

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

RFP #2024-011

NEW HAMPSHIRE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Funding Local Outage Reduction Advancements Program (FLORA)

	Questions	Answers
1.	II.A(b)(i) – Is the Department aware of any industry accepted methods for calculating “post-project projected” metrics?	The Department expects all proposers to use standard industry practices for measuring the impact to CAIDI and CAIFI as proposers would in making any funding decisions to address a problem that needs to be addressed. The Department expects all proposers to provide an explanation (including the methodology utilized) of how CAIDI/CAIFI projections were determined. The clarity and soundness of a proposer’s explanation and supporting methodology will be considered in the scoring. Common industry standards must include: CAIDI/CAIFI projections. Methodology may include but not limited to: Failure Modes and Effects Analysis (FMEA); System Average Interruption Frequency Index (SAIFI); and System Average Duration Frequency Index (SAIDI). To demonstrate a project’s ability to impact CAIDI/CAIFI, proposers are encouraged to use historical outage data and share impacts of past funded initiatives. Proposers can demonstrate how and why certain projects are prioritized over others and what methodology was used in making these funding decisions and the actual impact to CAIDI/CAIFI post implementation.
2.	II.A(d)(i) – Would a utility’s internal line worker apprentice programs qualify as an “existing workforce development/training opportunity?”	Yes. Please provide information and data that supports the inline workforce development/training program.

3.	<p>II.B(4)(a)(i) – Can the Department provide a straightforward method or additional clarity on how to identify the “‘nearly’ disadvantaged” communities?</p> <p>a. How can a respondent find the state ranking and DAC score? It is not apparent from the available resources.</p> <p>b. How is a “municipality” defined in the statement regarding public schools (i.e., town or census tract)?</p>	<p>The Energy Justice Mapping Tool Disadvantaged Communities Reporter (anl.gov) must be used for demonstrating Disadvantaged Communities or Nearly Disadvantaged Community by providing the State ranking and DAC score from the tool. To find the ranking and DAC score, you must first find the TRACT NUMBER.</p> <p>The TRACT Number is identified by first searching the name of the community, then hover over the name of the City/Town and a TRACT NUMBER will appear. Some cities have several TRACT Numbers as you hover over the city area. Enter each number in the box labelled TRACT. The state ranking and DAC score will appear in the first box. (TIP: The tool can be finicky. Be sure to refresh the page with each new search).</p> <p>Proposers can also identify “Nearly Disadvantaged Communities” by identifying municipalities who have a <u>public</u> school where 35% or greater of the enrolled students are eligible for free or reduced lunch. This data is provided by the New Hampshire Department of Education Free/Reduced School Lunch Eligibility statistics.</p> <p>Municipality is defined as a city or town.</p>
4.	II.B(5) – What methods will the Department use to evaluate post-project CAIDI/CAIFI reduction projections?	Please see response to Question #1.
5.	III(d) – Is there a preferred convention for presentation of budget explanation or breakdown of expenses?	No. Proposers can use any format. Expenses should be clearly identified, easy to follow, and supporting documentation must be submitted to explain all expenses. Please see Federal Form SF424 for the level of detail expected by the USDOE.
6.	IV.B – Can the Department identify “Other Benefits of the Project” that would qualify under the Scoring Criteria?	Please see Section IV, B Scoring Criteria and Weight: Other Benefits of the Project. Please note that the examples provided in the RFP are not meant to be an exhaustive list.
7.	Will the Department consider multiple project proposals from one respondent?	Yes, multiple projects may be considered if they are distinctly different projects and are presented in a distinctly separate proposal.
8.	What is the anticipated timeframe for the evaluation and selection of projects after the proposal due date?	The timeframe will be dependent on the number of proposals received. Once awardees have been identified, projects must also be submitted to the USDOE and Governor and Council for final approval.

9.	Is there a “small utility set aside” for this RFP as described in the Grid Resilience and Innovation Partnership (GRIP) Program?	All of New Hampshire’s Utilities fall under the small utility designation.
10.	If submitting multiple projects does the proposer need to submit a letter of intent for each project?	A proposer may submit one letter of intent specifying the number of separate proposals the proposer intends to submit.
11.	If submitting multiple projects how should the proposer distinguish between project submittals?	Complete applications must be submitted for <u>each</u> project proposal using a distinct naming convention to avoid any confusion among projects.