



Minnesota State Competitiveness Fund Report

Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes § 216C.391, subd. 7

Report Prepared By

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Executive Summary

In accordance with Minnesota Statutes, section 216C.391, subd. 7, this report details the activities and expenditures of the Minnesota State Competitiveness Fund for 2024. The Minnesota Department of Commerce (Commerce) manages the State Competitiveness Fund (SCF), a \$190 million program aimed at increasing the competitiveness of Minnesota entities in securing federal funding for energy projects. The SCF consists of multiple programs that support Minnesotans by providing matching funds for federal grant applications, grants to leverage clean energy tax credits, local grant-seeking assistance, information system development, and administrative support for program management, reporting, and audits.

To date, the SCF programs have reserved nearly \$72 million for applicants, with \$6 million in Local Development Grant Assistance and almost \$11 million in Matching Funds awarded. The SCF has helped increase investment in Minnesota communities across the state and provided guidance and support for communities for critical energy projects that increase energy resiliency, efficiency, and reliability in alignment with [Minnesota Climate Action Framework](#) goals.

State Competitiveness Fund Background

Minnesota Statutes § 216C.391 established the SCF with the purpose of increasing the success of Minnesota applicants in the pursuit of federal funds available through the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) and the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) and in completion of funded projects.

The SCF provides grants for grant development assistance, to offset the cost-share requirements of federal funding programs, and to reduce the project costs for the Minnesota entities receiving federal grant, tax credit and loan funding. Funding appropriated for each of the programs covered by the \$190 million appropriation is displayed in the table below.

Table 1: State Competitiveness Fund Legislative Appropriations

| Program | Legislative Bill, Article and Section SF3035 - Chapter 53, MN Laws HF1656 - Chapter 24, MN Laws | Funding Appropriated (FY24-25) |
|---|---|-----------------------------------|
| Match Program (Cost-Share Coverage) | HF 1656 | \$ 100,000,000 |
| Grants to Leverage IRA Tax Credits and Loans (Income-Qualified Focus) | SF 3035, Article 21, Section 6 (c) | \$ 75,000,000 |
| Support for Local Grant-Seeking Assistance | HF 1656 | \$ 6,000,000 |
| Commerce Reports and Audits | HF 1656 | \$ 750,000 |
| Commerce Information System Development | HF 1656 | \$ 1,500,000 |
| Commerce Administration and Technical Assistance | HF 1656 | \$ 6,750,000 |

| Program | Legislative Bill, Article and Section SF3035 - Chapter 53, MN Laws HF1656 - Chapter 24, MN Laws | Funding Appropriated (FY24-25) |
|---------|---|-----------------------------------|
| | <i>Total</i> | \$ 190,000,000 |

2024 SCF Activities

SCF Matching Funds Program

The Matching Funds Program within the SCF was appropriated to encourage applications for IJA and IRA federal grant funding to support energy projects in the state. The funds are to be used to pay required state match or to otherwise reduce the cost for projects that are awarded federal funds. At least \$75 million of the funds appropriated to this program must go to awards of less than \$1 million and no funded entity may receive more than \$15 million in awards.

As of December 31, 2024, Commerce completed three rounds of funding applications and reservations in the SCF Matching Funds Program. Round 4 applications were accepted from January 3 - January 17, 2025. For each of the three completed rounds, Notification Reports were submitted to the Legislative Advisory Committee, including the list of entities receiving a funding reservation:

- Round 1: [January 23, 2024 Notification Report](#)
- Round 2: [March 8, 2024 Notification Report](#)
- Round 3: [November 15, 2024 Notification Report](#)

Currently, the SCF Matching Funds Program has \$66,979,936 in reserved awards to complement up to \$548,273,395 in federal funds for eligible projects and entities in Minnesota. An additional \$5,000,000 is reserved as cost-share for 40101(d) Grid Resilience Formula Grants (Priority Category 1). In total, at the close of 2024, \$71,979,936 was reserved. A majority of award reservations for Priority Categories 2-6 are still waiting on confirmation and contracting from federal agencies, but if approved will receive over \$14 in federal funds for every \$1 in SCF Matching Funds.

As of December 31, 2024, nearly \$11,000,000 in SCF Matching Fund Awards have been encumbered for projects in Minnesota confirmed with contracted federal awards of almost \$61,000,000. To date, entities in Minnesota have received nearly \$6 in contracted federal funding for every \$1 in SCF Matching Funds awarded. Attachment A provides a full breakdown of awarded projects and their current federal award status. Attachment B provides a map of all projects.

Table 2: SCF Matching Funds Reservation by Priority Category in 1st Three Rounds of Funding

| Priority Category | Entity Prioritization Order | Funding Allocated | Percent of Funds Allocated | Number of Applications ¹ |
|-------------------|--|-------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1 | federal formula funds directed to the state that require a match; ² | \$5,000,000 | 7% | n/a |

¹ 99 total SCF Matching Funds applications have been awarded reservations; as of December 31, 2024, 12 SCF Matching Fund awards were removed from the SCF Matching Fund pool after their federal award applications were withdrawn or rejected. Funds from those 12 reservations will be available for future funding rounds of the SCF Matching Funds program

² Table 1 note: Priority Category 1 includes \$5 million set aside for Commerce cost-share requirement for 40101d Grid Resilience Formula Grants. Applicants for the SCF Match Program via this RFP are eligible in Categories 2-5.

| Priority Category | Entity Prioritization Order | Funding Allocated | Percent of Funds Allocated | Number of Applications ¹ |
|-------------------|--|---------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 2 | a political subdivision or a Tribal government, for eligible funding opportunities that require a match; | \$6,978,091 | 10% | 10 |
| 3 | an institution of higher education, a consumer-owned utility, a business, or a non-profit organization, for eligible funding opportunities that require a match; | \$44,806,348 | 62% | 67 |
| 4 | investor-owned utilities, for funding opportunities that require a match; | \$12,666,598 | 18% | 4 |
| 5 | an eligible entity not included in clauses (1) to (4); for funding opportunities that require a match; | \$1,060,899 | 1% | 2 |
| 6 | eligible entities for funding opportunities not requiring a match, but for which cost-share would enhance likelihood of grant receipt or to increase the potential amount of federal funds received. | \$1,467,999 | 2% | 4 |
| | Total Allocated in Rounds 1-3 | \$71,979,935 | | 87 |

Round 2: Standard Response Round Recap

After clarification of project details and alignment with maximum statutory funding allowances, the total amount of eligible funding requests in Round 2 was \$93,097,098. The funds reserved in Round 2 totaled \$45,820,136 for 59 Minnesota entities/projects. As of January 10, 2025, SCF Matching Funds awardees who either did not receive approval for their federal award application or withdrew their application have returned \$8,167,810.98 in reservations to the SCF Matching Funds program; these funds will be eligible for future SCF Matching Funds application rounds. The total reserved funds from Round 2 is now \$37,652,325. More detail on the individual projects and their awards can be found in Attachment A.

Round 3 Recap

Under Round 3, a total of 31 eligible applications were received, with original funding requests totaling \$26,417,005. Following the evaluation process, \$17,708,516 was reserved for all 31 Minnesota entities/projects. More detail on the individual projects and their awards can be found in Attachment A.

Grants to Leverage IRA Tax Credits and Loans

As established by the 2023 legislature, the SCF includes \$75 million to “award grants that are additive to federal tax credits received by an eligible entity to further reduce the cost of the technologies and activities eligible for such federal tax credits in disadvantaged communities.” Funds will be used in collaboration with Minnesota’s new “green bank”—the Minnesota Climate Innovation Financing Agency (MnCIFA) – to leverage the federal funds including through bridge funding to effectively secure tax credits. This includes tax credits available through “direct pay” that make the credits available to governments and other non-taxable entities.

In 2024, Commerce worked with a representative from the IRS to host educational webinars on the Direct Pay Tax Credits. Commerce also partnered with MMB staff to further promote the tax credits and educate potential recipients on how to access tax credits for energy projects. In addition to education and outreach, staff within Commerce and MnCIFA worked to pursue federal funds through both loans from the Department of Energy Loans Program Office (LPO) and bridge loans to projects eligible for Direct Pay Tax Credits. To facilitate similar

opportunities to leverage tax credits with bridge loans, Commerce transferred \$60 million from the SCF to MnCIFA.

Technical Assistance and Other Expenditures

Commerce provided technical assistance to Minnesota stakeholders to support them as they identify, pursue, and secure federal funding opportunities, provided outreach, education, and technical expertise, and provided administrative support. Activities included:

- Creating a robust email newsletter that provides updates to over 25,000 recipients at least every two weeks, a fedquestions.commerce@state.mn.us inbox to support direct inquiries, and information on the mn.gov/commerce website.
- Implementing the Local Capacity Grant Assistance Program and providing additional technical support to recipients.
- Collaborating with the Internal Revenue Service to conduct three webinars on the IRS Direct Pay Tax Credits reaching a total audience of 300 plus participants.
- Expanding partnerships with multiple technical assistance working groups to expand the reach of the local capacity building resources.
- Connecting directly with cities about SCF at the League of Minnesota Cities annual conference to ensure these local governments.
- Providing technology assistance to state and other eligible entities in their efforts through dedicated technical staff focused on grid modernization and emerging fuels.
- One additional person was hired in 2024 to advance SCF work.

