



GRID RESILIENCE AND INNOVATION PARTNERSHIPS PROGRAM

Bolstering Grid Reliability for Disadvantaged Communities in California's Imperial Valley

Established by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, the Grid Resilience and Innovation Partnerships (GRIP) Program is a \$10.5 billion investment to enhance grid flexibility, improve the resilience of the power system against extreme weather, and ensure American communities have access to affordable, reliable, electricity when and where they need it. GRIP funding is administered by the U.S. Department of Energy's Grid Deployment Office (GDO). This project was selected through the second round of GRIP funding.

The Imperial Irrigation District (IID) is undertaking a transformative initiative to deploy an advanced distribution management system (ADMS). The project will modernize and automate current processes and integrate disparate systems to help address the growing energy demands of California's Imperial Valley, as well as parts of Riverside and San Diego Counties. This project will enhance the operability and reliability of IID's grid while providing direct service benefits to Disadvantaged Communities (DACs) within its service territory. The project will enable IID to harness untapped renewable resources and improve outage response while also creating employment and training opportunities, contributing to local economic development and community engagement.

Anticipated Outcomes and Benefits

Streamlined system optimization for greater reliability: The automation of IID's current fault management and system optimization, which are currently paper based, will lead to more efficient identification and repair of faults in the grid. This will result in faster resolution of issues and a more reliable service for IID customers.

Enabling future grid modernization: The ADMS project will serve as an important foundation for IID's future grid modernization efforts, improving its ability to integrate future smart grid technologies.

Job creation and workforce development: Over its five-year project period, the ADMS initiative will create 18 contract positions, six full-time employment positions, and paid summer internships for youth. IID will engage community and union stakeholders quarterly; Quechan Indian Tribe and Cabazon Band of Cahuilla Indians; Imperial Valley College; city and county governments; and community benefit organizations. Some or all of this project will be executed in collaboration with the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW).

Empowerment of Disadvantaged Communities: The service area, located on the U.S.-Mexico border, includes 48 DACs. This includes a large Hispanic/Latino population facing significant socioeconomic hardship. The project directly benefits these populations by providing better grid reliability, job opportunities, and access to clean energy technologies, contributing to long-term community improvement.

Project Details



- **Project:**
Advanced Distribution Management
- **Applicant/Selectee:**
Imperial Irrigation District
- **GRIP Program:**
Smart Grid Grants
(Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, Section 40107)
- **Federal cost share:**
\$18,379,396
- **Recipient cost share:**
\$18,379,396
- **Project location:**
California
- **Project type:**
Situational Awareness and System Automation Solutions

Published October 2024. Fact sheet information is based on project applications at the time of publication and should not be considered final.