The Virginia Department of Energy (Virginia Energy) is launching this application for Community Energy Resilience Grants through the U.S Department of Energy’s Renewables Advancing Community Energy Resilience (RACER) grant program. The primary objective of this work is to measure communities’ energy resilience and identify practical long-term solutions to reduce or eliminate vulnerabilities, particularly due to power outages.

Ten communities will be selected to receive RACER funding, which will include up to a $10,000 grant for resilience planning, and design drawings for a Community Energy Resilience Hub utilizing solar plus energy storage at a facility within the community. Selected communities can leverage the design drawings to apply for additional federal, state, or private grants for the purchase and installation.

Availability of grants is dependent on continued availability of federal funding.

Description of Potential Applicants

* Incorporated towns, cities, or counties
* Good financial standing
* Issues with community energy resilience, such as impacts from power outages
* Ability to form a small team of community members to conduct the community energy resiliency evaluation. The size of your team depends on how big of a community you are evaluating.

Funding Details & Deliverables: The $10K grant is to cover staff time spent to complete the required deliverables. Thus, in order to receive the $10K, communities must participate in the two deliverable parts of this grant and will invoice, submit their deliverable, and then receive funding.

* $6K: Workbook Completion: The workbook must be completed as a deliverable prior to receiving any funds or services. The workbook for Incorporated Communities is posted on the [Virginia Energy Resilience site](https://energy.virginia.gov/renewable-energy/Energy_Resilience.shtml).
* $4K: Solar-Plus-Storage Design: must work with the engineering firm to provide any additional information they may need to create a meaningful design that could be used for improved community energy resiliency. Examples of solar-plus-storage resilience hub designs may be found at: <http://resilience-hub.org/what-are-hubs/>.

Application Process:

* **Review the** [**instructions**](#Instructions)**, disclaimers, and** [**references**](#References) **located at the end before completing this application.**
* Submit either a Word or PDF version by the deadline.
* Please respond to each question in 1-2 paragraphs or bulleted lists.
* E-mail final copy to [resilience@energy.virginia.gov](mailto:resilience@energy.virginia.gov) by the submission deadline

Submission Deadline:

~~Friday, March 14, 2025 at 5pm, Extended to Monday March 31~~~~st~~~~, 2025 at 5pm~~

We are accepting rolling applications until all grants are allocated

Selection Information:

* Applicants will be notified of selection within ten (15) business days of the submission deadline.
* A selection does not guarantee a grant award as all Terms & Conditions must be met including financial eligibility vetting for grant funds.

***The Virginia Department of Energy (Virginia Energy) encourages applicants to submit requests with the greatest potential to achieve the energy resilience planning goals set forth by the Virginia Energy Resilience Study Program.***

**Review the** [**instructions**](#Instructions)**, disclaimers, and** [**references**](#References) **located at the end before completing this application.**

**General Information**

|  |
| --- |
| **Project Location City/County:**  Click here to enter text. |
| **Project Location (Physical) Address [Address of resilience hub location if known at time of application]:**  Click here to enter text. |
| **Impacted Communities (If beyond Project Location City/County):**  Click here to enter text. |
| **Grant Funding Requested**  ☐ Workbook Only ($6,000 Grant) ☐Design Drawings + Workbook ($10,000 Grant) |
| **Resilience Workbook Completion**  ☐We have completed the workbook at the time of this application  ☐We will have completed the workbook by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (date). |
| **Any Anticipated Project Partners? (e.g. Other Local Governments, Civic Organizations, Private Business, etc.)** **that will have a direct role in energy resiliency planning:**  Click here to enter text. |

**Primary Applicant Information**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Municipality Name**  Click here to enter text. | **Contact Person**  Click here to enter text. | **Title**  Click here to enter text. | | **E-mail address**  Click here to enter text. | |
| **Street or P. O. Box**  Click here to enter text. | **City**  Click here to enter text. | **State**  Click here to enter text. | **ZIP CODE**  Click here to enter text. | | **Telephone Number**  Click here to enter text. |