Local Grant Development Assistance

The goal of the SCF Local Development Grant Assistance program is to increase the competitiveness of entities across Minnesota in accessing federal funding by providing grant support to local, skilled grant development entities in partnership with the Department of Commerce. Through this program, eligible entities are served by a range of support services including offering technical and grant writing assistance; soliciting or leveraging third party grant-writing assistance to address challenges and disparities in applying for federal funding opportunities; providing financial needs analysis and priority determination; and other grant development technical assistance services.

Commerce issued 25 grant contracts totaling \$6 million to entities with expertise and experience in grant development to assist eligible entities with preparing grant applications for federal funds pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 216C.391, subd. 4. These contracts were awarded to a range of entities including Tribal nations, regional development commissions, utilities associations, consumer-owned utilities, consultants, and nongovernmental organizations. The awarded organizations have provided services to eligible entities, especially those designated as Disadvantaged Communities, with support to access and utilize federal funding opportunities over the course of a 3-year grant period, which began in the first quarter of 2024.

Information Technology Activities

The SCF Information System Development effort is focused on technology and systems modernization to equip Minnesotans with clear, actionable information to understand potential federal opportunities as well as to document Minnesota successes in pursuing federal funds. Commerce has issued a request for proposal for

assistance to stand-up an interactive one-stop web platform that will allow Minnesotans to visualize key data and projects happening throughout the State.

Independent Financial Audit

In 2024, \$1,152,668.70 was expended for grant activity during the first program year. Because the grant programs have not had a full year of spending, Commerce will conduct an independent financial audit for FY 25 and submit it with the 2025 annual report.

Utilized and Unreserved Funds Account Balances

Matching Funds Program

See Table 3 for the current SCF Matching Funds Award Reservations by Priority Category and Funding Round (i.e. SCF recipients who have either received approval for their federal award application or are waiting to receive feedback on their application). Table 4 provides a breakdown of returned SCF Matching Fund Award Reservations by Priority Category and Funding Round.

Table 3: Active Award Reservations of the SCF Matching Funds Program as of 12.31.24

| Priority Category | Amount Reserved Round 1 - Quick Response | Amount Reserved Round 2 - Standard | Amount Reserved Round 3 | Total |
|-------------------|--|------------------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Category 1 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$5,000,000.00 ³ |
| Category 2 | \$269,094.90 | \$2,200,000.00 | \$4,508,996.58 | \$6,978,091.48 |
| Category 3 | \$1,049,999.00 | \$32,322,328.27 | \$11,434,020.85 | \$44,806,348.12 |
| Category 4 | \$10,000,000.00 | \$1,999,998.00 | \$666,600.00 | \$12,666,598.00 |
| Category 5 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$1,060,899.00 | \$1,060,899.00 |
| Category 6 | \$300,000.00 | \$1,129,999.00 | \$38,000.00 | \$1,467,999.00 |
| | \$11,619,093.90 | \$37,652,325.27 | \$17,708,516.43 | \$71,979,935.60 |

Table 4: Returned SCF Matching Funds Awards from Three Funding Rounds, as of 12.31.24

| Priority Category | Returned from Round 1 - Quick Response | Returned from Round 2 - Standard | Returned from Round 3 | Total |
|-----------------------|--|----------------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|
| Category 1 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 |
| Category 2 | \$4,523,985.00 | \$3,401,013.00 | \$0.00 | \$7,924,998.00 |
| Category 3 | \$2,375,000.00 | \$3,049,997.00 | \$0.00 | \$5,424,997.00 |
| Category 4 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 | \$0.00 |
| Category 5 | \$0.00 | \$868,750.00 | \$0.00 | \$868,750.00 |
| Category 6 | \$0.00 | \$848,050.98 | \$0.00 | \$848,050.98 |
| Total Returned | \$6,898,985.00 | \$8,167,810.98 | \$0.00 | \$15,066,795.98 |

Remaining SCF Matching Funds for 2025 Funding Rounds

³ Priority Category 1 includes \$5 million set aside for Commerce cost-share requirement for 40101d Grid Resilience Formula Grants. Applicants for the SCF Match Program via this RFP are eligible in Categories 2-5.

As of December 31, 2024, SCF Matching Funds Program Award Reservations (including awarded, waiting approval, and cancelled/withdrawn recipients) have totaled \$87,046,731.58. Subtracting \$15,066,795.98 in returned SCF Matching Funds leaves \$71,979,935.60 in SCF Matching Fund Award Reservations (including Category 1) made in 2023 and 2024 that are either awarded or still reserved while applicants await confirmation on their federal grant applications.

Total remaining funds available for SCF Matching Fund Program for Round 4 and other future funding rounds is \$28,020,065. MN Commerce Department anticipates that the total remaining available funds will fluctuate as SCF Award Reservation applicants are informed of rejected and/or withdrawn federal funding applications.

Grant Development Assistance

All \$6 million in allocated funds was contracted to 25 grantees. \$1,152,668.70 was drawn down in 2024.

Commerce Technical Assistance and Administration

Total personnel charges as of December 2024 were \$142,000. Agency indirect costs were \$9,000. Additional expenses include printing charges of \$110, travel costs of \$1,850, and staff training costs of \$750.

Recommendations for Enhancement

Matching Funds Program

Pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 216C.391, subd. 7(7), Commerce makes the following recommendations for legislation to enhance the ability of eligible entities to successfully compete for federal funds:

1. Add federal grant programs other than the Infrastructure and Investment Jobs Act (IIJA, aka the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, or BIL) and the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) to qualify as eligible for application to SCF Match Programs. Provide examples of other Federal Funding sources.

Reasoning:

- Funds that are reserved, but which become available owing to failure of a grant proposal, could still provide important work leveraging federal funds if the current requirements expanded to cover additional funding opportunities. Many pertinent energy-related federal funding programs, both long-standing and new programs, are funded by existing federal acts, such as the Energy Act of 2020 and the Energy Policy Act of 2005 which includes the Tribal Energy Development and Self Determination Act of 2005.
- Selected federal agencies, such as the U.S. Department of Energy and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency are also using prize and challenge competitions to applicants with smaller cash incentives for assistance in project scoping, planning and development, technical assistance, and grant proposal planning and development. These programs are not grants or cooperative agreements and are generally less than \$500,000, most often less than \$100,000. Adding an authority to the SCF Match Program to allow prize and challenge competition winners to receive state funded match dollars could support and incentivize the further development of clean energy, decarbonization and climate-related projects.

2. Provide an exception to 5-year term limit for MN grant funding through the following addition to amend Minn. Stat. § 216C.391, subd. 3 to add a new paragraph (c):

“(c) Notwithstanding 16B.98, subd. 5, paragraph (4)(b), grants from this program may exceed five years.”

Reasoning:

- Projects funded by certain federal programs which have or will potentially be awarded SCF Match Program funding can have up to 10 years to complete the project.
 - An Amendment to the current SCF statute would be necessary for the current Match Program and any future bill appropriations.
3. Replace the term “state money” in the definition of “Match” provided in the SCF statute with “non-federal money.” Minn. Stat. § 216C.391, subd. 1(h):

“Match” means the amount of state money a successful grantee in Minnesota is required to contribute to a project as a condition of receiving federal funds.

Reasoning:

- Federal funding grant programs with cost-share requirements generally allow cost-share funding to be from any non-federal sources. Match funds don’t need to be explicitly state funds.

