

APRIL 2020 EDITION



Celebrate 40 years of R&D!

The logo for DEED Public Power Research & Development features a stylized white "n" inside a square, followed by the text "DEED PUBLIC POWER RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT" and "40 YEARS OF INNOVATION".

AMI Customer Load Modeling Tool for Small Utilities

Log into the DEED Project Database for details on this and nearly 800 other industry-changing projects DEED has funded.

A circular flowchart with six colored circles connected by arrows. The circles are: "Export Data" (teal), "Storing Data" (light blue), "Preprocessing Data" (light blue), "Analyzing Data" (pink), "Preserving Data" (orange), and "Reuse Data" (green). The arrows indicate a clockwise cycle: Export Data to Storing Data, Storing Data to Preprocessing Data, Preprocessing Data to Analyzing Data, Analyzing Data to Preserving Data, Preserving Data to Reuse Data, and Reuse Data back to Export Data.

IMPACTING THE INDUSTRY SINCE 2019

Celebrating 40 Years of DEED R&D Innovation – AMI Customer Load Modeling Tool for Small Utilities

Algona Municipal Utilities and Atlantic Municipal Utilities partnered with Iowa State University to create a tool that helps smaller utilities make better use of the flood data they get from advanced metering infrastructure (AMI). The project used MATLAB development tools to create a standalone application that enables a user to import AMI data with customer class information, feeder identification, and temperature data. The tool saves the data subsets in Excel for further analysis and plotting.

[Learn more about the April Spotlight Project.](#)

Upcoming DEED Webinars

How to Write a Stellar DEED Grant Application Incorporating Research Design

To assist members in submitting successful grant applications, we're offering a webinar to help you put the 'research' into your project. The research aspect of DEED grant applications is extremely important, and when it's missing or inadequate, the result is often a vote of no funding for the proposal.

We will be hearing from expert DEED directors, Liz Jambor from Austin Energy and Rachel Huang from Sacramento Municipal Utility District, who will share the knowledge they've gained from years of experience developing, directing, and participating in utility research projects as well as evaluating project proposals while serving on the DEED Board. You will learn how to identify research considerations that should be incorporated into a project, such as determining the need for data collection, recognizing and avoiding data bias, accounting for variables, and evaluating the need for a cost-benefit analysis.

With the application period fast approaching, beginning on May 1, this webinar is sure to inspire more interesting innovative projects.

Please join us 2:00 - 3:00 PM EST on May 27th.

Registration information coming shortly.

Mark your Calendars for Upcoming Webinars

- Florida Alliance for Accelerating Solar and Storage Technology Readiness (FAASSTeR)
 - Speakers: David Byrne and Ben Cowart from City of Tallahassee Electric Utility and Rick Meeker from Nhu Energy
 - May 12th at 2 - 3 PM EST
- AMI Connected Analytics Platform
 - Speakers: Kyle Roadman from Emerald People's Utility District and Sarah Valovcin from The Energy Authority
 - June 25th at 2 - 3 PM EST
- Electric Vehicle Data Collection in a Midsized, Midwestern City
 - Speakers: Scott Benson and Marc Shkolnick from Lincoln Electric System
 - July 8th at 2 - 3 PM EST



A chronological listing of DEED webinars is posted for DEED member only access [here](#). DEED webinars are provided free to DEED members. To find out if you are a DEED member, click [here](#).

Grant Applications Open May 1!



Do you have an innovative idea for a research project? Submit an application for a grant project during DEED's fall cycle.

Bookmark the grant [management site](#) until May 1 when you can begin your application. The fall cycle is May 1 through August 15.

Federal Funding Opportunities

USDA High Energy Cost Grants

U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Development announced the availability of high energy cost grants. Retail or power supply providers serving rural areas, including state government entities, are eligible to apply for funding to finance the acquisition, construction, or improvement of facilities serving eligible communities to lower energy costs for families and individuals in areas with extremely high per-household energy costs (275% of the national average or higher). Applications are due **April 27, 2020**.

[Read more on the announcement here.](#)

[Access the FOA](#)

Smart Energy Provider (SEP) opportunity



SMART ENERGY PROVIDER

American Public Power Association

Last year, APPA launched the [Smart Energy Provider \(SEP\) program](#) to recognize utilities for the work they are doing in energy efficiency, distributed generation, renewable energy, and environmental initiatives. Utilities who are members of the DEED program and are actively participating in the program can earn up to two points toward their designation. [Register](#) for the 2020 SEP application to demonstrate your utility efforts in these smart energy areas.

Discover the benefits of applying for and achieving the designation on [our website](#). APPA also held a free webinar on the SEP application requirements. [View it here!](#)

APPA Partners with DOE Lab to Improve Reliability of Public Power

APPA has recently signed a Cooperative R&D Agreement with the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory (LBNL) to further help our research efforts on developing tools and metrics that public power utilities can use to identify and target reliability investments. The tools will be used on the [eReliability Tracker](#), which was initially supported and funded by the DEED program in 2011. The eReliability Tracker already features one of the LBNL's reliability planning tools: [Interruption Cost Estimate Calculator](#). [Read more.](#)

[Learn more about the eReliability Tracker DEED project.](#)

Recently Completed Projects

Two scholarships wrapped up in the month since our last newsletter. Visit the [DEED Project Database](#) for a repository of hundreds of outstanding research projects funded by DEED. Learn what other public power utilities like yours have done. Discover how you can replicate or improve on the success of projects completed by your peers. Get ideas for your own projects and apply for DEED co-funding with a DEED grant.

S-270 Electrical Engineer Intern - Littleton Electric

Littleton Electric Light and Water Departments, MA hired two student interns: Tyler Hunt from Worcester Polytechnic Institute and Joe Leduc from Merrimack College. The Electrical Engineer interns performed electrical engineering functions and worked in conjunction with other department personnel in constructing and maintaining an electric distribution system. The engineering interns assisted with substation maintenance, upgrades and device interpretation. The engineer interns also assisted in the designing of upgrades and expansions to the electric distribution system as well as assisted on all associated project management functions. The interns were responsible for the maintenance of the GIS database, the SCADA system and the AMI system. The interns were also responsible for pole testing. [READ MORE](#)

S-271 Electric Operations Intern

New Richmond Utilities, WI hired Joshua Miller from the University of Wisconsin, River Falls as a student intern. The intern assisted team members with updating the geographic information system, installation of advanced metering infrastructure, upgrades to LED street lighting, worked with crews on overhead to underground facility conversions, and participated in planning of distribution system improvements. The Electric Operations Intern worked in multiple facets of the electric department, providing a balanced and well-rounded perspective of the business, while contributing to the department's work plan. [READ MORE](#)

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