



Governor Cuomo Announces \$10 Million to Modernize New York's Power Grid

Funding Supports Energy Highway Blueprint to Develop "Smart Grid" Technologies to Improve Power Flows, Promote Clean Energy and Lower Costs to Consumers

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ALBANY, NY — Governor Andrew M. Cuomo today announced that \$10 million is available to promote new "Smart Grid" technologies that will help re-engineer New York State's electric grid to accommodate a diverse supply of power generation sources, including more clean energy, enhance grid performance, reduce environmental impacts and energy consumption, and lower costs to customers.

The funding available is part of Governor Cuomo's Energy Highway Blueprint, which called for innovative projects to help reduce peak demand strains on the electric system and reduce associated costs, integrate intermittent power sources, such as wind and solar, strengthen the security of the system, and improve overall reliability.

"This funding will support innovative projects to implement our Energy Highway Blueprint and make New York's electric grid one of the most advanced in the nation," Governor Cuomo said. "Modernizing the electric grid will not only help us meet current challenges in demand, efficiency, and costs to customers, but will also set New York up as a leader in smart energy practices for years to come."

"This program represents a critical component in the Blueprint to modernize and upgrade New York's electric grid. Innovative technology must be considered when looking to develop the grid of the future," said Francis J. Murray Jr., President and CEO, New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA). "Under Governor Cuomo's leadership, the state has increased its production of clean energy while at the same time developing a more resilient, stronger and energy efficient grid."

"One of the action items of Governor Cuomo's Energy Highway Blueprint is the application of smart-grid technologies for New York's electric power system," said the Co-chairs of the Energy Highway Task Force—Gil C. Quinones, president and CEO of the New York Power Authority, and Joseph Martens, Commissioner of the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation. "These sophisticated new technologies will play an integral part in modernizing the state's aging energy infrastructure as part of an ambitious public-private-sector partnership to transform the electric power system for a 21st century economy."

The funding, which is available through a competitive process, is being administered by NYSERDA under its Electric Power Transmission and Distribution Smart Grid Program. Projects can support research, engineering studies, product development and demonstration projects that improve the reliability, efficiency, quality, and overall performance of the electric power delivery system in New York State.

Proposals must demonstrate significant statewide public benefit and quantify all energy, environmental and economic impacts. Proposers must also provide cost-sharing.

Proposals for the first round of the program are due August 14 and second round proposals are due Feb. 12, 2014.

To date, NYSERDA's Smart Grid program has provided \$24 million in awards for research, product development and demonstration projects, matched by \$31 million in private sector funding and further leveraged by \$120 million in federal funding.

The Energy Highway initiative, introduced in the governor's 2012 State of the State address, was designed to ensure that New York's energy grid is the most advanced in the nation and promotes increased business investment in the state. The Blueprint provides for as much as 3,200 megawatts in new generation and transmission capacity through such strategies as additional renewable energy production, modernizing power plants, investing in transmission upgrades and developing Smart Grid technologies. For more information on the Energy Highway Blueprint, please visit www.nyenergyhighway.com.

To view the Smart Grid solicitation, please visit www.nyserda.ny.gov/PON2715.

Source: www.governor.ny.gov/press