Attachment A: List of Entities Receiving SCF Matching Fund Reservations under Rounds 1-3

| Funding Round | Applicant Name | Project | MN SCF Match | Federal Funds | Total Project Cost | Project Purpose |
|--|--|---|-------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|---|
| Confirmed SCF Matching Funds Awards (Federal Funding Application Approved and Contracted) | | | | | | |
| Round 1 - Quick Response | Region Five Development Commission | Energy Improvements at Public K 12: R5DC and Cass Lake Bena. Improving Performance, Reducing Cost at Cass Lake Bena Public Schools on Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe Reservation | \$ 240,000.00 | \$ 8,859,110.00 | \$ 9,534,610.00 | Purpose: Increase energy efficiency of buildings on Tribal Lands. Energy efficiency upgrades to three public schools located on Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe reservation land. |
| Round 2 - Standard | Whispering Pines Lodge LLC | Solar for Off-Grid Northern MN Lodge | \$ 108,373.27 | \$ 72,248.00 | \$ 180,622.11 | Solar Energy Project. Purpose: To support a solar array designed with 27 kW of solar, 3 x 8kW 240V AC/48 V DC inverters and a battery bank of 82kWh of usable energy. |
| Round 3 | City of Edina | City of Edina Biodiesel Fueling Facility Project | \$ 163,000.00 | \$ 163,000.00 | \$ 326,000.00 | City of Edina Biodiesel Fueling Facility Project: The City of Edina is aiming to be the first city in Minnesota to convert its diesel-powered heavy-duty municipal fleet to B100 biofuel, beginning with some of our dump trucks/snowplows. By retrofitting our heavy-duty fleet to use B100 fuel, we will not only prolong the useful life of existing vehicles by keeping them out of junkyards for longer, but also significantly reduce the City's greenhouse gas emissions and help reach our communitywide greenhouse gas emissions reduction goal. In addition, being one of the first cities in Minnesota—and one of only a handful in the Upper Midwest—to convert to B100, this will be an excellent demonstration project for other cold climate municipalities to pursue similar projects to reduce their fleet emissions. By purchasing homegrown Minnesota biofuels instead of imported petroleum diesel, this project will support our state's farmers and agriculture. |
| Round 2 - Standard | Natel Energy | Stakeholder Outreach for Fish Safe Hydropower (SO FISH) | \$ 130,000.00 | \$ 1,300,000.00 | \$ 1,300,000.00 | Stakeholder Outreach for Fish-Safe Hydropower. Purpose: To develop a community education experience focused on communicating and soliciting feedback on advancements in turbine design that reduce environmental tradeoffs for clean, renewable hydropower. The experience will be located at the Coon Rapids hydroelectric project |
| Round 1 - Quick Response | ALLETE Inc. | Minnesota Power HVDC Terminal Expansion Capability (HTEC) | \$ 10,000,000.00 | \$ 50,000,000.00 | \$ 104,116,574.00 | Purpose: Increase transmission capacity for additional renewable energy. Design new HVDC terminals and converter terminals leveraging an existing 465-mile, high-voltage direct-current (HVDC) transmission line. The increased design capacity of the two HVDC terminals would allow for the expansion of renewable energy transmission capability by up to as much as 1500 MW, a more than 66% increase; allow for the transfer of more renewable energy from other sources; and align potential future capacity expansion of both the transmission line and HVDC terminals more cost effectively. |
| Round 3 | Hegland Farms of Appleton | Hegland Farms Grain Dryer REAP Match | \$ 237,905.51 | \$ 237,905.51 | \$ 475,811.01 | Hegland Farms Grain Dryer REAP Match: Match for a USDA REAP grant to update on-farm grain drying equipment with energy-efficient technology. |
| Total SCF Awards with Federal Awards Contracted | | | \$ 10,879,278.78 | \$ 60,632,263.51 | \$ 115,933,617.12 | |
| SCF Matching Funds Reservations (Federal Funding Application Under Review or In Negotiations) | | | | | | |
| Round 1 - Quick Response | Center for Energy and Environment | Minnesota Advanced Energy Codes Partnership, A Path to Net | \$ 300,000.00 | \$ 5,288,000.00 | \$ 5,677,761.00 | Purpose: Increase building energy efficiency via commercial building codes. Improve compliance and accelerate adoption to help the state achieve it's target of net zero commercial energy codes by 2036. Midwest Advanced Energy Codes Partnership includes Department of Labor and Industry, Department of Commerce, University of MN Sustainable Building Research Center, 2050 Partners, and NORESCO. |
| Round 1 - Quick Response | The Cooperative Light and Power Association of Lake County | Wildfire Assessment and Resilience for Networks (WARN) | \$ 50,000.00 | \$ 208,527.00 | \$ 297,895.00 | Purpose: Grid resilience and reliability. Rebuild distribution line in rural MN, as part of Wildfire Assessment and Resilience Networks (WARN) nationally focused project. Funding awarded to Holy Cross Energy. |
| Round 1 - Quick Response | One Earth Renewables LLC on behalf of Elbow Lake Cooperative | Heartland Hydrogen Hub (sub/sub/sub awardee; Growing MN Supply of Green Urea | \$ 999,999.00 | \$ 2,000,000.00 | \$ 4,000,000.00 | Purpose: Support MN agriculture cooperative participation in Heartland Hydrogen Hub. (sub/sub/sub-awardee). Builds MN supply pipeline of green urea. |
| Round 2 - Standard | OER LLC on behalf of Ag Plus Cooperative | Heartland Hydrogen Hub (sub/sub/sub awardee; Growing MN Supply of Green Urea | \$ 999,999.00 | \$ 2,000,000.00 | \$ 4,000,000.00 | Purpose: Support MN agriculture cooperative participation in Heartland Hydrogen Hub. Builds MN supply pipeline of green urea. |
| Round 2 - Standard | OER LLC on behalf of Ashby Equity Association | Heartland Hydrogen Hub (sub/sub/sub awardee; Growing MN Supply of Green Urea | \$ 999,999.00 | \$ 2,000,000.00 | \$ 4,000,000.00 | Purpose: Support MN agriculture cooperative participation in Heartland Hydrogen Hub. Builds MN supply pipeline of green urea. |
| Round 2 - Standard | behalf of Donnelly Co-op | Heartland Hydrogen Hub (sub/sub/sub awardee; Growing MN Supply of Green Urea | \$ 999,999.00 | \$ 2,000,000.00 | \$ 4,000,000.00 | Purpose: Support MN agriculture cooperative participation in Heartland Hydrogen Hub. Builds MN supply pipeline of green urea. |
| Round 2 - Standard | OER LLC on behalf of Glacial Plains Co-op | Heartland Hydrogen Hub (sub/sub/sub awardee; Growing MN Supply of Green Urea | \$ 999,999.00 | \$ 2,000,000.00 | \$ 4,000,000.00 | Purpose: Support MN agriculture cooperative participation in Heartland Hydrogen Hub. Builds MN supply pipeline of green urea. |
| Round 2 - Standard | OER LLC on behalf of Hancock Coop | Heartland Hydrogen Hub (sub/sub/sub awardee; Growing MN Supply of Green Urea | \$ 999,999.00 | \$ 2,000,000.00 | \$ 4,000,000.00 | Purpose: Support MN agriculture cooperative participation in Heartland Hydrogen Hub. Builds MN supply pipeline of green urea. |
| Round 2 - Standard | behalf of Leaf River Cooperative | Heartland Hydrogen Hub (sub/sub/sub awardee; Growing MN Supply of Green Urea | \$ 999,999.00 | \$ 2,000,000.00 | \$ 4,000,000.00 | Purpose: Support MN agriculture cooperative participation in Heartland Hydrogen Hub. Builds MN supply pipeline of green urea. |
| Round 2 - Standard | OER LLC on behalf of Meadowland Farmers Coop | Heartland Hydrogen Hub (sub/sub/sub awardee; Growing MN Supply of Green Urea | \$ 999,999.00 | \$ 2,000,000.00 | \$ 4,000,000.00 | Purpose: Support MN agriculture cooperative participation in Heartland Hydrogen Hub. Builds MN supply pipeline of green urea. |
| Round 2 - Standard | OER LLC on behalf of Morris Coop Green | Heartland Hydrogen Hub (sub/sub/sub awardee; Growing MN Supply of Green Urea | \$ 999,999.00 | \$ 2,000,000.00 | \$ 4,000,000.00 | Purpose: Support MN agriculture cooperative participation in Heartland Hydrogen Hub. Builds MN supply pipeline of green urea. |
| Round 2 - Standard | OER LLC on behalf of Pro-Ag Farmers' Cooperative | Heartland Hydrogen Hub (sub/sub/sub awardee; Growing MN Supply of Green Urea | \$ 999,999.00 | \$ 2,000,000.00 | \$ 4,000,000.00 | Purpose: Support MN agriculture cooperative participation in Heartland Hydrogen Hub. Builds MN supply pipeline of green urea. |

