



FACT SHEET

## GRID RESILIENCE AND INNOVATION PARTNERSHIPS PROGRAM

*Established by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, the U.S. Department of Energy's Grid Deployment Office is administering a historic \$10.5 billion investment via the Grid Resilience and Innovation Partnerships (GRIP) program to enhance grid flexibility, improve the resilience of the power system against growing threats of extreme weather and climate change, and ensure American communities have access to affordable, reliable, clean electricity when and where they need it.*

## BUILDING A MODERN, INTELLIGENT GRID IN NORTHERN NEW MEXICO

Kit Carson Electric Cooperative (KCEC), due to the rural, geographically and demographically diverse nature of its service territory, is especially vulnerable to impacts of power outages across the region from the threat of wildfire, extreme drought, and high wind events. KCEC will deploy battery energy storage systems (BESS) and microgrid capabilities to three locations. This will allow KCEC to perform public safety power shutoffs while maintaining critical loads and services locally and enable these communities to island in the event of an unplanned utility outage.

The deployment of this resiliency solution will enable KCEC to:

- › Prevent utility-ignited wildfires, especially during periods of extreme wind events, by proactively de-energizing key distribution power lines.
- › Avoid impacts to vulnerable communities during proactive shutdowns or naturally caused wildfires by supporting these communities' critical loads with strategically placed BESS and solar photovoltaic (PV) systems.
- › Provide communities with more resilient solutions through deployment of community-sited solar PV.
- › Protect vital natural resources and tribal and cultural resources from utility-ignited wildfires.

### Anticipated Outcomes and Benefits

- › All sites selected for grid modernization and intelligent community storage in this project are designated as **disadvantaged communities** (DACs) and are especially vulnerable to climate change risks.
- › Creation of 10 pre-apprentice, 15 apprentice, and 2 intern positions associated with microgrid development and construction. Recruitment of permanent job candidates will be sourced from workforce training graduates located in affected communities in system operations and maintenance.
- › Commitment to engage with community members throughout the project, including during the scoping process, to identify critical facilities for energy and to build key relationships that ensure the most vulnerable community members have a voice.

### PROJECT DETAILS

- › **Project:**  
Building a Modern, Intelligent Distributed BESS for Resiliency in Northern New Mexico
- › **Applicant/Selectee:**  
Kit Carson Electric Cooperative
- › **GRIP Program:**  
Grid Resilience Utility and Industry Grants (Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, Section 40101(c))
- › **Federal cost share:**  
\$15,430,118
- › **Recipient cost share:**  
\$7,715,580
- › **Project location:**  
New Mexico
- › **Project type:**  
Microgrids With Batteries

### HELPFUL LINKS

- › **Grid Resilience and Innovation Partnerships Program**
- › **About the Grid Deployment Office**