply with requirements of all applicable Federal, State, and local laws, regulations, DOE policy and guidance, and instructions in the prevailing US DOE Administrative and Legal Requirements Document (“ALRD”). AEA is obligated as the administrator of this Formula Grant Subaward Program, to flow down the requirements to subrecipients (also interchangeably referred to as subawardees in this RFA) to ensure the subrecipient’s compliance with the requirements. DOE guidance and instructions related to such requirements are posted on the [IIJA Grid Resilience website](#)².

1.4 Eligible Entities

Per page 18 of the current ALRD (DE-FOA/ALRD-0002736), issued on April 17, 2024, for the purpose of implementing eligible resilience measures that achieve the objectives of Section 40101(D), States and Indian Tribes may make subawards to the following eligible entities³:

- a) an electric grid operator;
- b) an electricity storage operator;
- c) an electricity generator;
- d) a transmission owner or operator;
- e) a distribution provider;
- f) a fuel supplier; and
- g) any other relevant entity, as determined by the Secretary (of DOE)

A team or group of above eligible entities for a specific project / application is permissible under this funding opportunity. In this case, it is advised that a singular entity apply as the “lead” entity responsible for coordinating reporting and carrying out project activities.

² Page 18 – ALRD Description - Objectives and Scope – ALRD ([DE-FOA/ALRD-0002736](#))

³ 42 U.S.C. § 18711(a)(2)

1.5 Eligible Projects / Use of Funds

Per page 13 of the current ALRD (DE-FOA/ALRD-0002736), the objective of the Formula Grant Program is to improve the resilience of the electric grid against disruptive events. To achieve this objective, funding provided by the US DOE under this Formula Grant Program may be used to implement a wide range of resilience measures intended to mitigate the impact of disruptive events, including⁴:

- a) weatherization technologies and equipment;
- b) fire-resistant technologies and fire prevention systems;
- c) monitoring and control technologies;
- d) the undergrounding of electrical equipment;
- e) utility pole management;
- f) the relocation of power lines or the reconductoring of power lines with low-sag, advanced conductors;
- g) vegetation and fuel-load management;
- h) the use or construction of “distributed energy resources”⁵ (“DERs”) for enhancing system adaptive capacity during disruptive events, including:
 - i. microgrids; and
 - ii. battery storage subcomponents
 - iii. Note: No new generation projects are allowed under this funding opportunity
- i) adaptive protection technologies
- j) advanced modeling technologies;
- k) hardening of power lines, facilities, substations, or other systems; and
- l) The replacement of old overhead conductors and underground cables.

Projects proposed that focus on transmission assets of 69kV and above will be considered to have a greater impact on future grid resiliency. AEA encourages applicants to submit applications which prioritize resilience improvements and/or enhancements on such transmission assets.

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. Workforce development measures may not be implemented as a standalone resilience project; however, they are permissible to be included as a component of a resilience project.

Be advised that BIL funds can be used in conjunction with other funding, as necessary to complete projects, but tracking and reporting must be separate to meet the reporting requirements of the BIL and related Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Guidance. Applicants for projects funded by sources other than the BIL should plan to keep separate records for BIL funds and to ensure those records comply with the requirements of the BIL⁶.

⁴ 42 U.S.C. § 18711(e)(1)

⁵ DERs are resources sited close to customers that can provide all or some of their electric power needs or can be used by the system to either reduce demand (such as energy efficiency) or provide supply to satisfy the energy, capacity, or ancillary service needs of the grid. The resources are small in scale, connected to the distribution system, and close to load. Examples of different DER types include solar photovoltaic (“PV”), wind, combined heat and power (“CHP”), energy storage, demand response (“DR”), grid-interactive buildings and other flexible loads, electric vehicles (“EVs”), microgrids, and energy efficiency (“EE”) - see page 13 – Objectives and Scope – ALRD ([DE-FOA/ALRD-0002736](#))

⁶ Page 13 – ALRD Description - Objectives and Scope – ALRD ([DE-FOA/ALRD-0002736](#))

1.6 Ineligible Projects / Uses of Funds

Resilience measures that are **not allowed** under Section 40101(D) include⁷:

- a) Construction of a new –
 - i. electric generating facility; or
 - ii. large-scale battery storage facility that is not used for enhancing system adaptive capacity during disruptive events; or
 - b) Cybersecurity
- While grant monies under this section 40101(D) cannot fund new cybersecurity investments, the resilience investments under the Program should be in alignment with cybersecurity standards and best practices, including the North American Electric Reliability Corporation Critical Infrastructure Protection (NERC CIP) standards and National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) Cybersecurity Framework⁸.

