



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.

PROJECT LEAPFROG

Liberty Utilities (CalPeco Electric), LLC will deploy a suite of intelligent solutions, including smart meters, smart network infrastructure, and smart software for remote meter reading, outage management, event automation, and distributed intelligence to enable faster and more accurate outage management, new loading analysis, improved safety, and emissions reductions. Liberty faces unique challenges in providing reliable service because its service territory is mountainous, sparsely populated, and subject to extreme weather. However, the proposed work will upgrade Liberty's electrical metering system and transform it into an automated, best-in-class smart network in a single leap.

Anticipated Outcomes and Benefits

The proposed work will mitigate the impact of severe weather events in a particularly vulnerable region and revamp Northern California's energy system with a host of projected benefits, including:

- › Reducing the impact and duration of fire-related outages through faster response times and mitigations.
- › Reducing the risk of wildfires caused by electric power lines.
- › Improving understanding of consumption patterns, enabling further implementation of distributed energy and reducing the cost of new green solutions.
- › In negotiation with the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) Local 1254, eliminating 600,000 manual meter reads every year, reducing transportation to each site and thus employee safety risks due to ice and snow.
- › Creating more than 25 new, local jobs during project construction; partnering with the community to provide opportunities in **disadvantaged communities** (DACs); and increasing diversity in the supply chain.
- › Flowing at least 40% of benefits to customers in disadvantaged areas with aging infrastructure and at high risk for extreme snowfall and wildfires.
- › Creating new training and mentorship opportunities for local students from diverse backgrounds.
- › Coordinating with local union leadership to identify needed resources.
- › Committing to establish a community partnership with the local Washoe Tribe.
- › Robust community engagement planning to gather insight on project improvements.

PROJECT DETAILS

- › **Project:**
Project Leapfrog
- › **Applicant/Selectee:**
Liberty Utilities (CalPeco Electric), LLC
- › **GRIP Program:**
Smart Grid Grants (Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, Section 40107)
- › **Federal cost share:**
\$13,071,300
- › **Recipient cost share:**
\$13,071,300
- › **Project location:**
Northern California
- › **Project type:**
Resilience and Sectionalization

HELPFUL LINKS

- › **[Grid Resilience and Innovation Partnerships Program](#)**
- › **[About the Grid Deployment Office](#)**