| Round 2 - Standard | OER LLC on behalf of West Central Ag Services Green Urea Project | Heartland Hydrogen Hub (sub/sub/sub awardee; Growing MN Supply of Green Urea) | \$ 999,999.00 | \$ 2,000,000.00 | \$ 4,000,000.00 | Purpose: Support MN agriculture cooperative participation in Heartland Hydrogen Hub. Builds MN supply pipeline of green urea. |
|--------------------------|--|--|-----------------|------------------|--------------------|--|
| Funding Round | Applicant Name | Project | MN SCF Match | Federal Funds | Total Project Cost | Project Purpose |
| Round 2 - Standard | OER LLC on behalf of Western Consolidated Co op Green Urea Project | Heartland Hydrogen Hub (sub/sub/sub awardee; Growing MN Supply of Green Urea) | \$ 999,999.00 | \$ 2,000,000.00 | \$ 4,000,000.00 | Purpose: Support MN agriculture cooperative participation in Heartland Hydrogen Hub. Builds MN supply pipeline of green urea. |
| Round 1 - Quick Response | Lower Sioux Indian Community | Preventing Outages and Enhancing the Resilience of the Electric Grid for Lower Sipoux Indian Community | \$ 29,094.90 | \$ 193,966.00 | \$ 223,060.90 | Purpose: Grid reliance and reliability. Resilience upgrades to be undertaken with 40101c Grid Resilience Competitive Program funds |
| Round 2 - Standard | Aerinet Solutions Corp. | ARC Artificial Intelligence Rescuing Rural Cooperatives | \$ 666,666.00 | \$ 1,666,666.50 | \$ 3,333,333.00 | Purpose: Modernize rural co-ops via AI. Creation of ARC (Artificial Intelligence Rescuing Rural Cooperatives) initiative, using cutting-edge & market-ready tech to help predict and prepare before, during, and after power outages. |
| Round 2 - Standard | Agralite Electric Cooperative | Midwest Assess, Harden and Intelligence Project | \$ 450,000.00 | \$ 2,250,000.00 | \$ 3,000,000.00 | Purpose: Midwest Assess, Harden and Intelligence Project. To support work in two pillars of this project, including development of a GIS tool to predict power lines by susceptible to severe wind and tornadic events (Assess pillar). AEC will also deploy advanced electronic reclosers through the distribution system to increase system adaptability (Intelligence pillar). |
| Round 2 - Standard | Arrowhead | Great River Energy's Employment of New ERA Renewables (GREENER) Plan | \$ 841,079.00 | \$ 1,682,157.75 | \$ 2,242,877.00 | Great River Energy's Employment of New ERA Renewables (GREENER) Plan. |
| Round 2 - Standard | Brown | Great River Energy's Employment of New ERA Renewables (GREENER) Plan | \$ 999,999.00 | \$ 11,362,782.75 | \$ 15,150,377.00 | Great River Energy's Employment of New ERA Renewables (GREENER) Plan. Purpose: The project highlights two strategic pillars: coordinate member renewable energy resource deployment (solar), and advance smart grid load control receivers to enable a virtual power plant. |
| Round 2 - Standard | Clearwater-Polk Electric Coop | Midwest Assess, Harden and Intelligence Project | \$ 121,500.00 | \$ 607,500.00 | \$ 810,000.00 | Midwest Assess, Harden and Intelligence Project: Purpose: To support work in the Assess pillar of this project, including development of a GIS tool to predict power lines by susceptible to severe wind and tornadic events. |
| Round 2 - Standard | Connexus Energy - Climate Shield Cooperative Network | Climate Shield Cooperative Network (CSCN) | \$ 999,999.00 | \$ 20,666,666.00 | \$ 31,000,000.00 | Purpose: To deploy modern hardware on both transmission and distribution systems to modernize the grid & benchmark improvement using reliability as baseline metrics. Project includes technology overhaul prioritizing rebuilding T&D lines, replacing conductors, poles & crossarms, upgrading tie-lines and addressing defective equipment. Future-proofs the system for future growth (due electrification efforts) of demand. and increases resilience. |
| Round 2 - Standard | Connexus Energy - Northern Gale Grid Defense | Northern Gale Grid Defense | \$ 999,999.00 | \$ 17,566,667.00 | \$ 26,350,000.00 | Purpose: Four distribution co-ops will implement resilience efforts through conversion of overhead to underground lines, monitoring and control technologies, adaptive modeling and vegetation management, lateral protection strategy, backlot underground replacement, reconductoring, and substation hardening projects. |
| Round 2 - Standard | Connexus Energy - (Guardians) | GUARDIANS OF THE GRID | \$ 666,666.00 | \$ 2,000,000.00 | \$ 3,000,000.00 | Purpose: To reduce the effects of catastrophic climate disaster that lead to energy injustice in the heartland by implementing innovative fiber-optic sensors, data analytics with Artificial Intelligence/Machine Learning (AI/ML), and co-op community connections with regional statewide authorities. |
| Round 2 - Standard | Connexus Energy (MMUA/MREA) | Midwest Assess, Harden and Intelligence Project | \$ 999,999.00 | \$ 25,521,000.00 | \$ 34,028,000.00 | Midwest Assess, Harden and Intelligence Project. |
| Round 2 - Standard | Connexus Energy - MIRA | Multi-Region Investments for Resilience At-Scale (MIRA) | \$ 999,999.00 | \$ 3,000,000.00 | \$ 6,000,000.00 | Purpose: To deploy foundational operations and planning technologies across multiple service territories, share lessons learned to enable future utility deployments, and develop local workforce skills. These technologies include 4-DMS/DERMS, 4-Distribution Automation (DA), 4-Model Management, 4-Forecasting, 3-Sensing, 1-Grid-edge computing, 1-Fiber technologies |
| Round 2 - Standard | Dakota | Great River Energy's Employment of New ERA Renewables (GREENER) Plan | \$ 999,999.00 | \$ 43,148,631.00 | \$ 57,531,508.00 | Great River Energy's Employment of New ERA Renewables (GREENER) Plan. |
| Round 2 - Standard | East Central Energy | Great River Energy's Employment of New ERA Renewables (GREENER) Plan | \$ 999,999.00 | \$ 12,030,282.75 | \$ 16,040,377.00 | Great River Energy's Employment of New ERA Renewables (GREENER) Plan. |
| Round 2 - Standard | Goodhue | Great River Energy's Employment of New ERA Renewables (GREENER) Plan | \$ 999,999.00 | \$ 10,827,738.00 | \$ 14,436,984.00 | Great River Energy's Employment of New ERA Renewables (GREENER) Plan. |
| Round 2 - Standard | Grand Portage Band of Lake Superior Chippewa | Grand Portage Energy Sovereignty and Resilience Project | \$ 2,200,000.00 | \$ 16,000,000.00 | \$ 24,000,000.00 | To conduct feasibility studies for an Energy Office and Tribal Utility Authority, as well as proper placement of a 4MW microgrid with uninterruptable power supply, back up generators, and solar charging capacity. The more than 24 power outages and power surges annually is causing undue financial hardships and safety concerns for the Tribe, and Grand Portage will complete the project utilizing Federal funding from GRIP and BRIC and the State Competitiveness Fund for the match. |
| Round 2 - Standard | GRE OBO Minnesota Valley Electric Cooperative | Great River Energy's Employment of New ERA Renewables (GREENER) Plan | \$ 999,999.00 | \$ 2,000,000.00 | \$ 4,000,000.00 | Great River Energy's Employment of New ERA Renewables (GREENER) Plan. |
| Round 2 - Standard | Itasca-Mantrap Electrical Cooper | Midwest Assess, Harden and Intelligence Project | \$ 270,000.00 | \$ 1,350,000.00 | \$ 1,800,000.00 | Purpose: To support work in the Harden pillar of this project, including increasing resiliency in 11 substation sites. The project will address physical, electronic and software components to increase substation resiliency. |
| Round 2 - Standard | Kandiyohi | Great River Energy's Employment of New ERA Renewables (GREENER) Plan | \$ 999,999.00 | \$ 15,296,999.25 | \$ 20,395,999.00 | Great River Energy's Employment of New ERA Renewables (GREENER) Plan. Purpose: To help fulfill 10% renewable self generation option from Great River Energy. Project 1 is the development of a Solar Array within KPC's territory that will bring down the cost of energy to its members, provide more local and reliable power, and reduce emissions from generation using fossil fuel. Project 1 is planned to be a 5 megawatt system, set up in the North half of the county. The second project is supporting the interconnection cost of the solar array to the substation so that this power generation will safely be tied to KPC's grid system. |
| Round 2 - Standard | Kandiyohi Power Cooperative | Midwest Assess, Harden and Intelligence Project | \$ 144,000.00 | \$ 720,000.00 | \$ 960,000.00 | Purpose: To support work in the Intelligence pillar of this project, thus project includes deploying advanced electronic reclosers through the distribution system to increase system adaptability. |
| Round 2 - Standard | Meeker Cooperative Light and Power Association | Midwest Assess, Harden and Intelligence Project | \$ 198,000.00 | \$ 1,485,000.00 | \$ 1,980,000.00 | Purpose: To support work in three pillars of this project, including development of a GIS tool to predict power lines by susceptible to severe wind and tornadic events (Assess pillar). Five substation sites will be targeted to receive measures to address physical, electronic and software components to increase the substation's resiliency (Harden pillar), and advanced electronic reclosers, motor-operated switchgear, and sensors will be deployed through the distribution system to increase system adaptability (Intelligence pillar). |
| Round 2 - Standard | MiEnergy Cooperative | Midwest Assess, Harden and Intelligence Project | \$ 600,000.00 | \$ 3,750,000.00 | \$ 5,000,000.00 | To support work in the Intelligence pillar of this project, thus project includes deploying advanced electronic reclosers through the distribution system to increase system adaptability. |
| Round 2 - Standard | Mille Lacs Energy | Midwest Assess, Harden and Intelligence Project | \$ 300,000.00 | \$ 1,500,000.00 | \$ 2,000,000.00 | Purpose: To support work in the Assess pillar of this project, including development of a GIS tool to predict power lines by susceptible to severe wind and tornadic events. The tool will identify priority lines to target with resilience efforts. |

