QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

RFA-FY23-PCD-811 DC (Energy Storage Grant Program - DCESGP)

Q1: Does the installation of the storage units have to be on sites that the applicant already has access to/owns or can the applicant propose putting the storage units on existing third-party solar installations?

A1: DOEE does not require applicants to own sites for installing BESS. However, applicants would need to demonstrate commitment from partners.

Q2: The RFA says that compliance with SETF and IIJA is required. What does that mean?

A2: The DC Council authorized funding from the Sustainable Energy Trust Fund (SETF) for grants supporting the installation of energy storage systems connected to renewable energy generation systems in the District. The SETF shall offset commercial systems, including multifamily residential buildings with five or more units for at least 30%, but not more than 40% of the purchase price of the energy storage system.

Section 40101(d) of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) provides funding for states to improve the resilience of their electric grids. Grantees expending IIJA funds must adhere to all legal requirements pertaining to the expenditure of those funds, such as using American-made products as directed by the Build American, Buy American Act provisions of the IIJA, and the Davis-Bacon Act.

Q3: The RFA states that District resident employment and training plan is optional. Is there a specific percentage (of District residents) that you are looking for? Is this highly encouraged?

A3: No specific percentage is required. Each application will be scored according to the list of criteria and points available for each criterion which includes training. See Section 7 in the RFA.

Q4: Is there a time limit for newly built solar systems to be included as part of the energy storage grant application?

A4: DOEE's deadline for energy storage units is September 30, 2024. To meet that deadline, newly built solar systems would need to be completed before September 30, 2024. However, all viable energy storage projects will be considered for funding. Priority will be given to energy storage projects that can be completed before the deadline.

Q5: Is there a list of all SfA sites that is publicly available?

A5: List of registered solar generation facilities: https://dcpsc.org/Utility-Information/Electric/RPS.aspx

Q6: Are you using the Opportunity Zone map to help determine Mean Income within 80% for a site(s)?

A6: Not specifically. DOEE is open to using eligibility from multiple sources.

Q7: How can anyone interested in RFA-FY23-PCD-811 request a copy?

A7: A person may obtain a copy of this RFA by any of the following means:

Download from the website https://doee.dc.gov/node/1672701 or Email a request to 2023DCESGP.grants@dc.gov with "Request copy of RFA-FY23-PCD-811" in the subject line.

You may submit additional questions to: 2023DCESGP.grants@dc.gov