1.7 Funding Restrictions

AEA has established a minimum grant award amount of \$2 million. Awarded projects must start construction and preferably complete construction within a 5-year performance period. The period of performance may be extended to span the amount of time necessary for subrecipients to complete all subaward project efforts, up to a maximum of 10 years, inclusive of the initial 5-year period, at the sole discretion of the AEA and subject to the approval of DOE⁹.

Funding for all awards and future budget periods are contingent upon the availability of funds appropriated by Congress for the purpose of this program and the availability of future-year budget authority.

All expenditures must be allowable, allocable, and reasonable in accordance with the applicable federal cost principles.

Refer to the following applicable federal cost principles for more information:

- Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) Part 31 for For-Profit entities; and
- 2 CFR Part 200 Subpart E - Cost Principles for all other non-federal entities.

Costs to support or oppose union organizing, whether directly or as an offset for other funds, are unallowable.¹⁰

1.8 Eligible Entity Prioritization

In making grants to eligible entities (i.e. subawardees) using funds made available to the applicable State or Indian Tribe under the program, the State or Indian Tribe shall give priority to projects that, in the determination of the State or Indian Tribe, will generate the greatest community benefit (whether rural or urban) in reducing the likelihood and consequences of disruptive events.

⁷ 42 U.S.C. § 18711(e)(2)

⁸ Page 14 – ALRD Description - Objectives and Scope – ALRD ([DE-FOA/ALRD-0002736](#))

⁹ Page 16 - ALRD Award Information – Estimated Period of Performance – ALRD ([DE-FOA/ALRD-0002736](#))

¹⁰ Page 32 – Application Information– Funding Restrictions – ALRD ([DE-FOA/ALRD-0002736](#))

1.9 Cost Match Requirements:

An eligible entity or group of entities who receives a subaward under this Grant Formula Program is required to match 100 percent of the amount of the subaward as required per Section 40101(h)(1)¹¹.

However, if the individual eligible entities within a team or group application and/or an application is submitted by a single eligible entity that sells not more than 4,000,000 megawatt hours of electricity per year, the required match will be one-third (1/3) of the amount of the subaward allocated to each eligible entity as required by Section 40101(h)(2)¹². AEA will allow the match to be provided through cash or in-kind contributions in accordance with grant requirements. This will be set forth in the grant agreement between AEA and each respective subawardee.

The 4,000,000 megawatt hours threshold applies to a single eligible entity only. If a team or group of eligible applicants were to apply together, the cost match would be applied to each eligible entity's annual energy generated, and not the aggregate total amount of megawatt hours sold by all eligible entities comprising the group.

"Cost Matching" for the non-federal share is calculated as a percentage of the Federal funds only (i.e., the Federal grant request), not as a percentage of the Total Project Cost. The Total Project Cost is comprised of the sum of the Federal Grant Request + Subawardee cost-match.

Example(s) of cost matching:

If a State or Indian Tribe funds \$2,000,000.00 to an eligible entity that sells more than 4,000,000 megawatt hours of electricity per year via a subaward, the entity would be required to provide "match" (with 100%) in an amount of (at least) \$2,000,000.00. In this case, the total subaward value (i.e., grant request) would be \$2,000,000.00 with a cost match of \$2,000,000.00, for a total project value of \$4,000,000.00

If a State or Indian Tribe funds \$1,500,000.00 to an eligible entity that sells not more than 4,000,000 megawatt hours of electricity per year via a subaward, the entity would be required to provide "match" (with one-third) in an amount of (at least) \$500,000.00. In this case, the total subaward value (i.e., grant request) would be \$1,500,000.00, with a cost-match of \$500,000, for a total project value of \$2,000,000.00

If a State or Indian Tribe funds \$6,000,000.00 to a group of eligible entities, of which no single entity sells more than 4,000,000 megawatt hours of electricity per year via a subaward, the entities would be required to provide "match" (with one-third) in an amount of (at least) \$2,000,000.00. The match can be provided as agreed to between all applying entities, so long as the minimum one-third "match" requirement is met.