| Round 2 - Standard | Minnesota Municipal Utilities Association | Midwest Assess, Harden and Intelligence Project | \$ 450,000.00 | \$ 4,500,000.00 | \$ 9,000,000.00 | Midwest Assess, Harden and Intelligence Project. Purpose: To serve as an overall project coordinator for the 20 municipal utilities, two power agencies and the University of Minnesota, responsible for ensuring participating municipal utilities, power agencies, and the University of Minnesota comply with all DOE grant requirements. MMUA will also play an integral role in the evolution of the community benefits plan and will engage community stakeholders to achieve targeted outcomes. |
|--------------------|--|--|-----------------|------------------|--------------------|--|
| Funding Round | Applicant Name | Project | MN SCF Match | Federal Funds | Total Project Cost | Project Purpose |
| Round 2 - Standard | Minnesota Rural Electric Association | Midwest Assess, Harden and Intelligence Project | \$ 450,000.00 | \$ 4,500,000.00 | \$ 9,000,000.00 | Midwest Assess, Harden and Intelligence Project. Purpose: To serve as project coordinator for 39 electric cooperative associations and three generation and transmission cooperatives, ensuring participating electric cooperative associations and cooperative generation and transmission companies comply with all DOE grant requirements. MREA will also play an integral role in the evolution of the community benefits plan and will engage community stakeholders to achieve targeted outcomes |
| Round 2 - Standard | Nobles Cooperative Electric | Midwest Assess, Harden and Intelligence Project | \$ 688,400.00 | \$ 5,163,000.00 | \$ 6,884,000.00 | Midwest Assess, Harden and Intelligence Project. |
| Round 2 - Standard | North Itasca Electric Co-op, | Midwest Assess, Harden and Intelligence Project | \$ 350,000.00 | \$ 1,875,000.00 | \$ 2,500,000.00 | Midwest Assess, Harden and Intelligence Project. |
| Round 2 - Standard | North Star Electric | Midwest Assess, Harden and Intelligence Project | \$ 221,250.00 | \$ 663,750.00 | \$ 885,000.00 | Midwest Assess, Harden and Intelligence Project. |
| Round 2 - Standard | Otter Tail Power Company | Mitigating Effects of Extreme Weather | \$ 999,999.00 | \$ 50,000,000.00 | \$ 125,000,000.00 | Mitigating Effects of Extreme Weather. Purpose: Strengthen grid resiliency and unlock insights through five elements: Dynamic Line Ratings (DLR), Drone and Artificial Intelligence (AI)-Enhanced Transmission Line Inspections/Repairs, Preventative Vegetation Management (VM) and Intelligent VM systems (IVMS), Electronic Reclosers/Advanced Distribution Management System (ADMS), and Strategic Overhead to Underground Replacement. |
| Round 2 - Standard | Otter Tail Power Company | Innovative Distributed Energy Automation (IDEA) | \$ 999,999.00 | \$ 15,200,000.00 | \$ 38,000,000.00 | Innovative Distributed Energy Automation (IDEA). Purpose: To optimize our rural tri-state service area's access to an abundance of regional renewable energy. Through Electric Vehicle (EV) fast-charging infrastructure, electric school buses, battery storage, and our foundational Grid-Edge Management System (GEMS), IDEA removes barriers for our rural customers while enabling local renewable generation and increased Distributed Energy Resource (DER) adoption. |
| Round 2 - Standard | Peoples Energy Cooperative | Midwest Assess, Harden and Intelligence Project | \$ 303,118.00 | \$ 1,821,750.00 | \$ 2,429,000.00 | Purpose: To support work in three pillars of this project, including development of a GIS tool to predict power lines by susceptible to severe wind and tornadic events (Assess pillar). Five substation sites will be targeted to address physical, electronic and software components to increase the substation's resiliency (Harden pillar), and advanced electronic reclosers, motor-operated switchgear, and sensors will be deployed through the distribution system to increase system adaptability (Intelligence pillar). |
| Round 2 - Standard | Ramsey and Washington County Recycling and Energy Board | Renewable Energy Anaerobic Digestion Project | \$ 999,999.00 | \$ 35,000,000.00 | \$ 100,000,000.00 | Purpose: To implement an innovative renewable energy project with substantial clean energy, environmental and community benefits for the next generation. The facility is an anaerobic digester and gasifier that creates renewable natural gas (RNG) and biochar, in collaboration with Dem-Con Companies and the tribal nation of the Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community. |
| Round 2 - Standard | South Central Electric Association | Midwest Assess, Harden and Intelligence Project | \$ 190,800.00 | \$ 954,000.00 | \$ 1,272,000.00 | Purpose: To support work in the Harden pillar of this project, including increasing resiliency in 11 substation sites. The project will address physical, electronic and software components to increase substation resiliency. |
| Round 2 - Standard | Stearns Electric Association | Great River Energy's Employment of New ERA Renewables (GREENER) Plan | \$ 999,999.00 | \$ 46,729,881.00 | \$ 62,306,508.00 | Great River Energy's Employment of New ERA Renewables (GREENER) Plan. |
| Round 2 - Standard | Stearns Electric Association | Midwest Assess, Harden and Intelligence Project | \$ 650,000.00 | \$ 4,875,000.00 | \$ 6,500,000.00 | Midwest Assess, Harden and Intelligence Project. |
| Round 2 - Standard | Steele-Waseca | Great River Energy's Employment of New ERA Renewables (GREENER) Plan | \$ 999,999.00 | \$ 15,976,641.00 | \$ 21,302,188.00 | Great River Energy's Employment of New ERA Renewables (GREENER) Plan. |
| Round 2 - Standard | The Cooperative Light and Power Association of Lake County | Midwest Assess, Harden and Intelligence Project | \$ 300,000.00 | \$ 1,500,000.00 | \$ 2,000,000.00 | Purpose: To support work in the Assess pillar of this project, including development of a GIS tool to predict power lines by susceptible to severe wind and tornadic events. The tool will identify priority lines to target with resilience efforts. |
| Round 2 - Standard | University of Minnesota | Midwest Assess, Harden and Intelligence Project | \$ 999,999.00 | \$ 4,500,000.00 | \$ 9,455,000.00 | Purpose: UM project work is under the Intelligence Pillar: U< will develop a new GIS tool that will strategically identify single-phase distribution lines with the highest potential of being damaged by the next severe wind or tornadic event. Once developed, this tool will have the ability to predict improvement in reliability depending on the method of reconstruction of the power line. |
| Round 2 - Standard | Wild Rice Electric | Midwest Assess, Harden and Intelligence Project | \$ 352,500.00 | \$ 1,762,500.00 | \$ 2,350,000.00 | Midwest Assess, Harden and Intelligence Project. |
| Round 3 | City of Rochester | Bright Horizons: Rochester's Smart Grid Evolution | \$ 1,970,575.58 | \$ 3,615,735.00 | \$ 7,231,470.00 | Bright Horizons: To deploy a distributed energy resources management system (DERMS) and upgrade direct load control (DLC) devices in conjunction with a planned \$15.5 million local initiative to build out a fully functioning grid-edge platform. DERMS adoption will incorporate real-time monitoring, diagnostics, sensor capabilities, and data analytics that create use cases to smooth out system peaks and identify abnormal patterns. Approximately 954 million data points per month will enable RPU to optimize consumption during peak periods, improving system resiliency. The Bright Horizons project will also allow RPU customers to take immediate and full advantage of grid-edge technologies to improve energy efficiency and reduce energy costs. |
| Round 3 | City of Rochester | Rochester International Airport - Terminal Building Decarbonization Project | \$ 575,000.00 | \$ 8,300,000.00 | \$ 11,500,000.00 | Rochester International Airport - Terminal Building Decarbonization Project: To modernize aging infrastructure by providing new, energy-efficient systems for heating, ventilation and lighting and using natural light where able. Additionally, several areas of the terminal that do not meet ADA requirements will be brought into compliance. Improvements to elevators and restrooms as well as the addition of a skyway will provide improved accessibility to persons with disabilities. |
| Round 3 | City of Saint Paul | ElectriConnect: Empowering Sustainable Mobility through Public Charging in the Twin Cities | \$ 429,980.00 | \$ 1,719,920.00 | \$ 2,149,900.00 | ElectriConnect: Empowering Sustainable Mobility through Public Charging in the Twin Cities: To bring accessible public Electric Vehicle (EV) charging to neighborhoods in Saint Paul and Minneapolis that do not currently have access to clean, affordable, reliable electric transportation; and to ensure that the residents of these neighborhoods can use this charging whether or not they own an EV. We propose to build on Saint Paul and Minneapolis' successful EV Spot Network: both its successful physical implementation, and how we are engaging residents around its implementation and use. |
| Round 3 | Detroit Lakes Public Utilities | Detroit Lakes Resiliency and Relocation Project | \$ 259,075.00 | \$ 778,002.70 | \$ 778,002.70 | Detroit Lakes Resiliency and Relocation Project: To relocate the overhead power line, which is difficult to maintain due to location, with a new underground feeder. With relocation of this line into roadway right of way, we can improve system performance, increase reliability and will result in release of easements, allowing construction in an Opportunity and Justice 40 area, which is a required element to establish buildable lots for affordable housing. |