**Secondary Contact (from primary applicant or partner)**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Organization Name**  Click here to enter text. | **Contact Person**  Click here to enter text. | **Title**  Click here to enter text. | | **E-mail address**  Click here to enter text. | |
| **Street or P. O. Box**  Click here to enter text. | **City**  Click here to enter text. | **State**  Click here to enter text. | **ZIP CODE**  Click here to enter text. | | **Telephone Number**  Click here to enter text. |

***Community Energy Resilience Needs Summary***

|  |
| --- |
| **Provide a brief, 1-2 paragraph summary that clearly and concisely explains your community’s needs for an energy resilience planning grant. For example, you may discuss any energy outages your community has experienced, and difficulties encountered due to the outages.**  [Enter response here] |

***Resilience Planning Details***

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| --- |
| **Provide a brief description of any energy resilience planning efforts that your community has undertaken in recent years. Describe how planning a resilience hub or solar-plus-storage project would benefit your community. Past efforts or absence of efforts will not impact your community’s ability to receive a grant.**  [Enter response here] |

***Stakeholders and Community Engagement***

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Identify important stakeholders in your community who may be interested in engaging in energy resilience planning or taking part in any public energy resilience meetings. Are these stakeholders currently engaged in any form of resilience planning? For example, your community may have a group already involved in resilience planning, or you may have a couple of individuals involved with zoning or planning that may be involved as part of your team.**  **What is the readiness of your community to have discussions related to energy resilience and potential of solar plus storage to be part of any energy resilience solution? Are there any barriers to be aware of to including solar plus storage as part of an energy resilience plan?**   |  |  | | --- | --- | | **Stakeholders and engagement:**   * [Enter responses here] |  | | **Community readiness:**   * [Enter responses here] | |

**Scoring Rubric**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Criteria** | **Strongly Disagree** | **Disagree** | **Neutral** | **Agree** | **Strongly Agree** | **Comments** |
| Participants(s) have the ability to accept funds and planning services from Virginia Energy and/or contractors. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |  |
| Participant(s) have identified a team, partners or stakeholders to assist in community energy resilience planning. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |  |
| Participant(s) have provided adequate information for demonstration of need of an energy resilience planning grant. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |  |
| Participant(s) have indicated a willingness to engage in discussions related to energy resilience planning. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |  |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **NAME AND SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE** | | |
|  |  |  |
|  |  | Click here to enter text. |
| Signature |  | Title |
|  |  |  |
| Click here to enter text. |  | Click here to enter text. |
| Printed Name |  | Date |

**DISCLAIMERS:**

* Applicant will submit a completed or mutually negotiated completed section of the Resilience Workbook and allow for public dissemination of the Engineering Design with any sensitive information removed to Virginia Department of Energy as deliverables for purposes of the Energy Resilience Planning Grant.
* This application and all material submitted as part of the application, including all project-related information if the project is selected, are subject to the Virginia Freedom of Information Act.
* Applicant must undergo financial due diligence evaluation by Virginia Energy prior to approval to receive any funds.
* Projects must follow the guidelines set forth in the Virginia Public Procurement ACT and Virginia Energy’s Terms & Conditions.
* Applicants are solely responsible for regularly checking the Virginia Energy website for any addenda.

**Other Documents Required Prior to Award and Final Contract Execution**

1. Completed Commonwealth of VA W-9
2. Completed Financial Capabilities Questionnaire
3. Completed appropriate SF-424 Form
4. Completed Audit Certification form & Copy of two most recent audits.

**References and Resources:**

[Virginia Public Procurement Act](https://law.lis.virginia.gov/vacode/title2.2/chapter43/)

Virginia General Terms and Conditions: REQUIRED GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS, GOODS AND NONPROFESSIONAL SERVICES

Special Term and Condition “eVA Orders and Contracts”