1.10 Filing an Application

Applicants may either submit their applications by (1) attaching their application and supporting documents to an email and sending it to the AEA grants coordinator, or (2) by having their applications physically delivered to AEA.

Applicants choosing to submit their application via email are asked to address the email to grants@akenergyauthority.org with the subject line of "IIJA 40101(D) Subaward Application".

¹¹ 42 U.S.C. § 18711(h)(1)

¹² 42 U.S.C. § 18711(h)(2)

Applicants are asked to submit the application and required supporting documentation in searchable PDF or other word searchable electronic format. Applicants using this method are encouraged to use delivery receipt and read receipt. It should be noted that AEA's email system limits attachments to 40MB and will not accept .zip files or executables.

Applicants choosing to submit their application via physical delivery method are asked to submit one (1) electronic version on an electronic storage device (i.e. CD/DVD or thumb drive) in a searchable PDF or other word searchable electronic format.

Additionally, if a hard copy of the completed application is submitted, AEA requires that the hard copy be double-sided with minimal binding, including appendices that can be duplicated. Physical delivery of either of the above must be in a sealed envelope(s) clearly labeled:

From: Applicant Return Address

To: Alaska Energy Authority
40101(D) Grant Application
813 West Northern Lights Blvd
Anchorage, AK 99503

Any questions or concerns about filing an application should be directed to:

Grants Coordinator
Alaska Energy Authority
Direct Phone: (907) 771-3039
AEA Main Phone: (907) 771-3000
Email: grants@akenergyauthority.org

1.11 Application Deadline

All applications must be received no later than August 4th, 2025 at 4:00PM

The applicant is solely responsible for complete and timely submission of its application. AEA accepts no responsibility for submission of applications or for applications that are received after the application deadline, whether because they were misdirected, delayed, erroneously addressed, or for any other reason. While clarifying questions may be asked by AEA after this deadline, no new significant information will be accepted in support of an application.

Failure to meet the deadline will result in the application being rejected.

1.12 RFA - IJIA 40101(D) Formula Grant Program Website

AEA's website at: <https://www.akenergyauthority.org/What-We-Do/Energy-Planning-Project-Development/Infrastructure-Investment-and-Jobs-Act/Grid-Resilience-Formula-Grant-Program> has been set up to make information available to the public regarding the program. Any changes to the RFA will be made available at the above link. The site contains the following 40101(D) information and documents:

- This RFA
- Application Documents
 - Fillable Application (required)
 - Resilience Project and Subaward Notification Form (required)
 - Eligible Entity Form (if applicable)

- Detailed Budget Justification Workbook (use of DOE SF-424 Excel workbook is required)
- NEPA Environmental Questionnaire for each project location (required)
- Quarterly Progress Report Template
- Annual Program Metrics and Impact Report Template
- Build America Buy America DOE Guidance
- Davis Bacon Act Requirements

1.13 Questions about the RFA

Applicants should carefully review all documents and AEA's website prior to contacting the grants coordinator with questions. Any questions regarding the RFA or grant documents should be directed to:

Grants Coordinator
Alaska Energy Authority
Direct Phone: (907) 771-3039
AEA Main Phone: (907) 771-3000
Email: grants@akenergyauthority.org

Questions that require clarification or interpretation of this RFA that the applicant cannot answer by careful review of the RFA should be submitted in writing (letter or email) no later than **July 25th, 2025** (10 business days before the application due date).

The grants coordinator may contact the applicant directly by phone or email to respond to questions that will not result in changes to the application process. The grants coordinator will post the answer to questions that result in changes to the application process on the program webpage.

1.14 Modifications to the RFA

Applicants may submit written requests for modifications to this RFA to the AEA grants coordinator no later than **July 25th, 2025**. Please be advised that AEA cannot modify requirements of section 40101(D) of the IIJA, or related sections, and those federal requirements stated therein.

Acceptance or denial of the request is solely at the discretion of AEA and the DOE. The grants coordinator has 10 calendar days to respond, but not later than 5 calendar days prior to the application deadline. Should the grants coordinator not issue a written modification within 10 days from submittal of request, such non-action shall be considered a denial of the request.