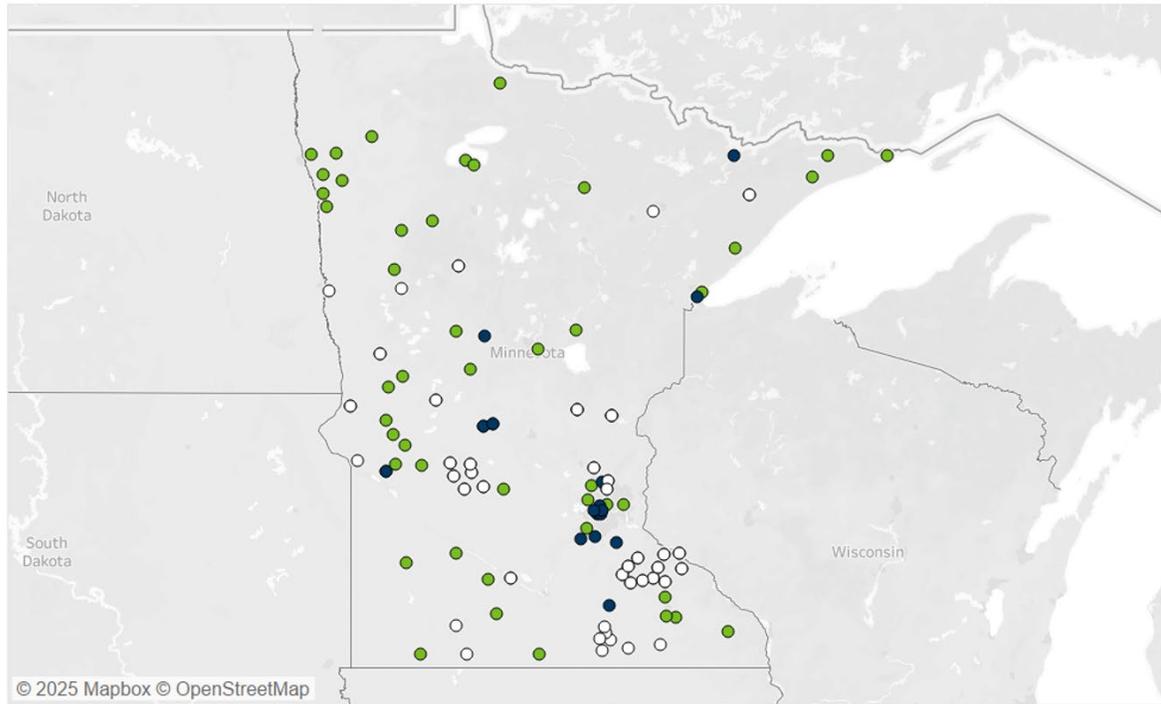
| Round 3 | New Ulm Public Utilities | New Ulm Public Utilities Undergrounding and Upgrade Project Matching Funds | \$ 111,367.00 | \$ 334,133.00 | \$ 440,500.00 | New Ulm Public Utilities Undergrounding and Upgrade Project Matching Funds: The New Ulm Public Utilities has applied for a grant through the Strengthening the Reliability and Resiliency of Minnesota's Electrical Grid 40101d and is requesting matching funds to convert seven blocks of overhead electric distribution line to underground for the purpose of weatherization due to climate change. |
|---------------|--------------------------------------|---|---------------|------------------|--------------------|---|
| Round 3 | Red Lake Band of Chippewa Indians | Red Lake Nation Microgrids for Resiliency Hub Development Cost Match | \$ 999,999.00 | \$ 18,000,000.00 | \$ 19,800,000.00 | Red Lake Nation Microgrids for Resiliency Hub Development Cost Match: Cost match for the "Red Lake Nation Microgrids for Resiliency Hub Development" project to the FEMA Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities opportunity. |
| Funding Round | Applicant Name | Project | MN SCF Match | Federal Funds | Total Project Cost | Project Purpose |
| Round 3 | Agralite Electric Cooperative | Agralite SCF Resilience Request | \$ 197,706.00 | \$ 593,121.00 | \$ 790,828.00 | Agralite SCF Resilience Request: AEC's proposed project is the rebuilding of 7.6 miles of distribution overhead electrical lines to underground to increase resiliency to the communities of Appleton, Coral, Alberta, Donnelly, Morris and surrounding areas. This initiative is crucial due to frequent damage to the existing overhead lines from wind, trees, and farm equipment, which disrupts service and necessitates major maintenance. |
| Round 3 | Arrowhead Electric Cooperative, Inc. | Arrowhead Electric Grid Resiliency and Reliability Project - Grand Portage Tribal Community | \$ 666,600.00 | \$ 2,000,000.00 | \$ 4,500,500.00 | Arrowhead Electric Grid Resiliency and Reliability Project - Grand Portage Tribal Community: To address ongoing reliability concerns in the Grand Portage area that has experienced consistent service issues. This project involves installing a new underground line from the Colvill substation to the Grand Portage Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Tribal boundary at Reservation River, creating a dedicated underground circuit specifically for Tribal use. This new circuit will significantly enhance reliability by reducing the number of lateral taps and connections. Currently, there are over 150 connections between the substation and the community, and this project will decrease that number by more than 100, resulting in a more stable and resilient power supply with fewer blinks and outages. |
| Round 3 | Beltrami Electric Cooperative | Beltrami Electric Cooperative SCF Q3 2024 | \$ 184,800.00 | \$ 923,969.00 | \$ 1,231,959.00 | Beltrami Electric Cooperative SCF Q3 2024: For the rebuilding of 5.7 miles of distribution overhead electrical lines to underground to increase resiliency to the Little Rock Community on the Red Lake Reservation. This line serves many residential members but also critical services such as the Little Rock Community Center, Red Lake Supportive Housing, Red Lake Housing Authority, Red Lake Comp Health, Little Rock Water Tower, Little Rock Warning Siren, and the Department of Army - Red Lake Dam. |
| Round 3 | Clearwater-Polk Electric Coop | Clearwater-Polk Electric Cooperative SCF Q3 2024 | \$ 71,000.00 | \$ 355,232.00 | \$ 473,643.00 | Clearwater-Polk Electric Cooperative SCF Q3 2024: For rebuilding power lines situated approximately 45 minutes from the cooperative headquarters. This area has experienced a high frequency of faults, leading to prolonged outages for affected accounts. The project will focus on areas with significant tree cover that regularly necessitates tree trimming to prevent contact with overhead lines. Additionally, a new single-phase tie line will be established. This tie line will address issues related to excessive low voltage during peak loading periods by redirecting affected accounts to a feeder with more stable voltage. It will also offer an alternative power source, enabling quicker restoration of power to single-phase accounts in the region. |
| Round 3 | East Central Energy | Milaca Substation Wildlife Protection and Resilience Enhancements | \$ 401,643.00 | \$ 1,204,929.00 | \$ 1,606,572.00 | Milaca Substation Wildlife Protection and Resilience Enhancements: To enhance the resiliency of ECE's Milaca substation through two distinct interventions – the installation of TransGard fencing, a patented animal-deterrent solution for electrical substations, and strategic upgrade (from 7.5 MVA to 15 MVA) of an outdated transformer. These enhancements will mitigate outage issues related to animal intrusion, outdated equipment, and lack of redundancy; a small amount of funding will be used to mitigate known wildfire risks through the installation of advanced sensor technology. |
| Round 3 | East Central Energy | ECE's Midwest Assess, Harden, and Intelligence Projects | \$ 999,999.00 | \$ 3,486,970.00 | \$ 4,646,256.00 | ECE's Midwest Assess, Harden, and Intelligence Projects: To support work in the Assess and Intelligence pillars of this project, including development of a GIS tool to predict power lines by susceptible to severe wind and tornadic events. The first project, under the Assess pillar, involves the commitment to rebuild up to 40 miles of single-phase overhead distribution lines, which the RASP tool could identify as having the highest risk of severe weather damage. The second project, under the Intelligence pillar, proposes the installation of electronic sectionalizing devices at 10 feeder pairs (20 feeders) that are either critical to the continued operation or highly susceptible to outages. These devices will swiftly identify faults, automatically isolate outages to a smaller number of consumers, and reduce the duration of outages. |
| Round 3 | Federated Rural Electric Assn. | Federated REA SCF Q3 | \$ 100,000.00 | \$ 481,424.00 | \$ 641,899.00 | Federated REA SCF Q3: FREA proposed to rebuild 3.6 miles of existing three-phase distribution overhead power line with three-phase underground line. A half mile of single-phase line is also proposed to be rebuilt in the town of Northrup. This single-phase line is the backbone of the electric grid that serves the homes of the town's 220 citizens. The power lines that have been identified for this project are key powerlines that serve the communities of Alpha, Northrup, Jackson and Round Lake. |
| Round 3 | Freeborn Mower Electric Coop | Freeborn Mower EC - Geneva Underground Tie Line Reliability Project | \$ 388,628.00 | \$ 1,166,000.00 | \$ 1,166,000.00 | Freeborn Mower EC - Geneva Underground Tie Line Reliability Project: The proposed Geneva Underground Tie Line Reliability Project aims to improve Freeborn Mower Electric Cooperative's (FMCEC) electrical infrastructure by replacing outdated and deteriorating lines with new underground three-phase 4/0 aluminum lines and eliminating a radial feed with a new tie. The new lines will strengthen the backbone of the system by providing additional capacity, voltage improvement, and most importantly, improved service reliability. The first phase establishes a critical connection between FMCEC's Corning Substation and the City of Geneva. The second phase replacement improves system reliability, and the third phase completes a vital three-phase tie line, enhancing service reliability and operational flexibility, especially during maintenance and emergencies. |
| Round 3 | Goodhue County Co-op Elec. Assn. | Goodhue County Co-op Electric Assoc - Project Keep the Lights On | \$ 233,310.00 | \$ 700,000.00 | \$ 700,000.00 | Goodhue County Co-op Electric Assoc - Project Keep the Lights On: To dramatically enhance our utility's vegetation management efforts by increasing both the time and personnel dedicated to responsibly and effectively clearing all our main feeder lines. Proper vegetation management is essential for ensuring electric grid resilience, preventing power outages, reducing wildfire risks, enhancing reliability during extreme weather events, and improving safety for both the public and our workers, all while considering environmental and community impacts. |
| Round 3 | Itasca-Mantrap Electrical Cooper | Itasca-Mantrap Electric Cooperative SCF Q3 2024 | \$ 232,000.00 | \$ 1,157,527.00 | \$ 1,543,369.00 | Itasca-Mantrap Electric Cooperative SCF Q3 2024: IMCEA's proposed project is the rebuilding of 9.2 miles of distribution overhead electrical lines to underground to increase resiliency to the Park Rapids area. |
| Round 3 | Kandiyohi Power Cooperative | Kandiyohi Power Cooperative - Weatherization and Underground Fault Mitigation Project | \$ 666,600.00 | \$ 2,000,000.00 | \$ 2,391,840.00 | Kandiyohi Power Cooperative - Weatherization and Underground Fault Mitigation Project: For an overhead to underground conversion and cable upgrade project around 3 lakes in our service territory. The current overhead layout poses unique challenges with an abundance of old, tall trees, dense residential building and tight lots, and extensive junction points and transformers causing reliability, inaccessibility, and safety issues for maintenance and outage restoration. We propose the conversion of 4.5 and 4 miles of overhead to underground around Norway lake and Diamond Lake. |