Modifications to this RFA may be issued at any time prior to the deadline for receipt of application, subject to approval by the DOE and AEA, as applicable. If modifications are issued within 5 days of the deadline for applications, the application deadline may be extended to allow time for applicants to respond to any changes. All modifications to this RFA will be provided in writing and posted to the program webpage at <https://www.akenergyauthority.org/What-We-Do/Grants-Loans/Grid-Resiliency-Formula-Grant-Program> and AEA will provide email notice to those registered as described on the cover page of this RFA.

1.15 RFA Schedule

Below is a schedule of critical dates related to this request and the award of the subaward grants. Actual dates after the application due date are tentative and may vary depending on the number of applications received and the complexity of applications.

Task	Actual or Target Dates
Application Due Date	August 4 rd , 2025
Complete Evaluation of Applications	August 2025
AEA Submits Applications to DOE for review	August 2025
Projects Approved for Sub-Award by DOE	November 2025
Finalize Grant Award Documents (Contingent upon AEA receiving all documentation needed for award)	January 2026

Actual award dates may vary depending on timing of US DOE and AEA approval and any modifications that may be required to the applicant's proposal prior to grant award.

1.16 Grant Regulations

All applicable regulations and requirements concerning the IIJA 40101(D) Formula Grant Program are available on the DOE NETL's website at <https://netl.doe.gov/iijahub/grid-resilience/formula-grants>

1.17 Subawardee Reimbursement

Reimbursement to subawardees under this program is on a cost reimbursable basis in accordance with the subaward grant terms.

1.18 Application Content Requirements

The application must address all the information required as noted in Section 1.9 for the proposed project. Applicants should download and complete the Microsoft Word application and associated supporting documents off AEA's website located:

<https://www.akenergyauthority.org/What-We-Do/Grants-Loans/Grid-Resiliency-Formula-Grant-Program>

1.19 Authorized Signature

Applications must be signed by an individual authorized to bind the applicant to its provisions and to make the commitments of the application.

1.20 Applicant's Certification

By signature on their application, applicants certify that they are complying and will comply with: 1) the laws of the State of Alaska; 2) the applicable portion of the Federal Civil Rights Act of 1964; 3) the Equal Employment Opportunity Act, the Americans With Disability Act (ADA) and the regulations issued thereunder by the federal government; 4) all terms and conditions set out in this RFA; and 5) the amount of matching funds being committed in fulfillment of the cost match requirements.

1.21 Correction, Modification or Withdrawal of Applications

After an application has been received by AEA, an application may be corrected, modified or withdrawn by providing a written request from an authorized representative of the applicant to the grant manager before the time and date set for receipt of the applications.

After applications are received, applicants may be requested to provide additional information prior to completion of the evaluation process if AEA determines that it is in the best interest of the program to allow modifications.

Applicants who fail to respond to requests for additional information within the period specified in the request may have their application rejected.

1.22 Review of Applications - General

Applications will be reviewed internally by AEA and subject to approval by the DOE. The review and evaluation criteria for each stage are listed in Section 3.

1.23 Notice of Intent to Award a Grant

Upon approval from the DOE, AEA will notify successful applicants of their award.

1.24 Grant Agreement

Applicants whose projects are selected for grant funding will be required to enter into a Grant Agreement prepared by AEA that contains the terms and conditions of the Grant including all federal flow down reporting requirements and other matters of compliance as required by the DOE.

2. Grant Requirements

To receive resiliency grants, applicants must accept and comply with those terms and conditions as set forth in the subaward grant agreement including any referenced appendices.

2.1 System for Award Management (SAM)

Prior to submitting an application, an eligible entity shall register with SAM at <https://sam.gov>, designate an Electronic Business Point of Contact (EBiz POC) and obtain a special password called an MPIN. Applicants shall maintain an active SAM registration with current information at all times during which it has an active award or an application under consideration.

Applicants shall obtain a Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) from SAM to uniquely identify the entity (applicants may already have a UEI).

2.2 Subrecipient Project Manager

For construction projects, the subrecipient will contract or hire competent persons to manage all phases of the project. Work at a minimum will include; management of subrecipient's labor for the project, engineering firms and consultants, procurement, management of construction contractors, selection of equipment, review of plans and specifications, on-site inspections and review and approval of work, and other duties to ensure that the completed work conforms with the requirements of the grant and the construction documents.

2.3 Build America Buy America (BABA)

For DOE to obligate funds to an infrastructure project, all iron, steel, manufactured products, and construction materials used in the project must be produced in the United States. If the point of manufacture is outside of the United States, the applicant will need to request a Buy America Requirements Waiver. For more information regarding BABA requirements please visit: <https://www.energy.gov/management/build-america-buy-america>

DOE implementation guidance of the Buy America Requirement for Infrastructure Projects can be found at the following: <https://www.energy.gov/sites/default/files/2022-11/DOE%27s%20Implementation%20of%20the%20Buy%20America%20Preference%2011-17.pdf>

DOE guidance on submission of a DOE Buy America Requirement Waiver can be found at the link below. Waiver requests will be submitted by the prime recipient (AEA) with the required information listed in the linked document provided by the subgrantee to AEA.
<https://www.energy.gov/sites/default/files/2022-11/Guidance%20on%20Submission%20of%20a%20DOE%20Buy%20America%20Requirement%20Waiver%20Request%2011-17.pdf>

Waivers must be based on one of the following justifications:

- **Public Interest** – Applying the Buy America Requirement would be inconsistent with the public interest;
- **Non-Availability** – The types of iron, steel, manufactured products, or construction materials are not produced in the United States in sufficient and reasonably available quantities or of a satisfactory quality; or
- **Unreasonable Cost** – The inclusion of iron, steel, manufactured products, or construction materials produced in the United States will increase the cost of the overall project by more than 25%.

2.4 Contracts for Engineering Services

In the event the subawardee contracts for engineering services, the subawardee shall require that the engineering firm certify that it is authorized to do business in the State of Alaska and provide proof of licensing and required professional liability insurance.

Unless otherwise agreed by AEA, the insurance required by this section shall, at a minimum, include professional liability insurance covering all errors, omissions or negligent acts in the performance of professional services under this agreement, with limits required per the following schedule:

<u>Contract Amount</u>	<u>Minimum Required Limits</u>
Under \$ 100,000	\$ 300,000 per Occurrence/Annual Aggregate
\$ 100,000-\$ 499,999	\$ 500,000 per Occurrence/Annual Aggregate
\$ 500,000-\$ 999,999	\$ 1,000,000 per Occurrence/Annual Aggregate
\$ 1,000,000 or over	Refer to Risk Management

2.5 Site Control

If the project involves the occupancy and use of real property, the subrecipient assures that it has the legal right to occupy and use such real property for the purposes of the grant, and further that there is legal access to such property. The subrecipient is responsible for securing the real property interests necessary for the construction and operation of the project, through ownership, leasehold, easement, or otherwise, and for providing evidence satisfactory to AEA that it has secured these real property interests.

2.6 Permits

It is the responsibility of the subrecipient to identify and ensure that all permits required for all phases of the project, including the construction and operation of this project by the Federal, State, or Local governments have been obtained unless otherwise stated in the scope of work.

These permits may include, but are not limited to, Corps of Engineers, Environmental Protection Agency, Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation, Alaska Department of Labor, State Historic Preservation Office, State Fire Marshal, Alaska Department of Natural Resources, Alaska Department of Fish and Game, and Boroughs.

2.7 Exclusion of Existing Environmental Hazards

Grant funds will not be awarded for and may not be used for environmental investigation, removal or remediation of contamination, remediation of existing facilities or properties, or any other environmental matters, unless specifically provided in the Grant Agreement. In addition, grant funds will not be awarded for and may not be used for the decommissioning or removal of any existing facilities except as specifically provided in the Grant Agreement.

2.8 National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)

All applicants are required to submit an Environmental Questionnaire Form for each work location proposed in the application. The provision of supplemental information may be requested of the applicant by AEA, or directly by DOE, as needed for NEPA processing.

2.9 Davis-Bacon Act Requirements

Davis-Bacon Act (DBA) compliance must be demonstrated by the weekly payroll receipts to demonstrate that laborers are paid wages that meet or exceed the local prevailing wages for the type of work performed. Non-compliance of DBA requirements may result in termination of the grant agreement. No DBA work may commence on an awarded project prior to written authorization from AEA so as to ensure compliance with applicable 40101(d) federal terms and conditions.