| Round 3 | North Itasca Electric Co-op, Inc | North Itasca Electric Cooperative Q3 2024 SCF | \$ 250,000.00 | \$ 1,218,828.00 | \$ 1,625,105.00 | North Itasca Electric Cooperative Q3 2024 SCF: For a project focused on enhancing the reliability of the electric grid for its tribal communities. This project includes the rebuilding of the Wirt Substation, converting 1.5 miles of single-phase overhead lines to three-phase underground, and installing 8 sets of electronic reclosers at the Evenson, Jessie Lake, and Northome Substations. The upgrades at the Wirt Substation will involve replacing the transformer, regulators, reclosers, disconnects, and substation structures, addressing the issue of aging and deteriorating infrastructure. |
|---------------|--|---|-----------------|------------------|--------------------|---|
| Funding Round | Applicant Name | Project | MN SCF Match | Federal Funds | Total Project Cost | Project Purpose |
| Round 3 | Red River Valley Co-op Power | Polk County MN Grid Resiliency Project – Strengthening Rural Homes and Businesses | \$ 251,488.00 | \$ 754,540.00 | \$ 754,540.00 | Polk County MN Grid Resiliency Project – Strengthening Rural Homes and Businesses: For construction of 6 miles of new three-phase 12.5 kV distribution underground power line connecting two substations (Huntsville to Fisher, MN). This connection will enhance electrical reliability and support business expansion in the rural area. Currently, the area is served by a single feeder, making it highly susceptible to weather-related outages. Additionally, the limited capacity is a barrier to economic growth. The project aims to improve reliability and provide the necessary capacity to support over 717 businesses, agricultural producers, and homes in Polk County, MN within the Tynsid and Bygland townships. |
| Round 3 | Skyven Technologies Inc. | Skyven Technologies, Inc. on behalf of Chippewa Valley Ethanol Co. // Steam-Generating Heat Pump Deployment | \$ 5,875,134.34 | \$ 11,201,759.00 | \$ 22,403,518.00 | Skyven Technologies, Inc. on behalf of Chippewa Valley Ethanol Co. // Steam-Generating Heat Pump Deployment: Skyven's federal application proposes an aggregate, multi-site portfolio of mechanical vapor recompression (MVR) steam-generating heat pump (SGHP) projects, including a MVR SGHP at the Chippewa Valley Ethanol Company (CVEC) site located in Benson, MN. State funding from Minnesota will ensure that CVEC is prioritized over other sites in Skyven's portfolio. The proposed project aligns well with Minnesota's greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reduction goal, as it will reduce site-level CO2 emissions at CVEC by 36%, or 25,209 MT annually. MVR SGHPs are a transformative, cross-cutting decarbonization technology to electrify steam production and reduce loading on existing fuel-fired boilers, reducing natural gas usage by 475,019 MMBtu annually in line with Minnesota energy savings goals. Built using highly reliable MVR technology, they generate boiler-quality steam at prices lower than natural gas by leveraging high coefficients of performance (COPs) to counteract price differences between electricity and natural gas. Additionally, they have zero global warming potential and use water as the refrigerant. |
| Round 3 | The Cooperative Light and Power Association of Lake County | Cooperative Light & Power SCF Q3 2024 | \$ 38,850.00 | \$ 233,118.00 | \$ 310,825.00 | Cooperative Light & Power SCF Q3 2024: For the modernization of sectionalizing equipment with future plans to extend SCADA to the devices to prepare for two-way power flow on the grid. To accomplish this long-term goal, CLP wishes to replace analog-controlled sectionalizing devices, such as hydraulic reclosers and fuses, with digital-controlled sectionalizing devices, such as electronic reclosers and controllable switches. CLP's staff, its consultants and contractors have the knowledge, tools and experience to perform the project successfully. |
| Round 3 | Traverse Electric Cooperative, Inc. | Traverse Electric Cooperative Q3 2024 SCF | \$ 110,000.00 | \$ 687,179.00 | \$ 916,239.00 | Traverse Electric Cooperative Q3 2024 SCF: To rebuild 8.2 miles of three-phase overhead distribution power lines with underground lines will significantly enhance energy reliability and resilience. Underground lines are more resilient to weather-related disruptions such as high winds, ice storms, and falling trees—common causes of outages in rural areas. By transitioning from overhead to underground infrastructure, the project aims to reduce both the frequency and duration of outages, directly improving service reliability for the affected communities. |
| Round 3 | Western Minnesota Municipal Power Agency | Western Minnesota Municipal Power Agency Substation Hardening | \$ 303,357.00 | \$ 1,213,427.00 | \$ 1,820,141.39 | Western Minnesota Municipal Power Agency Substation Hardening: To increase grid reliability and resilience through physical security and monitoring by purchasing and installing ballistic shielding to secure six substation transformers and one substation reactor at MN Substations: Alexandria, Audubon, Brandon, Elbow Lake and Fergus Falls. This project includes the purchase of a solar-powered mobile surveillance unit with radar detection, siren, strobe lights, live-stream through cellular and recording. |
| Round 3 | WhiteEarth Land Recovery Project | Community Resilience Initiative | \$ 100,000.00 | \$ 100,000.00 | \$ 200,000.00 | Community Resilience Initiative: Community Resilience Project to support energy resilience for the main building. |
| Round 3 | Wild Rice Electric Cooperative | Wild Rice Electric Cooperative Q3 2024 SCF | \$ 125,000.00 | \$ 623,950.00 | \$ 831,933.00 | Wild Rice Electric Cooperative Q3 2024 SCF: This project offers significant community benefits by reducing the likelihood and consequences of disruptive events, particularly power outages, which can severely impact the health, safety, and economic stability of the affected areas. By converting 7.6 miles of overhead power lines to underground around Tulaby Lake and Snider Lake Road, the project addresses critical vulnerabilities in the energy infrastructure. |
| Round 3 | Otter Tail Power Company | Next-Generation Vegetation Management (VM) | \$ 666,600.00 | \$ 2,000,000.00 | \$ 3,000,000.00 | Next-Generation Vegetation Management (VM): For a satellite imagery system to provide an assessment of vegetation encroachment across our Minnesota (MN) distribution facilities. With the assessment, we will leverage the data, model growth patterns, and subsequently trim any vegetation encroachment to electrical facilities which pose a reliability or resilience threat. This grant will also benefit rural communities through educational opportunities. Otter Tail will use this funding to work with the Bemidji Headwaters Science Center (HSC) to develop an education exhibit that features OTP's forestry satellite imagery, associated energy issues, and general education about weather and changes to Minnesota's forests. |
| Round 3 | Austin Utilities | 2024 Grid Resiliency State Matching | \$ 60,900.00 | \$ 123,645.22 | \$ 184,545.11 | 2024 Grid Resiliency State Matching: For the Oakland Ave Alley Electric Project, to convert a section of overhead routed three phase distribution to an underground system. The project area is a six-block section located in an alleyway in a mixed residential and business area of Austin. The direct area as well as surrounding neighborhood are identified as a Disadvantaged Community (DAC). This specific section of distribution is surrounded by two one-way streets, Oakland Ave and 1st Ave, in Austin which will be reconstructed over a three-year period from 2025-2027 |
| Round 3 | Kraft Heinz Foods Company | Delicious Decarbonization | \$ 999,999.00 | \$ 3,333,617.00 | \$ 6,667,234.00 | Delicious Decarbonization: This project focuses on the significant decarbonization of Kraft Heinz's New Ulm plant and intends to demonstrate viability of industrial thermal technologies for broad adoption across the food manufacturing industry. This project seeks to show how electrification and overall decarbonization of thermal processes, broad implementation of thermal storage, and efficiency gains from direct hot water production can reduce carbon intensity (CI), total emissions, and energy use. This demonstration seeks to enable replication of successful decarbonization approaches across all Kraft Heinz facilities, both domestic and international. |
| Round 3 | Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Comm | State Competitive Fund Federal Matching Program 2024 | \$ 38,000.00 | \$ 190,000.00 | \$ 390,343.81 | State Competitive Fund Federal Matching Program 2024: To reduce greenhouse gas emissions and other air pollutants from diesel combustion. This will contribute to better air quality in the Community. Further, SMSC has a goal to achieve carbon neutrality by 2035 and work toward a sustainable future. Electrification of its fleet helps the community move toward that goal. Finally, SMSC hopes to demonstrate success with the replacement of this vehicle so that we can have confidence replacing more of our fleet and share our successes and challenges with other tribal communities. |