2.10 Construction Plans and Specifications Review

Prior to public notice of bidding a construction project, the sub recipient will provide the plans and specifications to AEA for review. Concurrence that the plans and specifications are consistent with the grant award must be received before grant funds will be released for construction-related costs.

2.11 Construction Contractor Bonding

When the value of the construction is anticipated to be greater than \$100,000, prior to beginning construction on a project funded by this grant, the subrecipient or subrecipient's contractor(s) must provide AEA either a payment and performance bond, as may be required by AS 36.25.010, a surety in form and substance acceptable to AEA, or some other guarantee or assurance acceptable to AEA that the subrecipient or subrecipient's contractor has the capacity, qualifications, and financial resources necessary to complete construction of the project as proposed in the grant or construction contract(s) funded by this grant.

2.12 Required Reporting

Subrecipients will be required to submit quarterly and annual progress and financial reports. Reporting documents will be included in the subrecipient grant agreement, posted on [AEA's project homepage](#) and [DOE's post-award resource website](#), and include:

- Quarterly Progress Report
- Annual Program and Metrics Report
- SF-425

Projects will be tracked against various Build and Impact metrics appropriate and applicable to the specific project and described in the following document: [Reporting Metrics](#)

Metrics may include, but are not limited to:

- SAIDI, SAIFI, CAIDI, and MAIFI
- Population impacted
- Job creation
- Typical monthly electric bill
- Miles of transmission line and number of substations improved
- Average age of energy asset that has been replaced or modernized

All DOE required reporting is required, as a federal term and condition of the 40101(d) Program to flow down to the subrecipient. It will be the responsibility of the subawardee/subrecipient to complete and provide to AEA, for submission to DOE, all necessary reporting information as required by DOE, including but not limited to the aforementioned Quarterly Progress Report; Annual Program and Metrics Report; and SF-425 (Federal Financial Report). AEA may at its discretion, require additional reporting from subrecipients in fulfillment of additional DOE-required reporting.

All subrecipients must maintain adequate and sufficient records so as to provide and substantiate this information upon request from AEA and/or DOE

2.13 Ownership of Facilities

The subawardee shall assume all liabilities arising from the ownership and operation of the project. Subawardee will not sell, transfer, encumber, or dispose of any of its interest in the facilities constructed with this grant funding during the economic life of the project without prior written approval of AEA and/or DOE as applicable.

2.14 Operation and Maintenance of Facilities

The subawardee is required to maintain and operate the facilities defined in the scope of work of the grant agreement for the economic life of the facility or the specific period of time designated in the grant agreement.

In the event that the subawardee is no longer operating the facilities for the intended purposes, AEA may require the subawardee to reimburse AEA an amount based on the total contribution of AEA, the value of the assets, and the terms and conditions of the grant agreement. AEA may require that the assets acquired under the grant agreement be sold and the proceeds remitted to AEA.

2.15 Grant-Funded Assets Not Included in PCE

The subawardee agrees that it will not include the value of facilities, equipment, services, or other benefits received under this grant as expenses under the Power Cost Equalization Program or as expenses on which wholesale or retail rates or any other energy tariffs are based.

2.16 Procurement and Suspension and Debarment

When the subawardee enters into a transaction with an entity for the purchase of goods or services that are expected to equal or exceed \$25,000, or meet other special criteria as specified in 2 CFR section 180.220, the subawardee is required to verify that the entity and its principals as defined in 2 CFR section 180.995, are not suspended or debarred or otherwise excluded from participating in the transaction. The subawardee must verify the eligibility of the entity and its principals by one of the following: (1) checking the *Excluded Parties List System (EPLS)* maintained by the General Services Administration (GSA) (Note: EPLS is no longer a separate system; however, the OMB guidance and agency implementing regulations still refer to

it as EPLS) and available at <https://www.sam.gov/portal/public/SAM>, (2) collecting a certification from the entity, or (3) adding a clause or condition to the covered transaction with that entity stating it is not suspended or debarred from participating in the transaction (2 CFR section 180.300).

3. Application Evaluation Process

Applications will be reviewed by an application evaluation committee(s), which may include AEA staff, consultants, and others.