| | | Total SCF Matching Funds Reservations (Federal Funding Application Under Review or In Negotiations) | \$ 56,100,656.82 | \$ 487,641,131.92 | \$ 826,839,030.91 | |
|--|-----------------------------------|--|-------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|--|
| Funding Round | Applicant Name | Project | MN SCF Match | Federal Funds | Total Project Cost | Project Purpose |
| | | Combined Total SCF Awarded + Reserved (both Federal Award Contracted and Waiting on Federal Award Notification) | \$ 66,979,935.60 | \$ 548,273,395.43 | \$ 942,772,648.03 | |
| | | Category 1 Funding (Reserved for cost-share requirement for 40101d Grid Resilience Formula Grants) | \$ 5,000,000.00 | | | |
| | | Combined Total SCF Allocated Awards (Category 1 SCF Funding + Federal Applications Contracted or Waiting on Notification) | \$ 71,979,935.60 | | | |
| Returned SCF Reservation Awards (Federal Funding Application Not Approved or Withdrawn) | | | | | | |
| Round 2 - Standard | Runestone | Great River Energy's Employment of New ERA Renewables (GREENER) Plan | \$ 999,999.00 | \$ 2,887,500.00 | \$ 3,850,000.00 | Great River Energy's Employment of New ERA Renewables (GREENER) Plan. |
| Round 2 - Standard | Grand Meadow Public School | Maintain and Grow | \$ 999,999.00 | \$ 1,150,000.00 | \$ 2,300,000.00 | To update the geothermal HVAC systems to be more efficient and economical. The newer system will replace the current system which is over 20 years old. |
| Round 1 - Quick Response | Heliene USA Inc | Charged Semitransparent Solar for Utility Scale Agrivoltaics | \$ 500,000.00 | \$ 1,581,400.00 | \$ 2,608,185.00 | Purpose: Support for MN-made innovative agri-voltaic solar panels. Field-test and document the agri-photovoltaic (APV) performance of Heliene's one-of-a-kind quantum dot (QD)-enhanced solar modules. Partners involved Connexus Energy and NREL, University of Minnesota, includes apprenticeship at Heliene for tribal members and collaboration with Fond Du Lac Tribal and Community College, CURE, Big River Farms. |
| Round 2 - Standard | Moorhead Public Service | Midwest Assess, Harden and Intelligence Project | \$ 868,750.00 | \$ 5,212,500.00 | \$ 6,950,000.00 | Midwest Assess, Harden and Intelligence Project. |
| Round 1 - Quick Response | City of Windom | Upgrading and Optimizing Rural Grid Systs for a Carbon Free Minnesota | \$ 4,523,985.00 | \$ 17,031,295.00 | \$ 22,619,927.00 | Purpose: Grid resiliency and clean energy integration. Add energy efficient transformers with smart gauges, smart switches on power lines, undergrounding, Load Control and Advance Metering Control. City of Blue Earth is adding 4MW solar generation. |
| Round 1 - Quick Response | Native Sun | Expanding Electric Nation: Solar and Wind Powered EV Charging Stations for Resilience in Remote Native Tribal Lands | \$ 1,875,000.00 | \$ 15,000,000.00 | \$ 18,750,000.00 | Purpose: Green EV infrastructure. EV charging stations powered by wind/solar, battery backup where appropriate and microgrid storage. All project locations on Tribal land. |
| Round 2 - Standard | Blue Earth Light and Power | Decarbonizing the Heartland: A Blueprint for Rural Readiness | \$ 999,999.00 | \$ 3,432,353.00 | \$ 6,864,705.00 | Decarbonizing the Heartland: Regional Transformation for Rural Communities. Purpose: To install 2.5 MW of battery storage for four hours assist with storage of solar and wind production within the City of Blue Earth MN. This project will assist BELW to meet Minnesota's Climate Action Framework this is central to our transition to 100% carbon free goal. Grid resiliency and clean energy integration. Add energy efficient transformers with smart gauges, smart switches on power lines, undergrounding, Load Control and Advance Metering Control. City of Blue Earth is adding 4MW solar generation. |
| Round 2 - Standard | Brainerd Public Utilities | Decarbonizing the Heartland: A Blueprint for Rural Readiness | \$ 999,999.00 | \$ 1,175,000.00 | \$ 2,350,000.00 | Communities. Purpose: A battery storage system for the solar array and load control related to air conditioning units and water heaters, enabling members of the community to achieve CAF goals. The battery storage project and load control projects are both designed and would be utilized to manage demand of purchased power to manage and keep costs low for the three census tracts affected by the project. |
| Round 2 - Standard | Western MN Municipal Power Agency | Decarbonizing the Heartland: A Blueprint for Rural Readiness | \$ 1,401,015.00 | \$ 27,300,000.00 | \$ 54,600,000.00 | Purpose: To build Battery Storage Facilities in Willmar, Detroit Lakes and Worthington, MN all of which are designated as disadvantaged communities. 5MW (20 MWhr) of Battery Storage to Willmar, MN; 5MW (20 MWhr) of Battery Storage to Detroit Lakes, MN; and 5MW (20 MWhr) of battery storage to Worthington, MN. |
| Round 2 - Standard | Connexus Energy | Decarbonizing the Heartland: A Blueprint for Rural Readiness | \$ 999,999.00 | \$ 65,000,000.00 | \$ 130,000,000.00 | Decarbonizing the Heartland: Regional Transformation for Rural Communities. |
| Round 2 - Standard | City of Windom | A Complete Utility System Revitalization for Windom, MN | \$ 848,050.98 | \$ 5,000,000.00 | \$ 5,848,050.98 | Purpose: To support a complete utility distribution system enhancement including replacing traditional 3 phase to energy efficient 3 phase transformers, smart switches, loop switching and boring distribution lines. A voluntary, community oriented load control incentive program will also be implemented, along with a 1 MW community solar array on a previous landfill site. |
| Round 2 - Standard | Traverse Electric Cooperative, | Midwest Assess, Harden and Intelligence Project | \$ 50,000.00 | \$ 375,000.00 | \$ 500,000.00 | Midwest Assess, Harden, and Intelligence Project |

Attachment B: Map of SCF Matching Funds Award Status as of January 1, 2025

SCF Matching Funds Award Status January 2025



Award Status

- SCF Matching Funds Returned (Federal Fund Denied)
- SCF Matching Funds Given (Federal Fund Approved)
- SCF Matching Funds Reserved (Pending Federal Fund Approval)