The selection of eligible entities and respective grid resilience projects will be done in accordance with AEA standardized scoring criteria, as follows:

- **Population Impacted: 30% or up to 30 points**
 - The application should include a description of the total population served by a proposed project (no description = 0 points, less than 20,000 served = 6 points, each additional 10,000 served = 6 points with a maximum of 30 points possible).
- **Risk Reduction/Resilience Effectiveness: 20% or up to 20 points**
 - The application should include a description of how the project will reduce the current risk of disruptive events (an event in which operations of the electric grid are disrupted, preventively shut off, or cannot operate safely due to capacity constraints, redundancy and/or an equipment failure, etc.) Criterion score should be based on a qualitative assessment of whether the narrative includes details regarding how the project will reduce the current risk of disruptive events; not at all = 0 points, minimally = up to 3 points, partially = up to 6 points, mostly = up to 9 points, entirely = up to 12 points, and exceeds = up to 15 points.
 - A 5 point bonus will be applied to projects which improve or enhance the resilience of transmission lines or assets of 69kV and above.
- **Extreme Weather, Wildfire, or Natural Disaster Event Adaptation: 15% or up to 15 points**
 - The application should include a description of the frequency and severity of extreme weather, wildfire, or natural disaster in the provider service area and how the project would mitigate the future risk of disruptive events whereby operations or the electric grid are disrupted, preventatively shut off, or cannot operate safely due to extreme weather, wildfire, or natural disaster. Criterion score shall be based on a qualitative assessment of whether the narrative includes details regarding how the project will reduce future disruptive events caused by extreme weather, wildfire, or natural disaster; not at all = 0 points, minimally = up to 3 points, partially = up to 6 points, mostly = up to 9 points, entirely = up to 12 points, and exceeds = up to 15 points.
- **Data Sources: 5% or up to 5 points**
 - The application should include a description of where the project is documented in a data-driven planning document and/or has been identified as a provider priority via a board priority/resolution related to system resiliency, and supporting documentation is referenced and/or the location of any supporting data or narratives is linked to the application or attached (not included = 0 points, included = 2 points).
 - The application should reference which climate model substantiates predictions to the changes of future physical environments including impacts to the safety and reliability of providing energy to utility customers (reference excluded = 0 points, reference included = 3 points).
- **Implementation Measures: 15% or up to 15 points**
 - The application should include a detailed project schedule that includes design, permits, site control, and construction timeframe breakouts.

- The application schedule should indicate whether the project will go to construction within the desired 5-year period of performance. (Construction timeframe not addressed = 0 points, construction is not proposed within the 5-year period of performance = 0 points, construction is proposed within the 5-year period of performance = up to 5 points).
 - The application schedule should include an appropriate level of detail and proposed timeframes should be adequate and reasonable, including project staff experience and availability of staff time during the proposed project period (details and timeframes are not included = 0 points, schedule details and proposed timeframes are minimally addressed = up to 3 points, schedule details and proposed timeframes are adequate and reasonable = up to 5 points).
 - The application should include a reasonably specific and/or detailed explanation of the extent to which an eligible entity plans to utilize project labor agreements, local hire agreements, and/or has or will develop a plan to attract, train, and retain a local workforce (explanation excluded = 0 points, specific/detailed explanation included = up to 5 points).
- **Community Engagement: 5% or up to 5 points**
 - The application should reference any utility public outreach plan for electronic and/or in-person stakeholder and public outreach associated with identification and development of the project (reference excluded = 0 points, reference included = up to 5 points).
- **Leveraging Partnerships: 10% or up to 10 points**
 - The application should include letters of support from partner organizations, not including boards, committees, or wholly-owned subsidiaries of the applicant (letters of support excluded = 0 points, letters of support included = 2 points) The application shall include a description of how the applicant will provide matching funds (e.g., in-kind and/or cash contributions) that are equal to 1/3 or more of the federal share of the project cost (non-federal matching funds equal to 1/3 of federal share = 4 points, every 5% greater than 1/3 of federal share = 1 additional point with a maximum of 8 points possible).

If there is not sufficient information, as determined at AEA's sole discretion, to warrant an evaluation against the above stated criteria, the application may be rejected. Substantially incomplete applications shall be rejected to ensure fair treatment of all applicants.